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These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank, commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia.  
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# The New Dawn

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**ENS ISPS Report**

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Incoterms: FOB  
Port of loading: Itajai  
Country / date of BL: Brazil / 8/23/22  
Means of Transport: CMA CGM RIO GRANDE  
ETA: 9/22/22

Sailing date: 8/23/22  
Port of discharge: Monrovia  
Bill of lading: 220003235  
Voy n°: 232N

Values:  
FOB: \$14,100.00  
Freight: \$1,649.00  
Insurance: 75.00  
Other:

**220003235**

HS Code	Weight	Country of Origin	FOB value declared	Package
020420000	27,891.000 kg	Brazil	14100.00 USD	1350 CARTONS OF FROZEN PORK HIND...
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,891.000</b>			

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**Warning note to Liberian Authorities**



**-As FIU digs deep into tax evasion amidst drug busts**

**'Betrayal of trust'**

**Pro-Tempore Chie**      **LNBA Pres. Cllr. Rennie**

**-LNBA describes Senate's recommendation for Traditional Justice Commission**

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# Continental News



## First Ebola death recorded in Ugandan capital

An Ebola patient has died at a hospital in Uganda's capital, the health ministry has confirmed.

He was the 19th victim in the current outbreak of the deadly virus but the first to die in Kampala.

There have been 54 confirmed cases in Uganda but no others have been recorded in the city.

outbreak so serious? He was from outside the city but Health Minister Dr Jane Ruth Aceng said the man ran away from his village, disguised his identity and visited a traditional healer in a different region. He died at Kiruddu National Referral Hospital last Friday, but the death has only just been confirmed. Dr Aceng said that teams which treated him were alert to the dangers and had

if mourners have direct contact with the body.

Dr Aceng added that there are currently no other confirmed Ebola cases in Kampala, although the city and surrounding districts are considered high risk. The outbreak began in September in Mubende district, 80km (50 miles) west of the capital.

A 24-year-old man was the first known Ebola death, and six members of his family also died. Four health workers have also been among the victims, including a doctor from Tanzania.

Medics had previously expressed concern about the lack of adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves and masks. They had also called for Mubende to be put under quarantine.

However, President Yoweri Museveni ruled out restrictions, saying: "Ebola is not spread like corona[virus]" as it is not an airborne disease. No effective Ebola vaccine is available yet, because the Sudan strain circulating in central Uganda is different to the Zaire strain that has afflicted West Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo and which can be immunised against.

Experts say it is unrealistic to think Ebola will ever be eradicated, but with swift action and effective contact tracing it is now easier to prevent a crisis. BBC



Health workers in Uganda wear protective clothing to treat Ebola patients

Twenty people have recovered including five medics from the first hospital where a case was treated. They were discharged on Tuesday. The person who died in Kampala was already known to the authorities as having potentially come into contact with the virus.

Why is Uganda's Ebola

protected themselves, because the patient arrived at the hospital when he was seriously ill. Forty-two people who he may have come into contact with have been identified and are being followed up. Ebola spreads between humans by direct contact with bodily fluids and contaminated environments. Funerals can be a particular risk

## Paris Trial Opens Over Crimes Against Humanity in Liberia

A former Liberian rebel went on trial Monday in Paris on charges of crimes against humanity, torture and acts of barbarism during the West African country's civil war in the 1990s.

Kunti Kamara, 47, is accused of "complicity in massive and systematic torture and inhumane acts" against civilians in Liberia's Lofa county in 1993-1994, as one of the leaders of the Ulimo armed group. He was then less than 20 years old.

Kamara, who faces life in prison, denied committing such acts. "I'm innocent," Kamara told the court Monday, adding that he doesn't know any of the witnesses accusing him.

Kamara was arrested near

Paris in 2018, following a complaint filed by Swiss-based group Civitas Maxima, which specialized in helping victims of crimes against humanity. During the investigation, he

acknowledged having been a battlefield commander, leading about 80 soldiers during the civil war – a choice he said he made to defend himself against Charles



Fighters from the United Liberation Movement of Liberia

## Tanzania, Kenya Agree to Fast-track Construction of Gas Pipeline Project

The presidents of Tanzania and Kenya have agreed to fast-track construction of a natural gas pipeline designed to increase trade and lower energy costs for both countries. The decision was reached Monday in bilateral talks in Dar es Salaam led by Tanzanian President Samia Hassan and Kenyan President William Ruto, during a two-day visit.

country used zero-rated industrial sugar imports to produce them. In another dispute, Kenya banned Tanzanian tour vans from accessing the Maasai Mara National Reserve, arguing that Tanzania had banned Kenyan operators from accessing the Serengeti National Park.

These differences were resolved when Tanzania's Hassan visited Nairobi last year to meet with Kenyatta.

There were 68 trade barriers



Tanzanian President Samia Hassan addresses the U.N. General Assembly at U.N. headquarters in New York

Last year, Hassan and Kenya's then-president Uhuru Kenyatta signed an agreement in Nairobi to start working on the gas pipeline project, but actual construction has yet to commence.

The two countries have generally maintained positive ties in politics and trade, but have occasional trade spats.

Tanzania imposed a 25% import duty on Kenyan confections in 2020, saying the

identified between Tanzania and Kenya at the time, Hassan said, and 54 of those non-tariff barriers were resolved. Ministers in the trade and investment sector have been tasked with working to resolve the remaining 14 barriers, Hassan said. The projected natural gas pipeline would run for about 600 kilometers between Dar es Salaam and Mombasa. There is no projected completion date. VOA



Taylor's rival faction.

According to court documents, he is being accused of having hit a man and then opened his chest with an ax in order to extract and eat his heart. He is also accused of having allowed and abetted, in his position of authority, rapes and sexual torture, and of having compelled people into forced labor under inhumane conditions. The trial by the Paris criminal court has been made possible under a French law that recognizes universal jurisdiction for crimes against humanity and acts of torture. Kamara said he left Liberia after the end of the first civil war in 1997 and later

went to the Netherlands, then Belgium before coming to France about two years before he was arrested.

Rights groups hailed the trial as an important step to bring justice to victims. It is "a victory for Liberian victims and a warning to perpetrators that no matter where they are, we're going to make sure they're held accountable for the crimes they committed in Liberia," Hassan Bility, head of the Global Justice and Research Project, told The Associated Press. Bility's nongovernmental organization is dedicated to the documentation of wartime atrocities in Liberia and to assisting victims in their pursuit of justice. VOA

# EDITORIAL

## Walk the talk, Chief Justice Yuoh

NEWLY COMMISSIONED CHIEF Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia, Her Honor, Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, sounded tough on Monday at her official siting and formal opening for the October Term of the Supreme Court, vowing here to lead a robust judiciary for the country.

CHIEF JUSTICE YUOH also promised that her administration will hold no allegiance to any authority, but the principle of law, saying “We will make sure that justice is provided to all pursuant to Article 11 (a) and (b); cardinal to this, I will resolve to not only hear the human rights cases but to ... render opinion ... timely and expediently.”

WHILE WE APPLAUD the expressed intention of the Chief Justice, we present an open challenge to her to go a step further by demonstrating practical actions in her quest to transform the Liberian judiciary.

TOO OFTEN, WE have observed with great disappointment, officials making flowery speeches when they assume office, including promises that they don’t intend to keep or fulfill. This is unfortunate.

BUT AS THE third female to head the Highest Court of the Land, we hope that Her Honor, Chief Justice Yuoh will depart from this culture of flowery speeches and do exactly as she has promised, to emulate the good example of former Chief Justice of the United Kingdom John Marshall in being robust and straight to the law, holding no allegiance to the Executive or the Presidency or anyone except the written law of Liberia and her own conscience.

THE LIBERIAN JUDICIARY has been brought to international scrutiny and criticism for corruption, characterized by compromise of cases and, justice only for the highest bidder. United States Human Right Reports have constantly indicted the judiciary for graft, which does not present a positive image for the country.

THIS HAS NOT only hindered effective dispensation of justice to the population, but discouraged investors and strangulated the business environment, making doing business in Liberia very difficult.

ANOTHER ISSUE PLAGUING the Liberian judiciary is selective justice, where government moves quickly to prosecute some cases, while it drags its feet on others, such as officials indicted in audit reports against the swift trial and conviction of former Defense Minister Brownie J. Samukai and others for corruption on one hand, and obvious reluctance to try ex-Passport Director Andrew Wonploe for passport scandal, which led the U.S. State Department to sanction him and his immediate family.

WHEN PRESIDENT GEORGE Weah promised in his inaugural speech that under his administration, Liberians would no longer be spectators in their own economy, but in actual fact, Liberian-owned businesses are being strangulated under his watch, then we deem it prudent in sounding these caveats to officials making flowery speeches when they come to office. Raising public expectations that you do not intend to meet is dangerous.

Therefore, we call on Her Honor, Chief Justice Yuoh, to do as she has promised by walking the talk in restoring public confidence in the Liberian judiciary despite temptations that may come her way or attempts from various sectors to sway her decisions.

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# COMMENTARY

By Raghuram G. Rajan  
and Viral Acharya

## Where Has All the Liquidity Gone?

CHICAGO/NEW YORK - The malfunctioning of the government bond market in a developed economy is an early warning of potential financial instability. In the United Kingdom, the new government’s proposed “mini-budget” raised the specter of unsustainable sovereign debt and led to a dramatic widening in long-term gilt yields. Recognizing the systemic importance of the government bond market, the Bank of England correctly stepped in, both pausing its plan to unload gilts from its balance sheet and announcing that it will buy gilts over a fortnight at a scale near that of its planned sales for the next 12 months.

Markets have since calmed down. But as commendable as the BOE’s prompt response has been, we must ask what blame central banks bear for financial markets’ current fragility. After all, while long-term gilt yields have stabilized, gilt market liquidity (judging by bid-ask spreads) has not improved. And across the Atlantic, the market for US Treasuries is also raising liquidity concerns. Many metrics are flashing red, just like at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and in the aftermath of Lehman Brothers’ failure in 2008.

After two years of quantitative easing (QE) - when central banks buy long-term bonds from the private sector and issue liquid reserves in return - central banks around the world have begun to shrink their balance sheets, and liquidity seems to have vanished in the space of just a few months. Why has quantitative tightening (QT) produced that result? In a recent paper co-authored with Rahul Chauhan and Sascha Steffen (which we presented at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City’s Jackson Hole conference in August), we show that QE may be quite difficult to reverse, because the financial sector has become dependent on easy liquidity.

This dependency arises in multiple ways. Commercial banks, which typically hold the reserves supplied by central banks during QE, finance their own asset purchases with short-term demand deposits that represent potent claims on their liquidity in tough times. Moreover, although advanced-economy central-bank reserves are the safest assets on the planet, they offer low returns, so commercial banks have created additional revenue streams by offering reserve-backed liquidity insurance to others. This generally takes the form of higher credit card limits for households, contingent credit lines to asset managers and non-financial corporations, and broker-dealer relationships that promise to help speculators meet margin calls (demands for additional cash collateral).

The speculators are not limited to hedge funds, as we recently learned in the UK. Rather, they also include normally staid pension funds that have engaged in so-called liability-driven investment: To compensate for the QE-induced low return on long-term gilts, they increased the risk profile of their other assets, taking on more leverage, and hedging any interest risk with derivatives. While their hedged position ensured that an interest-rate increase would have an equal impact on their asset and liability values, it also generated margin calls on their derivative positions. Lacking the cash to meet these calls, they were reliant on bankers with spare liquidity for support.

In sum, during periods of QE, the financial sector generates substantial potential claims on liquidity, effectively eating up much of the issued reserves. The quantity of spare liquidity is thus much smaller than that of issued reserves, which can become a big problem in the event of a shock, such as a government-induced scare.

Our study also finds that, in the case of the United States, QT makes conditions even tighter still, because the financial sector does not quickly shrink the claims that it has issued on liquidity, even as the central bank takes back reserves. This, too, makes the system vulnerable to shocks - an accident waiting to happen. During the last episode of QT in the US, even relatively small, unexpected increases in liquidity demand - such as a surge in the Treasury’s account at the Fed - caused massive dislocation in Treasury repo markets. That is exactly what happened in September 2019, prompting the Fed to resume its liquidity injections.

The onset of the pandemic in March 2020 was an even larger liquidity shock, with corporations drawing down credit lines from banks and speculators seeking help in meeting margin calls. Central banks duly flooded the system with reserves. One can only imagine the scale of the intervention that would have been needed if the shock had been as bad as the one in 2008. An even deeper crisis would have prompted some depositors to dash for cash, causing some banks to hoard spare liquidity to meet unexpected claims on the deposits they had amassed during the boom times.

Put differently, the larger the scale and the longer the duration of QE, the greater the liquidity that financial markets become accustomed to, and the longer it will take for central banks to normalize their balance sheets. But since financial, real, and fiscal shocks do not respect central banks’ timetables, they often will force fresh central-bank interventions, as we saw in the UK.

Monetary policymakers thus find themselves in a very difficult position. A central bank may need to raise rates to reduce inflation. But if it also must simultaneously supply liquidity to stabilize government bond markets, it risks sending a mixed message about its policy stance - not to mention raising concerns that it has become a direct financier of the government. Not only does this complicate policy communication; it also could prolong the fight against inflation.

While central banks have always had a duty to provide emergency liquidity, doing so on a sustained, large-scale basis is an entirely different kettle of fish. Our findings suggest that QE will be quite difficult to reverse, not least because QT itself increases the system’s vulnerability to shocks. While the BOE deserves praise for riding to the rescue, central banks more generally need to reflect on their own role in making the system so vulnerable.

Raghuram G. Rajan, former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, is Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the author, most recently, of *The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind* (Penguin, 2020). Viral Acharya is Professor of Economics at New York University’s Stern School of Business.

**O-PED**

By Sameh Shoukry

# The COP of No Return

**S**HARM EL-SHEIKH - Some fear that this year's United Nations Climate Change Conference - to be held here on November 6-18 - will be an unintended casualty of the geopolitical tensions and economic challenges the world is facing. I believe the opposite: COP27 represents a unique and timely opportunity for the world to come together, recognize our common interests, and restore multilateral cooperation.

The human cost of climate change is making headlines almost daily. Global warming is no longer a distant or theoretical threat, but an immediate material one - a phenomenon that affects each of us, our families, and our neighbors. No society has been left unscathed by more frequent and intense droughts, wildfires, storms, and floods. Millions of people are already battling for survival.

And that is with temperatures having risen by just 1.1° Celsius, relative to pre-industrial levels. As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has made clear, every additional tenth of a degree makes matters worse. Yet the changes needed to avert catastrophe are not being made, at least not fast enough, and the developing world is increasingly frustrated with rich countries' refusal to pay their fair share for a crisis for which they bear overwhelming responsibility.

But there is reason for hope. In my discussions with delegations around the world, I see their determination to make COP27 a success. Already, societies are starting to act. Climate adaptation and new forms of collaboration are gaining traction, and investment in climate tech is booming. This includes new carbon-removal technologies, electric transport solutions, and renewable energies. As a result, clean-energy prices continue to fall: almost two-thirds of renewable power added in G20 countries in 2021 cost less than the cheapest coal-fired options. My country, Egypt, is on track to produce 42% of its energy from renewable resources by 2035. At the same time, civil society is devising mechanisms for holding companies and governments to account, guarding against greenwashing, and ensuring a just transition. There is a new focus on restoring nature.

More ambition, scale, and speed are needed, and the rules remain unclear or contested. But a process is underway, and there is no going back. Even in countries that might seem to be wavering in their commitments - say, by investing in fossil-fuel infrastructure - officials insist that stopgap measures necessitated by immediate challenges should not be mistaken for long-term strategies. No one doubts the greener road ahead.

The question for those of us who will participate in COP27 is straightforward: How can we seize the opportunity the conference offers to create a sense of common endeavor, prevent backsliding, and inspire an approach based on science, trust, justice, and equity?

At its heart, climate action is a bargain. Developing countries have agreed in good faith to help tackle a crisis they did not cause, on the understanding that support - particularly financial support - would be provided to complement their own efforts, which are often limited due to their scarce resources and competing development needs. Developed countries must uphold their end of that bargain, by supporting both mitigation and adaptation, thus fulfilling their envisaged responsibilities in the Paris agreement.

On the mitigation front, we must move from rhetoric to action in cutting our greenhouse-gas emissions and removing carbon from our atmosphere. All countries must embrace more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions, and then translate those pledges into programs. We must act now to ensure appropriate resources are available to developing countries to unlock their potential.

At the same time, we must craft a transformative adaptation agenda, so that communities - especially in climate-vulnerable regions - can protect themselves from the effects that are already unavoidable. The bill for this agenda must be divided fairly.

To date, a disproportionate share of climate finance has been directed toward mitigation, leaving developing countries largely to fend for themselves in financing adaptation investment. But even the finance provided for mitigation is far from sufficient and has not been delivered with the appropriate instruments.

In 2009, developed countries pledged to provide \$100 billion annually for climate action in the developing world by 2020. This is only a small portion of the more than \$5.8 trillion that is needed (up until 2030), according to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's Standing Committee on Finance. And yet this amount has not been delivered. We need an increase in the scale of finance pledges - especially for adaptation - at COP27, compared to those made at COP26 in Glasgow.

Developed countries must also honor the pledge they made last year to double adaptation finance by 2025, and they should provide the assurances needed for the Green Climate Fund's new replenishment.

And the time has come to address the loss and damage suffered by countries that did not cause the climate crisis. This remains contentious, but I believe that we can approach it constructively, guided by the priorities of developing countries, for the benefit of all.

A just transition must account for the needs of various regions. For example, African countries are committed in principle to adopting renewable energy and refraining from exploiting their fossil-fuel resources. But 600 million people in Africa - 43% of the continent's population - currently lack electricity, and around 900 million don't have access to clean cooking fuels. The climate-action bargain demands that this be addressed, and the continent's broader development needs be met, in sustainable ways.

All of these imperatives must be pursued together, with a carefully designed package of actions, rather than through piecemeal measures. They are the pillars of a just transition. If one is missing, the entire edifice collapses.

Ahead of the 2015 COP in Paris, few believed that an agreement would be reached. Yet delegates from all over the world came together, and through skill and perseverance, reached a groundbreaking deal. In 2022, we face even higher hurdles, so we must work even harder to clear them. If we do, we will usher in a new age of clean energy, innovation exchange, food and water security, and greater climate justice.

As daunting as this challenge is, we have no choice but to confront it. We must negotiate with one another, because there can be no negotiating with the climate.

**OPINION**

By Diane Coyle

# "Masses Leader" Failed the masses on rice:

**W**eah Would Need 10+ Years (15yrs total) to add the quantity of rice Ellen added in 6yrs to the domestically produced rice stock!

In 2018, Weah promised- via his PAPD- to take actions in the rice sector that would increase rice production from the 247K+ he met in 2017 to 357K+ tonnes in 2022. Put another way, he promised to add 110k tonnes of rice to the 247K tonnes he met.

357K tonnes of rice is approximately 7.1 million bags of 50kg rice, and because Liberians consume approximately 600k bags per month, 7.1 million bags in stock today would last up to October 2023 without a need to import a single bag of rice. But the CDC/Weah FAILED!

Instead of the additional 110K tonnes promised, only 42k tonnes- an embarrassing 62% less than what was promised-have been added to locally produced rice stock! This additional 42k tonnes is approx. 840k bags of 50kg rice that are mostly unprocessed and in the field or packed in farm kitchens across the country. All rice data from the FAO.

CDC's 2021 and 2022 rice production quantities are estimated based on 2018, 2019, and 2020 actuals.

This failure is disgraceful for a gov. that adorns itself with a development plan that inserts agriculture as the fulcrum of its growth, and poverty reduction; and is the sole reason Weah has been and remains subdued to silence since the rice crisis.

For those interested in comparing CDC/Weah's failure on rice production to UP/Johnson-Sirleaf's record, see here: Johnson-Sirleaf took rice production from 154K tonnes in 2005 to 291k tonnes in 2011; adding 136,200 tonnes or an 88% increase. By 2016, rice production under Johnson-Sirleaf/UP was 335K tonnes; almost three times the 2005 quantity.

Like CDC failed to add value to and bring locally produced rice from the farms to dining tables, UP equally failed earlier on.

The stark difference between UP/Johnson-Sirleaf and CDC/Weah is the production quantity: UP/Johnson-Sirleaf recorded 88% increase in rice production or added additional 136K+ tonnes of rice during her first term.

The CDC/Weah records an embarrassing 12% increase or have added only 42K+ tonnes after 5yrs or a few months to the end of his first and only term.

Based on the current quantity of rice that the actions of Weah in the rice sector has added to the domestically produced rice stock and given Weah's continuous absentmindedness and tolerance for incompetence and corruption in the agriculture sector, he would need additional 10+ years (that is 15yrs total) to produce the quantity of rice Ellen added to the rice stock in 6yrs.

Liberians cannot condone this! Our people deserve a BETTER LIBERIAAGENDA that can produce and process high quality rice that reach their dining tables in rural and urban Liberia.

The masses will eject Weah for failing them and delivering success only for him, his wife, and a few of his friends.

Ambulah Mamey, International Agricultural Development Practitioner

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# The Level of Political Prostitution is Sickening in Liberia

By S. Karweaye

It has been an interesting few weeks in Liberia. For those of us that have been watching Liberian politics since the 90s, it feels very much like Déjà vu. It is often said that the route in politics is littered with broken relationships and strange bedfellows. This is playing itself out in Liberia currently. With the 2023 election drawing closer, defections from one political party to the other have hit the political class. Liberian politicians are moving camps, divorcing and marrying new political suitors, and erecting new shades to ply their political trade.

Avalanche of individual politicians have recently decamped from one party to the other. The most astounding, was the mass defection of members of the national legislature from the former ruling Unity Party (UP), Alternative National Congress (ANC), and Liberty Party (LP) to the ruling Congress of Democratic Change (CDC), a constituent party of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) during the party 17th anniversary. Grand Cape Mount County Senator Simeon Taylor, in a rather surprising move, dumped the ANC of presidential hopeful Alexander Cummings and pitched his tent with the ruling CDC. Maryland County District #1 representative UP member P. Mark Jurry and Grand Cape Mount County District #2, Representative Mambu Sonii of the LP also formally broke ranks with their respective parties. Representative Johnson Gwaigolo of Nimba's District #9 and Sen. Gblebo Brown (Independent) of Maryland County were among those lawmakers who joined the ruling CDC.

The Chairman of the Liberian People's Party (at the time) Cllr. Joseph Kpator Jallah became a proxy candidate of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change in the senatorial by-election in Lofa County and won; he also pitched his tent with the ruling CDC. Also, the ANC's former vice Standard Bearer Ambassador Jeremiah C. Sulonteh officially joined the CDC.

The ruling Coalition of Democratic Change has also experienced its losses through defections. Dr. Toga G. McIntosh, a founding member of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Party (NPP) announced his support and pledged his allegiance to the Presidential bid of Mr. Alexander Cummings of the Alternative National Congress (ANC) who is now the standard bearer of the Collaborating Political Party (CPP). Previously, Dr. McIntosh broke ranks with the NPP and joined the Unity Party of Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf where he served as Minister for Planning and Economic Affairs and Vice President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Dr. McIntosh was once the presidential hopeful of the Unity Party for the 2017 presidential election. Dr. Togar Gayewea McIntosh later joined the Liberia People Democratic Party (LPDP). LPDP joined the Coalition of Democratic Change (CDC). After the coalition won the 2017 presidential election, Dr. McIntosh served as the Chairman of the Governing Council of the CDC.

The Senator of Maryland County, Senator H. Dan Morais from the National Patriotic Party joined a 44-member Team, dubbed "Team Cummings 2023." Also, George W. Wisner who served as the Unity Party Campaign Coordinator for the 2011 elections and Former Executive Director of the National Investment Commission during Sirleaf's administration joined Team Cummings 2023 as well as Former Bassa County Superintendent Madam Julia Duncan-Cassell.

There was also the defection of Ambassador Lewis Brown, a founding member of the National Patriotic Party and the ruling coalition. Ambassador Brown pledged his support to the presidential bid of opposition leader Alexander Cummings. During Charles Taylor's dictatorial rule, Brown was the National Security Adviser and Adviser on Political and Domestic Affairs, between

1999 and 2001. He also served as Minister of State for Presidential Affairs in 2002. In 2003, he was Minister for Foreign Affairs and Taylor's government's Chief Negotiator at the Accra Peace Talks. In 2011, Ambassador Lewis Brown assisted in forming the National Democratic Coalition (NDC) with Professor Dew Mason as its Standard Bearer. Brown served as Liberia's Minister for Information between 2012 and 2016 and later was Liberia's Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations during the regime of Madam Sirleaf.

Such defections indeed would shake the foundation of any political party. However, it is not the first time defections are heating the Liberia polity. With 2023 fast approaching, it is normal for politicians to re-position themselves in a way that things will favor them. It happened in 2011 with mass defections from the then-opposition party CDC and Liberty Party to the then-ruling Unity Party. Now, the shift has reversed. The opposition is divided. Several heavyweights from the opposition had pulled out of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP). The CPP was instrumental in the 2020 senatorial election Today, mass defections have arguably destroyed the CPP.

So Why Do Liberian Politicians Bounce Between Political Parties?

Many have questioned the rationale and legality of the action, especially as it happens whenever general elections are coming closer. While many Liberians have lambasted politicians for defecting from one party to another, others say there is nothing wrong with the



action, provided it is within the ambit of the law.

Many reasons have been proffered for these defections. Political parties in Liberia tend to lack ideologies and explicit messages that separate them from each other. Because of the country's tribal, religious, and geographic divide, political parties are driven by personalities as opposed to ideologies. For example, in the United States, political parties are defined by their platforms, or manifestoes as they are called in Liberia. So, if a Democrat candidate comes knocking at your door, you have a sense of where he or she stands on the current critical issues.

When a politician defects, as they say in Liberia, he or she usually moves with hundreds or thousands of individuals, including officials of the party that he or she is leaving. While political parties are vessels to government and power all over the world, they are the main way to get into government in Liberia. In politics, as it is often said, there are no permanent friends or enemies, only permanent interests. The line that separates one Liberian politician from the other is so thin that some Liberian politicians have practically traversed all political parties in a bid to satisfy their burning interests. By moving from one political party to the other, they make new friends with whom they share the same personal interests at the moment and not the country's interests. For example, in 2017, 19 Liberian Senators pledged their support for Joseph Boakai's 2017 Presidential Bid including Senator Albert Chie who somersaulted to Weah's CDC after Weah won the presidency. Senator Albert Chie is now a member of the CDC and the Pro Tempore of the Liberian senate.

Defections, decamping and cross-carpeting have become the order of the day in Liberian politics. Irrespective of the word they use to describe their reasons, one thing remains the same, political prostitution is a politician's second nature. Liberian politicians especially have perfected the art of hopping from one party to the other that Liberian politics has become a glorified game of jump rope. At this rate, every political party in Liberia might as well merge into one big association of fork-tongued traitors with no umbrella to hide under. They will, at last, be forced to deal with the chaos that they have created, with no opposition to blame or run to for refuge. Then they can fix their mistakes or give up power altogether.

In Liberia, politicians are perceived to always be after their selfish interests. They don't have the interest of the common man at heart. This has been given as a reason for the gale of defections. Nobody decamped for the unpaid pensioner or for the teachers, health workers, soldiers, police, etc. who work for months without pay, and the litigant that cannot afford the cost of Justice. Nobody decamped for the children who beg to clean our windshields...See? Nobody decamped for them. Our politicians are fighting for their pockets and only God will deliver us from their hands. They want to satisfy themselves. It is not in the interest of Liberians.

From what we are seeing, it is obvious that politicians are in business. They are shameless people. They are not fighting for us, no plan for Liberia, and that is why they are fighting their way to the top. The defections are for selfish reasons, but if you ask them, they will say it is for the benefit of the masses. They are just playing games. They are migrating like rats running from one room to another and keep saying they are working for us. If you need to trust anyone, trust yourself first. Liberian politicians defect for the sake of proximity to power. The current defections and counter-defections of our politicians from one political party to another sadly confirm that our politicians are deeply corrupt and without ideology as previously stated. Most of them are in politics to sustain themselves with stolen money, but not to serve the electorates. How can we grow and develop as a nation?

Unfortunately, the youths whose future is being wantonly destroyed are in jubilation over this. God help Liberia. We are very clear in our minds and share the collective conviction that our present woes are a result of the collective failure of leadership by those who have been in the leadership of our country for decades and the establishment that has institutionalized support in their self-interest. Dogs eat their own vomit, but the main problem with defection is that the defector takes along with him the office he occupies by belonging to his former party. In another clime, the appropriate thing would be for decampers to resign from the offices they occupy before joining another political party. Hence, when a major political officeholder decamps from his party to the other, it becomes a huge issue that ends up affecting the entire polity. The consequences could sometimes threaten democracy.

What we are seeing today is not done in the interest of democracy. Liberia is a dynamic country with a growing population in West Africa. The citizens deserve parties that are not only generating answers to the country's complex problems but are also engaging its citizens about the best way forward. When the citizens go to vote on October 10, 2023, we are hoping they will vote for the candidate and party that has put forth the best vision for the future of this country, not the recycled political goons.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Lonestar Cell MTN Advises Citizens and Businesses

Lonestar Cell MTN has advised citizens and businesses here to be cyberaware and cybersmart. During October, Cybersecurity month, Lonestar Cell MTN highlights the importance of protecting data and information from malicious cyber activity and protecting citizens and businesses from ransomware attacks.

Duodu said that Ransomware is invasive and destructive. "Ransomware is a malware designed to deny a user or organization access to files on their computer. Cyber attackers place organizations in a difficult position by encrypting files then demanding ransom payments for the decryption key. Paying the ransom can seem like the easiest and cheapest way to

catastrophic. "Victims are at risk of losing their files but may also experience financial loss due to ransom payments, lost productivity, IT costs, legal fees, network modifications, and purchasing credit monitoring services for employees/customers," she said. "Cyber attackers may even demand payment to restore access to files or unlock your computer. They might even threaten to publish sensitive data if you don't pay up," she added.

"The good news," she said, "is that there are practical steps you can take to keep your data, and your identity safe."

She advises caution when viewing emails asking for software downloads or money. Instead, go straight to the organization's website.

Ms. Fakuade suggests that when viewing suspicious emails, hover over links to preview the message and verify the URL. If the URL looks suspicious, she recommends that the email message is left alone and deleted. Then, go directly to the source to verify an offer, request, or link. Finally, Ms. Fakuade encourages internet users to back up their data, change passwords for all your accounts regularly, and enable a multifactor authentication for account access for online security.

Ms. Fakuade said that these tips help you stay safe on line and keep your information secure. #Cybersmart #Be Aware.

regain access to the user's data files," he said.

Mr. Duodu added that Ransomware often spreads through phishing emails which contain malicious attachments or drive-by downloading. Drive-by downloading occurs when a user unknowingly visits an infected website and then malware downloads and installed without the user's knowledge leaving the user's data vulnerable to theft.

Chief Information Officer, Titi Fakuade, said the consequences of a ransomware attack can be

# Aggrieved residents give 2 weeks ultimatum

By Patrick N. Mensah in Maryland

Aggrieved residents, including traditional leaders of Yokudee Pedebo, Maryland county have given local government officials two weeks ultimatum to provide them brand new transmitter.

The residents erected road block and gave the ultimatum following several promises from authority of the Liberia Electricity

later agreed on Saturday, October 8, 2022, to remove the blockade on transmission poles of the West Africa Power Pool Project (WAPP) after several appeals, announcing a two-week ultimatum or else, they would return to protesting.

The blockage lasted for four days, causing residents of adjacent towns and cities to have slept in darkness after aggrieved residents put traditional charms and talisman on transmission



Corporation in the county.

According to them, it's been nearly a year now since Mr. Wallace Dennis, who coordinates electricity activities there, promised to have provided them a transmitter, but is yet to fulfill his promise. The NEW DAWN has not independently verified this allegation.

Aggrieved residents, including traditional leaders headed by one Eric Dickson had earlier erected 'traditional' road blocks, but

poles, daring "anyone calling themselves man" to climb the poles.

Yokudee and nearby villages in the Pedeboe Border area, host transmission lines from Ivory Coast to Liberia passing over the Cavalla River but those areas have been without electricity for more than seven years since a 50KVA transformer was allegedly removed to replace a damaged

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# Investing in malaria prevention and elimination: Liberia launches the 2022 Malaria Indicators Survey

Malaria is still one of the lead causes of death in Africa; as such, investments in the control and eradication of malaria are key towards creating healthier and more affluent societies that can confidently contribute to achievement of the sustainable development goals.

Liberia has launched the 5th nationwide malaria indicators survey. The survey aims at tracking the country's progress against targets set in the National Strategic Plan.

The household survey will be essential in gathering information for the general public on important indicators of malaria prevalence, core malaria interventions such as ownership and use of mosquito nets, treatment of malaria in pregnancy, types of malaria parasites and tracking anemia prevalence among children aged 6-59 months.

general public knowledge, attitudes, and practices in this area.

The guest of honor at the event, Dr. Peter Clement, WHO Country Representative in Liberia, applauded the Liberian government for attaining this milestone.

"Congratulations, Liberia, for this important milestone

because malaria continues to challenge us and remains the main cause of illness and death in our communities. We must combat malaria with relevant tools and approaches that are evidence-based and that will guide the program with timely information that will trigger a paradigm shift in malaria interventions. The



outcome of the survey will unearth cost-effective and innovative tools for malaria control and elimination in Liberia", said Dr. Clement Peter, WHO Representative.

He further added that according to WHO's latest World Malaria Report (2021), the picture looks gloomy on the disease burden, with an estimate of about 420 million cases in 2020 as opposed to 241 million cases in 2019; malaria-related deaths catering for 627,000 in 2020, an increase of 69,000 in the previous year, and at least 47,000 linked to disruptions related to the provision of malaria prevention, diagnosis, and treatment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

USAID's Health Director and PMI Lead, Ms. Jessica Healey, acknowledged that the survey rollout is indeed a great milestone considering that the elimination of malaria is a critical development priority for the health sector and Liberia as a whole.

"Being here today gives me so much joy as the survey was postponed several times, first

because of the DHS, then COVID-19. I'm also happy that from our routine health data, we are seeing a decline in the number of childhood malaria cases and related deaths.

Furthermore, Liberia was the first country to launch a nationwide G2 mosquito nets distribution campaign in 2021, demonstrating significant progress. I look forward to the results from this survey", said Ms Healey.

Speaking to the enumerators, the Hon. Minister of Health, Dr Wihelmina Jallah, emphasized the need for quality inputs from the team as the success of the survey highly depends on them.

"Let's reach every home that has been earmarked in our 150 clusters, especially now that we are conducting microscopic tests as opposed to rapid tests for malaria. Over 2 million nets have been distributed in the past years; we need to check if they are being put to their intended use. We're counting on you, our data collectors, for the success

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# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## CDC appoints mediation committee

**—for NPP's crisis**  
By Bridgett Milton

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) has appointed a Dispute Resolution Committee to mediate lingering disharmonies within its constituent party, the National Patriotic Party (NPP).

Taylor, and the embattled chairman of NPP Senator James Binney on the other hand.

The CDC said in a statement dated 10 October 2022 that its National Executive Committee has appointed the Dispute Resolution Committee in consultation with the Governing Council.

Chairman Morlu said the committee is expected to report in 14 days, adding that by Tuesday, 25th October 2022, it shall deliver a full report in which recommendations accompanied by action plans, will be enclosed.

He therefore requested all parties to refrain from public comments that impugn the integrity of the investigative process or bring the party into disrepute. Those appointed on the committee are: Cllr. Charles Gibson, Chairman; Mr. Moses Y. Kollie, Co-Chairman; Henry Fahnbulleh, Secretary; Prof. Wilson Tarpeh, Member; and Sen. Richard Devine, Member. Others are Cllr. Edward K. Goba, Member, John T. Richardson, Member, Madam Lydia Nimley, Member, Mr. Jefferson T. Kojee, Member, Garbla V. Williams, Member and Madam Reginald Sokan-Teah, Member.

On Friday, 7 October 2022, Vice President Howard-Taylor snubbed a Supreme Court order that mandated the NPP Chairman James Biney and Secretary General Andrew Peters to hold the party's convention.

She reportedly dedicated to herself the responsibility to hold the convention, leading to the violent clashes.

The NPP's 7th Biennial Convention was held in compliance with the mandate

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## NEC certifies Liberia's newest political party

The National Elections Commission (NEC) has certificated Liberia's newest political party, The People's Party (TPP) ahead of the 2023 presidential and legislative elections. NEC Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah announced in a ceremony on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at the electoral house headquarters in

application of intent from the proposed The Peoples' Party (TPP) expressing interest to be registered as a political party. "The Commission now calls the organizing committee Chairperson of the TPP to come fourth and receive this certificate of accreditation. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, members and



NEC Boss, Madam Lansanah presents Election Certificate to TPP's Organizing Committee Chairperson, Morris M. Sirleaf.

Sinkor, Monrovia that the TPP has met all requirements for the establishment of a political party in the country thus, its certification.

"I am pleased to inform you that following a thorough and in-depth process, the proposed TPP has met the requirements for the establishment of a political party. As a result, this certification program follows", Chairperson Lansanah said.

She noted that Chapter VII of the Constitution of Liberia as well as regulation relating to political parties and independent list requirements that an association must meet in order to be certificated as a political party within the Republic.

She recalled that a while ago, the Commission received an

staff of the National Elections Commission, I wish to congratulate you and present this certificate of accreditation as a fully registered Political Party in Liberia", the NEC boss declared. At the same time, she reminded that election is everybody's business and it is therefore binding on all Liberians to ensure a peaceful election at all times, stressing "All Liberians must commit themselves to the rule of law as the surest way to sustaining our peace and democracy in Liberia."

The TPP joins over two dozen other parties in the country with barely a year to the presidential election in which incumbent President George Manneh Weah is seeking re-election against several challengers.

## Foreign Minister Kemayah Extols Egyptian Ambassador to Liberia for Support

Liberia's Foreign Minister Amb. De-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr., has extolled the Egyptian Ambassador to Liberia, His Excellency Mr. Ahmed EL-Sayed Helal, for his immense contributions aimed at strengthening the bilateral relations subsisting between the two countries.

Minister Kemayah praised Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal for playing meaningful role in the smooth running of the Egyptian Scholarship program in Liberia which enables Liberian students the opportunity to seek studies in Egypt. The Minister made the assertion when Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal paid a Courtesy Call on him on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at his Foreign Ministry Office, on the Capitol Hill.

He said the Government of Liberia under President Weah is working assiduously to further solidify the excellent bilateral relations between Egypt and Liberia.

also encouraged the Egyptian Ambassador to continue to advocate on behalf of Liberia for Egyptian investors to explore investment opportunities in the field of agriculture, youth empowerment, energy, mining etc. Speaking earlier, the Egyptian Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal expressed his deep gratitude to Minister Kemayah and the Liberian

government for the warm reception and excellent cooperation his Embassy continues to receive aimed at cementing the cordial ties of friendship between the two sisterly countries.

Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal said he has deep admiration and love for the people of Liberia adding "I will work to further cement the bilateral relations between Liberia and Egypt".



Foreign Minister Kemayah

## Starts from page 6 Investing in malaria prevention

of the survey", said Dr Jallah.

In his concluding remarks, Dr. Peter highlighted that Liberia will be introducing malaria vaccines for children under 5 years of age in 2023. "In October 2021, the WHO recommended the introduction of the malaria vaccine among children in the region in areas with moderate-to-high malaria transmission, all in efforts to reduce the burden.

The vaccine has been seen to significantly reduce malaria and its severe forms in children.

The survey comes at an opportune time when Liberia plans to introduce the vaccines in 2023. The vaccines will be a game changer for children under the age of five" narrated

Dr Peter. The malaria indicators survey will be conducted across the nation in all 15 counties, and residents are encouraged to cooperate with enumerators as they collect data in the communities.

The African Region alone catered for 95% of malaria cases globally in 2020, with 96% of deaths occurring in children under the age of 5, who accounted for 80% of malaria deaths in the region. 4 African countries accounted for over half of the malaria deaths globally, namely Nigeria, the DRC, Tanzania, and Mozambique. The survey is being supported by various partners, including the US President's Malaria Initiative, Global Fund, WHO, and others.

# Français

## La nouvelle présidente de la Cour Suprême n'a pas l'intention de se soumettre aux caprices du pouvoir

La nouvelle juge en chef de la Cour suprême du Libéria a mis en garde les autorités libériennes tout en affirmant que son administration ne fera allégeance à personne, mais au principe de droit.

S'exprimant lors de la rentrée judiciaire de la Cour suprême le lundi 10 octobre 2022 pour le mois d'octobre où elle a officiellement pris

a-t-elle ajouté.

Le président George Manneh Weah, le président de la Chambre des Représentants Bhofal Chambers, le président du Sénat Pro - Tempore Albert T. Chie et des membres de l'Assemblée législative ont pris part à la cérémonie officielle de prise de fonction de la nouvelle présidente de la cour suprême du Libéria. Des membres du corps diplomatique, des avocats et

La juge en chef Yuoh a dit avoir une ferme conviction de respecter les principes constitutionnels d'une procédure régulière qui garantit les droits de tous les citoyens et ressortissants étrangers. Suite à sa confirmation par le Sénat libérien le mois dernier, le président Weah a installé la juge en chef Yuoh, succédant ainsi au juge en chef Francis S. Korkpor, qui est maintenant à la retraite.

Elle devient la troisième femme juge en chef du Libéria. Elle était juge associée de la Cour suprême depuis sa nomination par l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf avant d'être élevée au poste de juge en chef par le président Weah.

La chef Yuoh a promis de mettre fin à l'obstruction systématique des avocats et des clients dont l'objectif est de retarder les procès en procédant par des formalités juridiques inutiles, juste pour empêcher que les procès aboutissent à des décisions finales.

Elle espère aussi que tous les juges de première instance suivent progressivement les exemples de son administration.

Elle a dit reconnaître que le manque de soutien adéquat au système judiciaire est une érosion de l'état de droit, de la paix et de la sécurité de la république.

Néanmoins, la juge en chef

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Chief Justice Yuoh

fonction, la juge Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh a promis un pouvoir judiciaire robuste.

« Nous veillerons à ce que justice soit rendue conformément à l'article 11 (a) et (b) », a déclaré la juge en chef Yuoh.

« Je prendrai la résolution non seulement d'entendre les affaires relatives aux droits de l'homme, mais de... rendre un avis... en temps opportun et de manière appropriée »,

d'autres invités y étaient aussi présents.

Elle a promis d'être très robuste et droite envers la loi comme l'ancien juge en chef d'Angleterre John Marshall qui, selon elle, pour prêter serment dans le cadre de ces fonctions de juge en chef, s'était tenu debout devant le roi pour démontrer qu'il ne prêtait pas d'allégeance au monarque ou à qui que ce soit, mais à la loi écrite et à sa conscience.

## La représentante pays de l'UNFPA appelle à l'éducation sexuelle pour les filles

L'éducation sexuelle complète (ECS) adaptée à l'âge et basée sur les compétences de vie pour les adolescents et les jeunes scolarisés et non scolarisés est non seulement essentielle, mais constitue aussi l'un des investissements les plus sûrs qu'un pays puisse faire pour son avenir durable, selon la représentante de l'UNFPA au Libéria.

Pour Mme Bidisha Pillai, les adolescentes et les jeunes filles du monde entier doivent bénéficier d'une éducation sexuelle complète adaptée à leur âge afin de développer les connaissances et les compétences dont elles ont besoin pour faire des choix éclairés, protéger leur santé et réaliser leur plein potentiel.

Dans un éditorial intitulé "Le moment est venu pour les

jeunes filles - Leurs droits, leur avenir" pour marquer la Journée internationale de la fille, la représentante pays de l'UNFPA a indiqué que la baisse du nombre de filles qui atteignent l'enseignement secondaire au Libéria peut être attribué à plusieurs facteurs, y compris la

grossesse précoce. « Par exemple, environ 36% des filles sont mariées ou sont en union avant l'âge de 18 ans. Près de la moitié, soit 44% des filles âgées de 15 à 19 ans sont soumises à des mutilations génitales féminines, ce qui pourrait aussi

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Ms. Bidisha Pillai

## Éditorial

### Mettre fin à l'impunité au Libéria est pour le bien général

LE GOUVERNEMENT DU Libéria est manifestement réticent à mettre en œuvre les recommandations de la Commission vérité et réconciliation (CVR) qui appelle principalement à la poursuite des acteurs clés de la guerre civile libérienne, qui ont commis des crimes odieux et des crimes contre l'humanité.

L'ADMINISTRATION WEAH FERA tout son possible pour protéger l'ancien maréchal général rebelle Prince Yormie Johnson, qui est sénateur du comté de Nimba.

EN TOUT CAS, Beth Van Schaack, Ambassadrice itinérante pour la justice pénale mondiale du Bureau de la justice pénale mondiale à Washington, DC, est dans le pays pour s'enquérir des obstacles auxquels est confronté le gouvernement du Libéria pour la mise en œuvre du rapport de la CVR.

LA CVR A recommandé la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre et économiques pour le Libéria afin de poursuivre ceux qui portent la plus haute responsabilité pour les atrocités commises pendant les 14 années de guerre civile au Libéria.

MAIS LE PRÉSIDENT George Manneh Weah et son Congrès pour le changement démocratique, qui a organisé des marches pour réclamer la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre, sont aujourd'hui silencieux simplement parce que le sénateur Prince Johnson, qui a commis des atrocités dans ce pays, est aujourd'hui un principal allié politique. C'est aussi le cas pour l'ancien chef rebelle George S. Boley du Conseil pour la paix du Libéria (LPC), qui fut expulsé des États-Unis pour avoir armé des enfants soldats au Libéria.

IL EST AUJOURD'hui membre du parlement libérien. Il y a aussi le leader des Libériens unis pour la réconciliation et la démocratie (LURD), qui est aujourd'hui malade, et Thomas Yaya Nimely du Mouvement pour la démocratie au Libéria (MODEL).

LES PARTENAIRES INTERNATIONAUX, en particulier les États-Unis, sont prêts à aider les Libériens à se délivrer de quelques personnes assoiffées de sang, dont le seul moyen de survie est la violence aux détriment des jeunes.

IL FAUT QUE nous mettions fin à l'impunité maintenant ou jamais. Il est important que nous saluions la création du tribunal des crimes de guerre comme l'a fait la Sierra Leone voisine pour décourager toute velléité d'aller à nouveau dans la brousse pour satisfaire des désires égoïstes sous prétexte de libérer le peuple.

LE TRIBUNAL DES crimes de guerre contribuera à maintenir la stabilité de ce pays pour le bien de la majorité et à attirer les investisseurs désireux de faire des affaires dans un environnement sûr et fiable dans le cadre de l'état de droit.



# Français

## La nouvelle présidente de la Cour Suprême n'a pas

Yuoh a averti que ces défis ne devraient jamais empêcher les juges et les magistrats de faire face à leur obligation fondamentale. À cet égard, des mesures sans précédent seront prises en collaboration avec ses collègues pour, selon elle, relever ces défis.

Elle a promis de coordonner les efforts de la Cour suprême et du pouvoir

judiciaire avec les deux autres pouvoirs de l'Etat.

« Nous avons convenu de maintenir un réseau dynamique entre la magistrature et l'Association nationale du barreau du Libéria », a-t-elle dit avant de promettre de mettre en œuvre une politique judiciaire qui permettra aux populations d'apprécier le fonctionnement de la Cour.

## La représentante pays de l'UNFPA appelle

les forcer à abandonner l'école.

Elle a fait valoir que les grossesses non planifiées et précoces compromettent les droits, la santé, l'éducation et le potentiel des filles, les privant d'un avenir meilleur. Et le manque d'informations et d'agence pour prendre des décisions éclairées concernant leur santé et leurs droits sexuels et reproductifs aggrave la situation.

« Les grossesses précoces ne sont pas seulement un problème de santé, mais aussi un problème de développement qui est profondément enraciné dans la pauvreté, l'inégalité entre les sexes, les déséquilibres de pouvoir entre les filles et leurs partenaires masculins, le manque d'éducation et l'échec des systèmes et des institutions à protéger leurs droits. Pourtant, les preuves nous montrent que les avantages de l'éducation des filles, en particulier l'enseignement secondaire, sont considérables : retarder l'âge au mariage et à l'accouchement, moins de décès maternels et infantiles, des taux de fécondité plus faibles, un risque plus faible d'infection par le VIH et une augmentation participation politique », a-t-elle fait observer.

Selon elle, briser le cycle de la grossesse chez les adolescentes nécessite l'engagement de la nation, des communautés et des individus pour investir dans leurs filles. « L'une des choses dont nous sommes sûrs qu'elles fonctionnent, c'est d'investir dans la santé sexuelle et reproductrice des adolescents et des jeunes, en particulier des filles », a-t-elle ajouté.

Pour elle, quoique l'écart du taux de scolarisation entre les deux sexes s'est réduit au Libéria au niveau primaire, les filles sont toujours moins susceptibles d'atteindre le

niveau secondaire par rapport aux garçons.

Elle a cité les statistiques du ministère de l'Éducation pour l'année scolaire 2019-2020 qui indiquent que le pourcentage de filles à l'école primaire est de 51 % contre 49 % au niveau secondaire.

Selon elle, depuis juin 2016, l'UNFPA soutient directement le gouvernement du Libéria et travaille avec les communautés pour fournir des informations sur la santé sexuelle et reproductrice et la planification familiale par le biais d'une éducation sexuelle complète (ECS) adaptée à l'âge et basée sur les compétences de vie pour les adolescents et jeunes scolarisés et non scolarisés.

Ceci est complété par un ensemble d'interventions, y compris le renforcement des capacités des institutions et des structures communautaires harmonisées pour fournir des services de santé sexuelle et reproductrice de qualité adaptés aux jeunes. « Les services sont fournis dans les établissements de santé publics, les écoles, les centres de jeunesse et les espaces communautaires sûrs des comtés du sud-est. Fort de son succès, le programme est maintenant étendu progressivement à d'autres comtés avec le soutien du gouvernement et des partenaires.

A l'occasion de la Journée internationale de la fille, Mme Pillai a appelé les individus, les communautés, les institutions nationales et les parties prenantes à prendre des mesures qui permettront à la jeune fille de faire des choix de vie éclairés et de fournir le soutien nécessaire pour elle dans les cas où ses droits sont menacés. « Chaque jeune fille a le droit de réaliser son potentiel humain, quel que soit l'endroit où elle vit ou sa situation économique. Aujourd'hui, trop de filles sont privées de ce droit. Nous pouvons changer cela, et nous devons le faire ».

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Raghuram G. Rajan  
et Viral Acharya

# Où sont passées toutes les liquidités ?

CHICAGO/NEW YORK - Le dysfonctionnement du marché des obligations d'État dans une économie développée est un avertissement précoce sur son instabilité financière potentielle. Au Royaume-Uni, le nouveau « mini-budget » proposé par le gouvernement a ressuscité le spectre de la dette souveraine non viable et a conduit à un élargissement spectaculaire des rendements des titres d'emprunt à long terme. En reconnaissant l'importance systémique du marché des obligations d'État, la Banque d'Angleterre a réussi son entrée, en suspendant son plan de retirer ses titres d'emprunt et en annonçant qu'elle allait acheter des titres d'emprunt sur une quinzaine de jours à une échelle proche de celle de ses ventes prévues pour les 12 prochains mois.

Depuis cela, les marchés se sont calmés. Mais aussi louable que puisse être la réponse rapide de la BdE, nous devons nous demander quelle est la responsabilité des banques centrales dans la fragilité actuelle des marchés financiers. Après tout, alors que les rendements des titres d'emprunt à long terme se sont stabilisés, la liquidité (à en juger par les écarts entre la demande et l'offre) ne s'est pas améliorée. De l'autre côté de l'Atlantique, le marché des bons du Trésor américain soulève également des préoccupations en matière de liquidité. De nombreux indicateurs au rouge vif, comme au début de la pandémie de COVID-19 en 2020 et à la suite de la faillite de Lehman Brothers en 2008.

Après deux années d'assouplissement quantitatif (QE) - lorsque les banques centrales ont acheté des obligations à long terme du secteur privé et émis des liquidités bancaires en échange - les banques centrales du monde entier ont commencé à réduire leurs bilans et la liquidité semble avoir disparu en l'espace de quelques mois seulement. Pourquoi le resserrement quantitatif (QT) a-t-il produit ce résultat ? Dans un article récent co-écrit avec Rahul Chauhan et Sascha Steffen (que nous avons présenté à la conférence Jackson Hole de la Banque de la Réserve fédérale de Kansas City au mois d'août), nous montrons que l'assouplissement quantitatif peut être assez difficile à inverser, parce que le secteur financier est devenu dépendant de liquidités faciles.

Cette dépendance se manifeste de multiples façons. Les banques commerciales, qui détiennent généralement les réserves fournies par les banques centrales pendant l'assouplissement quantitatif, financent leurs propres achats d'actifs avec des dépôts de demande à court terme qui représentent des créances fortes sur leurs liquidités en période de vache maigre. En outre, bien que les réserves des banques centrales des économies avancées soient les actifs les plus sûrs de la planète, elles offrent des faibles rendements, de sorte que les banques commerciales ont créé des flux de revenus supplémentaires en offrant une assurance de liquidité adossée à des réserves à d'autres. Cela prend généralement la forme de limites de carte de crédit plus élevées pour les ménages, de lignes de crédit conditionnelles pour les gestionnaires d'actifs et les sociétés non financières, ainsi que de relations entre courtiers et revendeurs qui promettent d'aider les spéculateurs à répondre aux appels de couverture (demandes pour des garanties de trésorerie supplémentaires).

Les spéculateurs ne se limitent pas aux fonds spéculatifs, comme nous l'avons appris récemment au Royaume-Uni. Ils incluent plutôt des fonds de pension normalement immobilisés qui se sont engagés dans des investissements dits « adossés au passif » : pour compenser le faible rendement des titres d'emprunt à long terme induit par l'assouplissement quantitatif, ils ont augmenté le profil de risque de leurs autres actifs, en prenant davantage d'endettement et en couvrant tout risque d'intérêt lié aux produits dérivés. Bien que leur position couverte ait garanti qu'une augmentation des taux d'intérêt aurait un impact égal sur la valeur de leurs actifs et de leurs passifs, elle a

également généré des appels de couverture sur leurs positions dérivées. Faute de liquidités pour répondre à ces appels, ils dépendaient de banquiers disposant de liquidités pour les soutenir.

En somme, durant les périodes d'assouplissement quantitatif, le secteur financier génère des créances potentielles substantielles sur les liquidités, en régénérant effectivement une grande partie des réserves émises. La quantité de liquidités disponibles est donc beaucoup plus faible que celle des réserves émises, ce qui peut devenir un gros problème en cas de choc, comme une peur induite par le gouvernement.

Notre étude constate également que, dans le cas des États-Unis, le resserrement quantitatif rend les conditions encore plus strictes, parce que le secteur financier ne réduit pas rapidement les créances qu'il a émises sur des liquidités, alors même que la banque centrale reprend des réserves. Cela rend également le système vulnérable aux chocs - un accident qui a toutes les chances de se produire prochainement. Au cours du dernier épisode de resserrement quantitatif aux États-Unis, même s'il a été relativement réduit, des augmentations inattendues de la demande de liquidités (comme une augmentation du compte du Trésor à la Fed) ont provoqué une dislocation massive sur les marchés des repos du Trésor. C'est exactement ce qui s'est passé en septembre 2019, ce qui a incité la Fed à reprendre ses injections de liquidités.

Le début de la pandémie en mars 2020 a été un choc de liquidité encore plus important, les entreprises ayant réduit les lignes de crédit des banques et des spéculateurs à la recherche d'aide pour répondre aux appels de couverture. Les banques centrales ont dûment inondé le système de réserves. On ne peut imaginer l'ampleur de l'intervention qui aurait été nécessaire si le choc avait été aussi mauvais que celui de 2008. Une crise encore plus profonde aurait poussé certains déposants à se départir de leurs espèces, ce qui aurait poussé certaines banques à thésauriser leurs liquidités afin de répondre à des demandes inattendues sur les dépôts qu'elles avaient amassés durant les périodes de forte expansion.

Autrement dit, plus l'échelle est grande et plus la durée de l'assouplissement quantitatif sont longs, plus la somme de liquidités à laquelle les marchés financiers s'habituent est grande et plus il faudra de temps pour que les banques centrales normalisent leurs bilans. Mais comme les chocs financiers, réels et budgétaires ne respectent pas les calendriers des banques centrales, ils forceront souvent de nouvelles interventions de la banque centrale, comme nous l'avons vu au Royaume-Uni.

Les décideurs monétaires se trouvent donc dans une position très difficile. Une banque centrale pourrait avoir besoin d'augmenter ses taux pour réduire l'inflation. Mais si elle doit également fournir simultanément des liquidités pour stabiliser les marchés obligataires, elle risque d'envoyer un message mitigé sur sa position politique - sans parler des inquiétudes suscitées par le fait qu'elle est devenue un financier direct du gouvernement. Non seulement cela complique la communication politique, mais cela pourrait également prolonger la lutte contre l'inflation.

Alors que les banques centrales ont toujours eu le devoir de fournir des liquidités d'urgence, le faire sur une base durable et à grande échelle est une autre paire de manches. Nos résultats suggèrent que l'assouplissement quantitatif sera très difficile à inverser, notamment parce que le resserrement quantitatif lui-même augmente la vulnérabilité du système aux chocs. Bien que la BdE mérite des éloges pour s'être empressée de sauver le système, les banques centrales ont plus généralement besoin de réfléchir sur leur propre rôle qui fragilise tant le système dans son ensemble.

Raghuram G. Rajan, ancien gouverneur de la Reserve Bank of India, professeur de finance, Booth School of Business de l'Université de Chicago. Il a publié dernièrement *The Third Pillar*: Comment les marchés et l'État quittent la Communauté (Penguin, 2020). Viral Acharya, professeur d'économie, New York University's Stern School of Business.

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‘Our courts are

Starts from back page

# GVL rehabilitates school building in Grand Kru

As part of its commitment to support education in its operational areas in southeastern Liberia, Golden Veroleum (Liberia) GVL Inc. has constructed and dedicated a modern elementary school for more than 250 students in Trembo Gbanken Community and its surroundings in Grand Kru County.

dilapidated makeshift structures any more as it was in the past.

GVL’s Assistant Manager for Sustainability, Philip Wilson, said the project fulfilled a key commitment set out in Memorandum of Understanding and Social Agreement signed between the communities and Management. “We see this as a key part of our relationship

children to attend to realize the value of educating future generations of the community.

In separate remarks, Trehn District Superintendent Amajie Sieka, School Principal, Mr. Moses Wleh, District Education Officer, Mr. Nyemah Jones, Township Commissioner, Jimmy Diah, Gbanken Clan Chief, George Diah, and Warteken Paramount Chief, Henry B. Davis, lauded Golden Veroleum Liberia for the project, acknowledging that the project has brought relief and new hope to Gbanken community’s children and youth.

They disclosed that the facility is the first modern school structure in Gbanken, thereby describing the project as a blessing to the community. “We are more than happy to have this modern school building for the first time in our community. GVL as a company continues to demonstrate its commitments to supporting development and improving our livelihoods. With the new building, our children are happy to come to school and learn under a conducive atmosphere,” they told GVL representatives.

Currently, GVL is investing over US\$200,000 annually to support schools in Sinoe and Grand Kru counties under its Golden Veroleum Educational Support Program (GES) that is designed to support educational needs of employees’ dependents and pupils from surrounding communities.

with you our partner community. The company will continue to work with local communities to improve social and economic opportunities,” said Philip.

Presenting keys to the school building to the community, Mr. Wilson urged the school’s administration and the community to take good care of the facility, underscoring that the company has constructed the school, and it is now up to the community to manage the school and encourage their

the government and they have strengthened the laws to end violence against women. He pointed out that laws against rape, domestic violence, and the protection of women and children are all being vigorously enforced.

“There is now a gender section in almost every ministry and agency of government,” said Minister Dean.

“The proposed 30% gender quota in the legislature will soon be signed into law. However,

thanks to President Weah, Feminist-in-Chief, for these laudable achievements,” Dean continued.

He said he and his team at the Ministry of Justice welcome the new Chief Justice’s renewed commitment to continue to dispense justice without fear or favor. He commended her readiness to continue to treat all party litigants appearing before her equally, without regard to status, whether rich or poor.--Edited by Winston W. Parley

Starts from page 7

## CDC appoints mediation committee

of the Civil Law Court, which adjudicated the prolonged leadership conflict within the former ruling party. Eyewitnesses said it all started when supporters of VP Howard-Taylor attempted to force their way into the convention hall after being denied to do so due to lack of convention passes.

The Vice President in return was said to have ordered officers of the Emergency Response Unity (ERU) of the Liberia National Police to take siege of the gate to allow her “unaccredited” supporters into the convention hall.

This was met with stiff resistance from the Biney faction of the NPP leading to a dog fight inside the convention hall.

Following nearly an hour of intense dog fight among faction members, calm returned but that calm was short lived as violence erupted again. This prompted the VP Howard-Taylor’s faction to conduct its convention outside the Paynesville City Hall with Emmanuel Lomax as chair of the elections commission.

Lomax said votes were taken and a decision was made to render all positions in the party vacant, allowing each of the partisans to contest. “We the delegates attending the 7th Biennial Convention of the NPP do hereby declare the vote as a block to individual names attached for elective positions,” he said. “We delegates have proffered this resolution and secured signatories of two-third majority votes of the 638 delegates... to give legal effect to any decision at this Convention,” he added.

Naming the officials elected, Lomax said Madam Jewel Howard-Taylor was elected NPP Standard Bearer; Cllr. Stanley McClain, NPP National Chairman; and Morris Paye, NPP Secretary General, among others.

After the VP Howard-Taylor’s group left the hall, the Biney faction also proceeded with its convention too, thereby retaining the Maryland County Senator Biney as National

Chairman. Biney’s challenger Abraham Masseley had withdrawn from the race.

However, partisans went ahead to elect George S. Mulbah- Vice Chairman /Administration, Daoda Metzger- Vice Chairman for Operations, Charlyne A. Taylor- Vice Chairman for Gender Affairs, John A. Siaway -Vice Chairman/ Planning, Policy and Research and Dopoe Menkarzon- Vice Chairman/ Special Project.

The rest of the elected executives are Thomas G. Goba- Vice/ Finance and Investment, Sylvia Z. Taylor- -Vice/ Social Services, Allison Barco -Vice/ Governmental Affairs and Randolph C. J. Cooper - National Treasurer.

Upon their elections, Mr. Biney in discharging his first major task appointed a 16-member coalition framework review committee to look at salient issues in the agreement that bounded the party to an agreement signed by the Congress for Democratic Congress (CDC), the Liberia People’s Democratic Party (LPDP) and the NPP during the 2017 election.

The 16-member committee is headed by Cllr. Abel Momodu Massaly and Dr. Agnes Reeves Taylor as Co- Chairperson while Atty Allison Barco is the Secretary General.

Others on the committee are Samson Wiah, Albert Quenah, Charlyne A. Taylor, Dopoe Menkazon and other eminent partisans.

The convention conducted by the Biney faction also mandated the National Executive Committee of the Party to conduct conventions for the National Secretariat and other leaders with 6 years tenure across the country.

Early signs of the convention experiencing some hitches popped up during the preparatory stages of the event when the party could not raise money for the initial budget of USD100K meant to cater for 638 delegates from across the country.

Those hitches were said to have prompted the party to take a decision on September 4, 2022, at NPP’s national headquarters to reduce the number of persons on the list to 301 persons, according to the Biney Faction.



Composite photos of Gbanken Elementary School before and after

GVL says the seven (7) classroom school building is part of the company’s ongoing commitments to support the development of local communities in Sinoe and Grand Kru counties where it operates, providing education and other basic social services to the locals.

It also notes via press release that the construction of the primary school in the area which is the first of its kind, means that students do not have to attend classes under

## Starts from page 6 Aggrieved residents give

one in central Harper during the administration of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Inhabitants continue to receive promises, including one from incumbent Senator James Biney, during his campaign for the senate in 2020 that is yet to be fulfilled,

according to reports.

Pedeboue town in Maryland situates at the border with neighboring Ivory Coast. But like several other villages and communities in the county, it is without power.

Meanwhile, this paper has gathered that several factors continue to hinder smooth

implementation and free flow of electricity from the West Africa Power Pole, including poorly planted poles, lack of meters for customers, and absence of a substation on the Liberian side of the border. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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# TRH, owners account frozen

By Othello B. Garblah

The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has ordered all accounts of TRH Trading Company and its owners frozen as part of investigations into suspicion of tax evasion amidst the recent drug bust at one of its rented facilities, the New Dawn has learned.

Sources told this paper that owners of TRH and Abi Joudi spent the entire day at the Liberian National Police Headquarters on Saturday October 8, 2022, answering questions relative to the drug bust and tax evasion.

TRH Trading Corporation originally from Hungary, has its main offices on Jamaica Road, Bushrod Island with several sub-branches across the country. The company is also part of the AJA- Group Holdings, a conglomeration of ABI Jaoudi & Fresh Frozen Food.

Documents in the possession of this paper shows that Tannah Abraham, the wife of Bilal Abraham owns 98% share in TRH,

such practice may have led to the alleged smuggling of drugs by the company.

It could be recalled that on Saturday October 1, 2022, Liberian security busted drugs with street value at US\$100m at SONIT Liberia Inc. compound in Topoe Village outside Monrovia after a tipoff from the United States Government.

Documents obtained by this paper showed that the containers in question were shipped by Castrolanda Cooperativa in Brazil and loaded at the port of Itajai on August 23, 2022, before being forwarder to Maersk Line Liberia Limited with TRH Trading Company as the consignee.

What brokers have found more interesting about this shipment and the privileges being enjoy by TRH Trading Company is that the Global Tracking Solution, which tracks all shipments from around the globe warned that

represented by its CEO, Mr. Bilal Ibrahim for the use of the former's cold storage facility in Topoe Village along the Japan Freeway.

Under the rental agreement, SONIA Liberia made available its infrastructure and equipment at Topoe Village to TRH Corporation, including a landscape covering an area of 5.5 acres with fence and electric cables for electricity, hanger containing three (3) cold rooms with storage capacity of 2,700 tons, and cold equipment, compressors and installations.

This has led to other suspects such as the AJA- Group Holdings, a conglomeration of ABI Jaoudi & Fresh Frozen Food Inc, also has in its chain SONIT Liberia Inc that owns the warehouse in Topoe Village.

Addressing a news conference last week in Monrovia, the President of the Customs Brokers Association of Liberia James Hinneh, accused TRH Trading Corporation of being behind importation of the consignment

# 'Betrayal of trust'



By Lincoln G. Peters

The Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA) has described as a travesty of justice and betrayal of trust, the Senate's reported recommendation for a traditional justice commission instead of a war crimes court here.

In a statement issued 11 October 2022 under the signature of LNBA National Secretary General Cllr. Bornor M. Varmah, the Bar stated that Liberia has not prosecuted anyone for the grave crimes committed during the country's armed conflict.

"The LNBA described the action of the Liberian Senate ... as [a] travesty of justice and betrayal of trust of the Liberian People," Cllr. Varmah said.

"LNBA expresses dismay over the failure of the ... legislature to establish a war and economic crimes court," the statement said.

The Bar's statement came after a brief meeting with United States Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice Beth Van Schaack. Also, the Bar lamented that Liberia is yet to establish a war crimes court despite a recommendation by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in 2009. The reported Senate recommendation proposes that the traditional justice commission is to analyze and investigate the findings of the TRC's final report, instead of a war crimes court.

"Meanwhile, we welcome the recent visit of the United States Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice Beth Van Schaack and fully commit to national and international efforts to end impunity in Liberia," the LNBA said.

The Bar pointed out that the rationale provided by the Senate to recommend a Traditional Justice Commission is weak and has no foundation to address criminal accountability for war-era atrocities.

The LNBA stated that if the recommendation takes effect, it will only duplicate and grossly undermine the functional responsibilities of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR).

The LNBA leadership at the same time called on the US government to unconditionally stand with the victims of atrocities committed in Liberia's civil wars.

It urged the US to assist Liberia in establishing a war and economic crimes court to address justice and accountability for abuses suffered during the civil wars.

"The LNBA wishes to remind all that during the armed conflicts, Librarians suffered [a] widespread violation of international human rights and humanitarian laws," the Bar said.

It named killing, rape and other forms of sexual violence, summary executions, mutilation and torture, and use of child combatants as some of the violations. Due to the popular and widespread support of the subject matter in Liberia, the LNBA believes there can be no justification by the Liberian government to delay criminal accountability for war atrocities.

The Bar furthered that it is shameful and embarrassing to note that judicial authorities in the USA, Belgium, France, Finland, and the UK have pursued criminal cases related to the Liberian civil war in recent years, often spurred by civil society efforts.

It said these occurred without any substantial stride by the Liberian government to address transitional justice issues emanating from Liberia's civil conflict.

"The LNBA maintains that the Liberian people have waited too long for justice and accountability for abuses suffered during the civil war without the expressed political will by successive Liberian governments to act consistent with recommendations of the TRC final report," the Bar noted.

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**IMPORT - LIBERIA**

Shipper	CASTROLANDA COOPERATIVA	Selling date	8/23/22
Forwarder	CASTROLANDA COOPERATIVA	Part of discharge	Monrovia
Agent	MAERSK LINE LIBERIA LTD	Bill of lading	220003235
Consignee	TRH TRADING CORPORATION	Voy n°	232N
Carrier	MAERSK LINE		
Incoterms	FOB		
Port of loading	Itajai		
Country / date of BL	Brazil / 8/23/22		
Means of Transport	CMA CGM RIO GRANDE		
ETA	9/22/22		

**Values**

Declared	\$14,100.00
Freight	\$1,545.00
Insurance	75.00
Other	

**220003235**

HS Code	Weight	Country of Origin	FOB value declared	Package
020420000	27,891.000 kg	Brazil	14100.00 USD	130 CARTONS OF PROCESSED PORK HIND...
<b>Total</b>	<b>27,891.000</b>			

**CONTAINERS**

Code	Size	Seal No.	Type
MBU04070592	40ft	2657105SF0427	Refrigerated ISO containers

Consignment is subject to physical examination

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with the remaining 2% being split between J. Johnny Momoh and Jason Weni.

Before the recent drug bust at its rented facility on SONIT Liberia Inc. compound in Topoe Village, FIU had been investigating the suspicious tax evasion activities by TRH Trading Company.

The company, according to report, has been clearing its containers on mere invoices and bill of landing without going through the proper customs inspection, which also include physical inspection as is legally require for right taxation.

Sources at the Liberian Revenue Authority (LRA) have neither denied nor confirmed the allegation, when this paper made contact. But say TRH Trading Company tax disparity had been put under review and that the LRA do conduct post clearance audit of the company's shipments to reconcile the difference. Well, highly placed sources say

the consignment which contained the drugs be subject to physical inspection.

But custom authorities at National Port Authority ignored the warning and allow the containers to leave the port without any physical inspection.

Sources closed to the FIU say the discovery of the drugs in the TRH Trading Company rented facility may have prompted the financial compliance unit to freeze the accounts of the company and its owners.

Initial traces of evidence have placed SONIT Liberia Inc., at the scene of the crime with its owners being subjects of media attention.

However, documents obtained by this paper indicate that SONIT Liberia Inc, represented by Hassan Hadi Saadé, signed a corporative rental agreement with TRH Trading Corporation

of drugs brought in the country and blamed the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for allegedly aiding the process.

Mr. Hinneh explained that the bill of landing document validates the specific owner of a particular consignment or container, including the CTN certificate as well as invoice from APM Terminals, which all proved that the consignment was brought into the country by TRH.

He said the Association remains supportive of Government of Liberia's fight against illicit drugs and other unwholesome substances entering in the country.

According to him, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry allegedly provided undue privilege to TRH Trading Corporation, something that led to the huge consignment of cocaine sneaking in, bypassing Customs Brookers at the Freeport of Monrovia. Investigation continues.

## 'Our courts are not hustled grounds'

**-Justice Minister warns lawyers against filing frivolous suits**



**Cllr. Dean, Minister of Justice**

By Lincoln G. Peters

Justice Minister Cllr. Frank Musa Dean has warned lawyers across the country to desist from filing frivolous cases to frustrate justice, saying the courts are not hustled grounds. Speaking at the opening of the October term of the Supreme Court Monday, 10 October 2022, he condemned in the strongest terms the filing of frivolous suits by some lawyers. "Our courts are not hustled grounds. While procedures are important as they govern the disposition of matters, they should not be unduly preferred

over substance," Minister Dean argued. "To end this bad practice and culture, we should consider compensation for the prevailing party who is erroneously and strenuously subjected to a frivolous suit," said Minister Dean. He added that he was encouraged by Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh's warning against lawyers and their clients engaging in filibustering to prolong cases and frustrate justice. He pledged the support and cooperation of

the Executive Branch of government, adding that it is said that the ... concept of the separation of powers does not imply antagonist exclusivity. According to him, lady justice is blindfolded, symbolizing that justice should be rendered without passion or prejudice. Therefore, the Attorney-General of Liberia said he is encouraged by Chief Justice Yuoh's speech against filibustering by lawyers to frustrate the end of justice. Cllr. Dean suggested that the practice of filing frivolous suits should be condemned, decried, and finally eliminated. "Madam Chief Justice, we are proud as a nation to witness your ascension to the important and much-revered position of [the] chief justice," said Cllr. Dean. "Since Liberia acceded to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, the country has made tremendous progress in promoting gender equality," Minister Dean stated. According to him, women are found in powerful positions in

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

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