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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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# s/court orders Finance Minister arrested

*-for impeding the judiciary's functions*

**P11**

Min. Samuel Tweah

# Sen. Koung twists tongue on Weah

**P11**

Sen. Jeremiah Koung

MTN MoMo

**MoMo WAYSAY-WASA! BIGGER & BETTER!!**

**Dial \*156#**

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# Continental News

## Fisherman tried to break window to save pilots

A fisherman who was one of the first responders at the site of Sunday's plane crash which killed 19 people in Tanzania's Lake Victoria, has

with three fellow fishermen and helped to open the rear door by smashing it with a rowing oar which helped passengers seated towards the rear of the plane to be rescued.

He added that after being stopped he "dived back and waved goodbye to the pilot".

But the pilot then indicated that he still wanted to be rescued.

"He pointed out the cockpit emergency door to me. I swam back up and took a rope and tied it to the door and we tried to pull it with other boats, but the rope broke and hit me in the face and knocked me unconscious. The next thing I know I was here at the hospital," Mr Jackson said. Both pilots are among the 19 confirmed fatalities after the plane - operated by Precision Air, Tanzania's largest private airline - crashed near the shore of the lake. Of the 43 people on board there were 24 survivors, according to Precision Air. Mourners on Monday paid tribute to the 19 victims at a service held at the local football stadium in Bukoba.

Speaking at the service, Tanzania's Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the government would cover the cost of the funerals.

Earlier, he said an extensive investigation would be carried to establish the cause of the crash.

The plane left the commercial capital Dar es Salaam on Sunday and made a scheduled stop at Mwanza before it crashed at around 08.50 local time (05:50 GMT) as it was approaching Bukoba airport. BBC



Majaliwa Jackson was one of many local fishermen who tried to save those on board the plane

described how he tried to save the pilots stuck in the cockpit and how he nearly lost his life trying to rescue them.

Majaliwa Jackson has been officially declared a hero, awarded 1 million Tanzanian shillings (\$430; £370), and offered a job in the fire and rescue brigade for his efforts. Speaking to the BBC from his hospital bed in the lakeside town of Bukoba before the government announcement, Mr Jackson said he panicked as he saw the passenger plane approach from the wrong direction, before plunging into the lake.

He rushed to the scene

Mr Jackson said he then moved to the front and dived into the water. He and one of the pilots then communicated with each other by making signs through the cockpit window. "He directed me to break the window screen. I emerged from the water and asked airport security, who had arrived, if they have any tools that we can use to smash the screen. "They gave me an axe, but I was stopped by a man with a public announcement speaker from going down and smashing the screen. He said they were already in communication with the pilots and there was no water leakage in the cockpit," Mr Jackson said.

## Kenya makes public secret China deal for \$3bn railway

Kenya's transport minister has made public documents about a massive Kenyan railway project signed with China after years of secrecy. The \$3bn (£2.6bn) Chinese-funded and operated railway line is Kenya's biggest infrastructure project since independence in 1963. Its viability has been repeatedly questioned since it was launched.

The line runs between the port city of Mombasa and the capital, Nairobi, and there are plans to extend it to the port city of Kisumu in the west. Publicising details of the railway's loan agreements was one of President William Ruto's campaign promises in order to end speculation among Kenyans on what the government signed on their behalf.

In a tweet on Sunday, minister Kipchumba

Murkomen said copies of the agreement had been given to the majority leaders in Kenya's parliament and also shared with the media. The agreements were signed by the Kenyan government, represented by the national treasury, and the Export and Import (Exim) Bank of China in 2014.

Local media coverage of the released agreements indicates that the Chinese lenders were given sweeping powers. For instance, it requires arbitration of any dispute to be held in Beijing, according to the Daily Nation newspaper.

The main contractor of the



The railway was financed by the Chinese government

## Senegalese Journalist Arrested on National Security Charges

A Senegalese journalist has been arrested after being accused of spreading information harmful to public security. The arrest comes after the journalist published articles about rape charges facing main opposition leader Ousmane Sonko.

Pape Ale Niang, who runs the news website Dakar Matin, was detained Sunday while changing a car tire in downtown Dakar, according to local reports.

Niang is an outspoken journalist known for his investigations into abuses of power. Details about the rape allegations against Sonko were reportedly taken from a

body, the Council for the Observance of Ethics Rules and Professional Conduct in the Media, on Monday issued a declaration to condemn Niang's arrest.

"It is very unfair," said Mamadou Thior, chairperson of the organization. "We know that if we don't protest against that, it's Pape Ale Niang today, and tomorrow it will be me or someone else. We are supporting him, no matter what happens. Because Pape Ale as an investigative journalist did his job." Thior said the gendarmerie are at fault for failing to protect the document.

Niang is facing three charges, including the violation of



Police officers stand in front of the courthouse where opposition leader Ousmane Sonko is appearing for a hearing in Dakar.

classified military document which implicated a leader of Senegal's gendarmerie in spying on Sonko.

Sonko placed third in the 2019 presidential election and is running again in 2024. He was arrested last year on what many believe were dubious accusations of rape. The incident ignited a week of rioting that led to the deaths of 14 people. A second round of demonstrations erupted in June over the government's decision to keep Sonko and other members of the opposition off the ballot in the legislative elections. Sonko, who has been under judicial supervision since March 2021, appeared before a judge Thursday for the first time.

Senegalese President Macky Sall, who is in his second term, is set to leave office in 2024. But fears are mounting that he will run for an unconstitutional third term - accusations which he has neither confirmed nor denied.

Senegal's press regulation

professional secrecy and making public information that could harm the national defense, according to a statement given by Niang's lawyer to the French news agency, AFP. A third charge accuses Niang of acts liable to compromise public security.

Journalist arrests in Senegal are rare. Senegal was ranked 49th out of 180 on the Reporters Without Borders 2021 press freedom index. But the country fell to 73 in 2022 - a level considered problematic. A second round of demonstrations erupted in June over the government's decision to keep Sonko and other members of the opposition off the ballot in the legislative elections.

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project was exempted from all taxes, the Standard newspaper reports.

In 2020 the Chinese foreign ministry denied claims that

the Mombasa port, one of the biggest in sub-Saharan Africa, was used as collateral in the agreement. BBC

# EDITORIAL

## Things falling apart in Weah's government

THE SUPREME COURT of Liberia didn't mince its words here when it ordered the arrest of the Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Samuel Tweah, for obstructing functions of the judiciary. That's how things have gone so bad in the government of President George Weah.

“BY DIRECTIVE OF the full bench of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Liberia, you are hereby commanded to arrest the living body of Samuel D. Tweah, Minister of Finance,” a writ dated November 7, 2022 from the High Court read.

MINISTER TWEAH IS reportedly out of the country, but this is strange for the final arbiter of justice in the land to go after a sitting member of the cabinet. Tweah is being wanted to show cause why he should not be held in contempt for hindering functions of the Liberian judiciary.

THE MOVE BY the Supreme Court indicates how things have gone from bad to worse in the Weah administration. It also clearly exposes how the Executive Branch of government has been taken the Judicial Branch for granted.

MINISTER TWEAH HAS presented himself as someone trying to hide something or an untouchable in government. He is wanted by the Liberian Legislature to respond to ongoing corruption at the Liberia Institute for Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) as head of the Board of this entity. Members of the Legislature have also invited him to account for US\$11 million allotted to subsidize rice importation in the country. He is yet to appear and provide answers to these concerns.

THE ARREST ORDER from the Supreme Court seems to be the last straw that would break the camel's back, as it regards the Finance boss having his way across the government that contains three separate, but coordinate branches.

THE POST OF Minister of Finance is sacred and should be held that way. But what is obtaining in this administration with Minister Tweah rolling things as business as usual clearly leaves much to be desired.

AS MINISTER OF Finance, he should conduct his public activities with a high degree of respect and trust, rather than allowing himself to be summoned here and there by the other two branches of government.

THE ONUS IS on the Finance boss to demonstrate beyond all doubts that he has the depth of maturity that is necessary to continue to occupy that sacred office that presides over the nation's fiscal activities. Anything short of this is a betrayal of the public's trust, as unfolding circumstances seem to indicate.

THE SOONER TWEAH recognizes this and acts accordingly, the better it would be, not only for his own credibility, but to save the entire government from more grievous embarrassment.

# 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.*

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O-PED

By Peter Singer

## Free Speech for Whom?

**P**RINCETON - How is it that a man who has banned 83 million people from Twitter can freely use the platform to post his messages denigrating women and supporting the brutal attack on the writer Salman Rushdie? I'm referring to the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, whose government is killing young women who want to be able to show their hair in public.

For several years, the Iranian-American activist Masih Alinejad has been calling for Khamenei to be banned from Twitter. Last month, along with Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelensky, she received the 2022 Oxi Courage Award at the United States Institute of Peace. Opposition to Khamenei does indeed require courage, as is evident from the attack on Rushdie last August, which can be traced to the 1989 fatwa issued by Khamenei's predecessor, Ayatollah Khomeini, condemning Rushdie to death for blasphemy.

As recently as 2019, Khamenei called this verdict "solid and irrevocable," and Iran's foreign ministry refused to reproach Rushdie's attacker, instead blaming Rushdie. Alinejad herself has been under FBI protection since August, when police arrested and charged a man with plotting to kill her.

Now that Elon Musk has purchased Twitter, the campaign to ban Khamenei is seeking to influence him. In a recent letter directed to Twitter's advertisers, Musk wrote that he acquired Twitter because "it is important to the future of civilization to have a common digital town square, where a wide range of beliefs can be debated in a healthy manner, without resorting to violence." Otherwise, Musk warns, the opportunity for dialogue on social media will split into "far right-wing and far left-wing echo chambers that generate more hate and divide our society."

I share Musk's concern about what he calls "the woke mind virus" - the readiness to attack people who advocate positions that are perceived as politically incorrect - and the absence of genuine dialogue across the political spectrum. That is why I am one of the founding editors of the Journal of Controversial Ideas, which has just published its third issue. Like Twitter, our journal offers the option of publishing under a pseudonym, though in other respects we are poles apart. Twitter limits messages to 280 characters, whereas we accept articles up to 12,000 words. Not coincidentally, 240 million people use Twitter, while we were pleased to get 50,000 views - a lot for an academic journal - in our first year.

Musk's reference to debating beliefs in a "healthy manner" is open to various interpretations, some of them highly restrictive of free speech. But whatever it means, the question remains how it can be done. At the Journal of Controversial Ideas, we send all articles that pass an initial screen to experts for independent review, in a form that does not identify the author, and we treat responses to the articles we publish in a similar manner. We are looking for well-reasoned arguments, not polemics.

Since our initial call for papers more than a year ago, we have received close to 300 submissions; our current acceptance rate is 12%. Twitter, by contrast, has 6,000 new posts every second. Even for a \$44 billion company, employing enough people to vet that many tweets is not economically viable - and Musk is reportedly planning to fire about 25% of Twitter employees, rather than hiring more. Artificial intelligence could be the answer, but it isn't, at present, able to distinguish reliably between tweets that make positive contributions to debates and those that promote the very hatred and social division that Musk wants to prevent.

Musk has described himself as a "free speech absolutist." He greeted his successful takeover of Twitter, which has a blue bird as its logo, by tweeting, "the bird is freed." Lifting all restrictions on what can be posted on Twitter, however, is not the way to promote debate in a "healthy manner" between people with very different starting points. That much is clear from the more than 1,200 racist and anti-Semitic tweets and retweets that appeared on the site in a coordinated campaign timed to Musk's completion of his purchase.

To achieve Musk's laudable goal, a distinction needs to be drawn between speech that appeals to reason and evidence, or seeks to broaden our empathy and understanding, in an effort to persuade us to change our mind, and speech that seeks to vilify others and stir up hatred against them.

Musk may have come to realize this. After taking over the company, he tweeted about forming a "content moderation council with widely diverse viewpoints" and said that the company would not take "major content decisions or account reinstatements" until "that council convenes." One issue for such a body to consider is whether Twitter should provide a platform to someone who defends a subordinate social status for women and advocates the death penalty for speech that his religion considers to be blasphemy.

Control of a platform like Twitter has put great power - and therefore great responsibility - in the hands of a single individual. Much will depend on Musk, and the members of the content moderation council he appoints, to exercise that responsibility well.

OPINION

By Erik Bergl6f

## How Developing Countries Can Reach Net Zero

**B**EIJING - The world's developing economies are gearing up for a fight ahead of next month's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Egypt. The gathering will provide low- and middle-income countries an opportunity to air their justified grievances about the climate costs they disproportionately bear - and rich countries a chance to start paying their fair share.

While today's developed economies have reaped the benefits of emitting massive amounts of greenhouse gases for 200 years, developing countries have been asked to sacrifice their future to save the planet. But if we are to reach net-zero emissions, the international community must ensure that the energy transition creates opportunities for lower-income countries, particularly ones on the frontlines of climate change.

Nowhere is the tension between promoting growth and fighting climate change more palpable than in Asia. Despite a challenging geopolitical landscape, Asia's economies have bounced back from the COVID-19 pandemic with strong growth and flourishing trade, owing to new regional agreements and expanding value chains. At the same time, many Asian governments have been struggling to cope with severe urban air pollution and the increasing frequency of powerful storms and floods. While Asia accounts for the world's largest emissions of greenhouse gases with the highest carbon intensity, it is also home to 99 of the world's 100 most climate-vulnerable cities.

The net-zero transition is a massive undertaking that requires enhanced state capacity. As a new report by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank points out, it poses the greatest challenge that emerging and developing economies have ever faced. Laggard state-owned enterprises with outsize carbon footprints and state-controlled banks that are over-invested in fossil fuels need to become leaders in advancing renewable energy. Similarly, governments must develop and implement mission-driven policies to price carbon use accurately, encourage green innovation, and phase out dependence on oil and coal in a socially and politically sustainable fashion.

Some state-owned companies have already begun responding to these challenges. Since Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi pledged to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, the state-owned mining company Coal India has been increasingly focused on renewables, particularly solar energy. Similarly, the Chinese government has directed the "Big Five" state-owned electricity companies to take the lead on greening the system. State-owned financial institutions are also changing: China's Exim Bank, for example, has adopted a green framework for its domestic operations.

But we cannot reach global carbon neutrality without significant contributions from the private sector. While private companies' financing capabilities are often the focus of this discussion, the skills and technologies they can bring to the transition are even more critical. But a thriving private sector requires a state capable of fighting corruption, enforcing competition, and protecting property rights. That is why the private sector is weakest in countries that lack adequate state capacity.

It is striking that in many countries, including India and Indonesia, renewables have been developed almost exclusively by private companies. This has rapidly boosted wind and solar energy but also created a dichotomy between state-sponsored fossil-fuel industries and a renewable sector that is largely privately owned. Diversification initiatives are critical to accelerating the transition to a low-carbon economy, but they must happen without undermining private-sector incentives.

In emerging, developing, and developed economies alike, the transition's most challenging aspect is that it requires unprecedented alignment and coordination of decision-makers across the economy. To this end, a carbon price that reflects the true climate impact of many activities is crucial to any coordination framework. But many countries - including China and India - have struggled to impose a meaningful price on carbon, and in most cases have managed to cover only a few sectors.

But carbon pricing alone is not enough to achieve net-zero emissions fast enough. Mariana Mazzucato and others have spoken about the need for "moonshots" - once-in-a-lifetime government projects that inspire mission-oriented industrial policies.

In that spirit, Singapore is currently creating a framework whereby government entities work closely with state-owned financial institutions and private companies to achieve the net-zero target. The sense of common purpose that permeates these institutions will be essential to reaching this goal.

Large-scale coordinated efforts place a heavy burden on state capacity, and prioritizing some sectors and technologies over others is an inherently difficult task that is often vulnerable to outside influences and regulatory capture. That is why UN Special Envoy Mark Carney and others have proposed that development partners help countries build state capacities critical to the net-zero transition. Several countries, including Pakistan and the Philippines, have already launched pilot versions of such "country platforms."

Unfortunately, countries that are suffering the worst effects of climate change are also those where state capacity is weakest. The international community must support vulnerable countries like Afghanistan, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and the Maldives in building the capacities required to sustain the transition to a net-zero economy.

To succeed, the transition must be perceived as just. It cannot perpetuate disparities between rich and poor countries, and it must transcend socioeconomic inequalities within countries, too. Programs that reskill workers and transfer valuable skills from fossil-fuel industries to renewables are key. But they will require investment and careful execution.

Crucially, emerging and developing economies in Asia and beyond must develop their own "moonshots." A positive vision of shared prosperity must drive the replacement of polluting technologies with greener alternatives. Achieving a net-zero economy is crucial to mitigating the worst effects of climate change. But if developing countries expect to be left behind, they will never come along.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

## THE NOTORIETY OF EUGENE LENN NAGBE

By Wou Paye

A loosely bound group of men of the ruling Congress for Democratic Coalition (CDC) seems to be on the offensive against Liberia's

renowned human right lawyer and the Liberian People's Party, presidential aspirant Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe. They pick issues with Gongloe carrying a broom and his condemnation of corruption and his intention to sweep corruption out of Liberia when he is elected president. Arrogantly, they claim to be better and smarter in running Liberia, even though their so-called pro-poor policy is a failed policy. They are ever so censorious, contrarian, and supercilious.

They have no original claim to their pretensions other than they are privileged to be in the corridors of power. They got so engrossed with Weah's sense of importance that they began to imagine Weah as indispensable to Liberia. It is dangerous to have such a navel-gazing, narcissistic group inflict themselves with so much ferocity on an otherwise impressionable public. We are in reality dealing with a bunch of hypocrites in Liberia.

With exceptions so few, they don't care about Liberia as a sovereign, but the political spoils that accrue from it. And so they will stop at nothing to discredit those with the right track record of honesty and integrity and a genuine plan to transform Liberia for the better. Cllr. Tiawan Gongloe has unfairly become the target of their pitiable frustrations. Underneath their superfluous appearance, lies an unspoken class disdain directed at Gongloe.

Eugene Lenn Nagbe, one of the most destructive and vindictive persons in Liberia was on Spoon TV and accused the Liberian People's Party, presidential aspirant Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe of being the less performing minister during the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf administration for which he was fired and later asked to resign. Nagbe also accused Cllr. Gongloe for not enforcing the employment of Liberians for positions designated for Liberians at Firestone when he was Minister of Labor.

As if we don't know Eugene Lenn Nagbe. From Charles Taylor, Gyude Bryant, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, to George Weah: It is said that you are a nobody in Liberia if Eugene Lenn Nagbe has not knelt to you, only to either disappoint or betray you. Nagbe has an incurable knack for lying. His penchant for incompetence and reputation-savaging is almost pathological. There is no Liberian politician that Eugene Nagbe has not lambasted and each time, his hypocrisy is always exposed.

His recent attack on Cllr. Gongloe, a man calling for a better Liberia is possible by combating corruption and promoting the rule of law is nothing but sycophancy at its finest. Eugene Nagbe is suffering from an unending capacity for deception. He tells himself so many lies, get so used to them, and willingly substitutes them for the truth. Added to this is his failure and refusal to learn from mistakes.

Eugene Lenn Nagbe was a fighter of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) and a founding member of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Party (NPP) and held top positions during the tyrannical regime of Charles Taylor and also held a ministerial position under Gyude Bryant led transitional government. Nagbe, then Chief of Staff to the vice President of Liberia, Moses Blah was accused during the trial of Charles Taylor of depositing Sam Bockarie, popularly known as General Mosquito's body at the Samuel Stryker Funeral home in Monrovia. The autopsy report prepared after an examination of Bockarie's body read in court during Taylor's trial revealed the RUF commander had four bullet wounds in his left chest, two in his back, and one bullet stuck in his pelvis.

Eugene Lenn Nagbe joined the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) and served as its secretary general. He later resigned in 2011 from CDC and joined Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's Unity Party (CDC) and became the UP Secretary General. As UP Secretary General, Nagbe served as minister for Transport in 2012; in 2013 as Minister of Youth and Sport; 2016 as Minister of Information, Cultural Affairs, and Tourism. He resigned from UP during the 2017 presidential election. After the election, he retained his position as Information Minister before President Weah appointed him to head the Liberia Maritime Authority.

Eugene is a perennial and opportunistic politician and it is the political strategy of Eugene Lenn Nagbe to always lie whenever there is a problem. Eugene Nagbe, then Unity Party's Deputy Campaign Manager in 2011 accused Weah and his CDC of throwing a petrol bomb at his home that set ablaze his government vehicle worth US\$28,000. In 2014, Eugene Nagbe along with George Weah was entangled in the FIFA Qatar 2022 World Cup bidding corruption scandal. Qatari Mohammed Bin Hamman, - and one-time President of the Asian Football Confederation - offered \$60,000 to Weah at the precise moment that George decided he was a MASSIVE advocate of hosting the World Cup in a place so hot that FIFA's medical staff seemed kinda worried the players would explode into flame before half-time. Eugene Nagbe revealed on Spoon TV that Weah will be in Qatar for the opening of the World Cup. How timely!

Eugene Lenn Nagbe, as minister of Information, told the Voice of America "We can confirm that the money was brought through the Freeport of Liberia and the Roberts International Airport, and for now it is L\$16 billion that we have confirmed An estimate of a little over 15 billion Liberian dollars as far as we are concerned from the ongoing investigation as of today, it came through the two ports of entry" only for his CDC buddy and Finance Minister Samuel Tweah told the world that no one should listen to or give credence to what Minister Nagbe reported before regarding the missing money story and the actions being taken by the Liberian government in getting to the core of the problem. In order words, Tweah told us, Eugene Nagbe is a LIAR.

Lenn Eugene Nagbe was quick to dismiss the concerns of the Liberian people after his boss, President Weah demolished his 9th Street beachside property for reconstruction and constructed a 41-unit state-of-the-art multi-million-dollar complex in the Baptist Seminary community, off the Robertsfield Highway. Eugene told the world that those criticizing the reconstruction of the President's residence as defeated politicians who are still nursing their wounds from the just-ended Election.

On March 22, 2018, at a live news conference with visiting United Nations Deputy Secretary General, Madam Amina Mohammed, President George Weah accused Journalist Paye-Layleh of being against him when he was fighting for human rights in Liberia. Eugene Nagbe told the world

that Mr. Jonathan Paye-Layleh, BBC's correspondent in Liberia, was closely involved with the activities of the NPFL and worked with a pro-Taylor newspaper, therefore, justifying President Weah's comment that Paye-Layleh has always opposed his works, especially when he served as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. Paye-Layleh's coverage of the civil war informed the world on the dire humanitarian crisis created by the upheaval during which time some of the President's trusted aides (including Eugene Lenn Nagbe) were passionate supporters of warring factions.

Former CDC Chairman George Solo accused former Eugene Lenn Nagbe of telling Pres. Sirleaf about CDC having guns in their fence in 2011 during the November protest. According to Mr. Solo, Nagbe was the person who told President Sirleaf that 'CDCians had guns in the fence of their headquarters on the protest day, a situation that made the former President send security forces who reportedly fired live bullets, leading to the death of one CDCian and wounding several others.'

When we look at Eugene Lenn Nagbe, we are appalled that people of such pedigree can be called Honorable. What is honorable about Eugene Lenn Nagbe? It is more accurate to refer to him as Your Repugnancy! Eugene Lenn Nagbe is a picture of a mere opportunist and sycophancy personified.

IT IS LAUGHABLE WHEN FLATTERERS LIKE NAGBE ACCUSE GONGLOE OF BEING THE LESS PERFORMING MINISTER DURING THE FIRST TERM OF PRESIDENT SIRLEAF. THIS IS COMING FROM A MAN THAT SIRLEAF BOUNCED FROM MINISTRY TO MINISTRY (TRANSPORT, YOUTH & SPORT AND INFORMATION ). UNFORTUNATELY, THE GREATEST "SINS" COMMITTED BY CLLR TIWAN SAYE GONGLOE, FOR WHICH HIS TRADUCERS WANT TO CRUCIFY HIM IS HIS CRITICISM OF BAD GOVERNANCE UNDER WEAH'S ADMINISTRATION AND HIS STANCE TO ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE RULE OF LAW IN TACKLING CORRUPTION AND MOVING THE COUNTRY IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION.

CLLR GONGLOE IS A VICTIM OF AN ORGANIZED MOB AND MOBS LIKE WE KNOW, LACK THE CAPACITY TO REASON BECAUSE THEY ARE USUALLY ANGRY AND WORKED UP. THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THAT THEIR ANGER IS USUALLY MISDIRECTED, AS IN THIS CASE, AGAINST CLLR. TAIWAN SAYE GONGLOE. THE SCENE IN THAT EPIC WORK; THE MOB MENTALITY, VIOLENCE, AND OUTRIGHT INTIMIDATION OF ANYONE WITH OPPOSING VIEWPOINTS, IS NOT ANY DIFFERENT FROM THE SITUATION IN LIBERIA TODAY. THE MAJORITY OF THOSE HOUNDING CLLR. GONGLOE OVER THE CORRUPTION AND LACK OF PUBLIC TRUST CHALLENGES CONFRONTING LIBERIA IS UNFORTUNATELY NOT INTERESTED IN A SOLUTION. CLLR. GONGLOE HAS CREDITABLY DISCHARGED HIS RESPONSIBILITIES TO HIS COUNTRY AND HIS TRADUCERS CAN CONTINUE TO HOUND HIM, WHILE MASSIVELY MISJUDGING THE SECURITY CHALLENGES.

Setting The Record Straight

Tiawan Saye Gongloe is a Transformational "Public Servant." He was the first Solicitor General since the independence of Liberia in 1847 to have appointed college-educated lawyers as county attorneys in all 15 counties of Liberia, thereby improving the protection of rights and prosecutorial powers of the Liberian government. As Minister of Labor, Gongloe issued Regulation Number 17, which increased work permit fees for non-Liberian residents from US\$400 to US\$1,000, compelling foreign employers including Firestone to hire more Liberians by reducing or getting rid of non-Liberian employees.

On November 3, 2010, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf dismissed her entire Cabinet to provide herself with what she called a "clean slate" ahead of next year's presidential election. No other reason was given for Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's announcement but it comes amid a crackdown on corruption investigations of some public officials a year ahead of presidential elections. Cllr. Tiawan Gongloe on November 17, 2010, told a hatai shop audience yesterday that he was personally angry at the President's decision to send the entire cabinet on administrative leave without convincing explanation thereby generating public speculations.

On November 17, 2010, Gongloe wrote an open letter to President Sirleaf in the FrontpageAfrica Newspaper titled "GONGLOE BREAKS WITH ELLEN: On Leave Minister Cites Dictatorship, Imperialism. Gongloe resigned from his ministerial post in November 2010 over a policy disagreement with the President of Liberia.

Gongloe's most recent leadership role at the Liberian National Bar Association (LNBA) speaks for itself; he left the organization solvent, with over US\$100,000 in its coffers, which were raised over three years, even though the Bar was in severe debt when he took over. He constructed the first floor of a three-story headquarters of the LNBA, currently under construction on the Robertsfield Highway in Margibi County.

As a politician, he has been able to disrupt the entire political system and raise the consciousness of Liberians on the negative effects of corruption by carrying a broom and sweeping corruption of which Eugene Nagbe and his party, the CDC is deeply worried. His recent 3 weeks in most of the towns and villages in Bong and Nimba counties have rejuvenated our people.

GONGLOE IS THE ONLY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE THAT HAS PRESENTED A 10 POINTS AGENDA IN TACKLING THE HEALTH DEFICIT, EDUCATIONAL DEFICIT, AGRICULTURE DEFICIT, INFRASTRUCTURE DEFICIT, CORRUPTION, UNEMPLOYMENT, THE DEFICIT OF PUBLIC TRUTH, ETC. WHILE MANY DEEM IT FIT TO COMMEND HIM FOR HIS UNWAVERING EFFORTS AND THE TENACITY TO CHANGE THE NARRATIVE, WE STILL HAVE SOME WHO HAVE NOT GOTTEN HIS MESSAGE RIGHT AND ALIGN WITH HIS APPROACH AND THOUGHT PROCESS, BUT TRUTH BE TOLD WHETHER GONGLOE'S TRADUCERS LIKE IT OR NOT, NO POLITICIAN HAS GIVEN US THE PRESCRIPTION FOR FIGHTING PUBLIC CORRUPTION LIKE GONGLOE. GONGLOE'S STANCE ON FIGHTING CORRUPTION, DESPITE STRONG OPPOSITION TO IT, OPENED A CAN OF WORMS THAT MADE IT KNOWN TO THE WHOLE WORLD THAT FOR DECADES, MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WOULD HAVE BEEN SPENT ON LIVE-ENHANCING PROJECTS IN ALL SECTORS, WHICH WOULD HAVE HAD A DIRECT BEARING ON THE LIVES OF THE MASSES IN LIBERIA, WAS GOING INTO PRIVATE POCKETS OF FAT CATS. MANY WILL ALSO AGREE WITH THIS WRITER THAT TIWAN SAYE GONGLOE DESERVES COMMENDATION FOR MUSTERING THE POLITICAL WILL TO EXPOSE THE ILLS IN OUR SOCIETY.

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# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## NDMA, IRC identify with flood victims

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) in partnership with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) has reached out with cash distribution to flood victims in Monrovia.

According to IRC Country

partnership with the NDMA is a way of responding to flood victims in Plumkor Community, 8th Street Sinkor, reaching out to approximately one hundred and ten (110) households.

According to Ms Dummie, each of the beneficiaries received one hundred, sixty-four United States Dollars

F. Tamba, called for national resilience after devastating floods across the nation. Mr. Tamba explained that government and partner selected 1000 households from nine (9) communities in Montserrado county and its environs for cash transfer and food distribution.

He lauded the IRC for the collaborative effort and hoped that the partnership goes a long way in helping victims of disaster.

According to him, total amount estimated for relief distribution to flood victims is US\$250,000 for three months.

In a jubilating mood, some beneficiaries expressed thanks to the National Disaster Management Agency for reaching out to them.

Bioma T. Fahnbulleh, a victim of flood, asked government to ensure adequate compensation for lives lost and property destroyed from devastating floods across the country.

Early July, heavy downpours across the country led to floods in Monrovia and surrounding areas, including Margibi, Grand Cape Mount and Bomi counties, affecting approximately 187 homes.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Focus Person, Ms. Diana Bedell Mejeco Dummie, the exercise involving Mobile Money cash transfer is to identify with residents who were affected by floods during heavy downpour in July this year.

She said the IRC

and fifty cents (US\$164.50).

She said the money per household is intended for the recipients to meet some needs during their recovery process after being hit by floods. For his part, the executive director for operations at NDMA, Augustine

## Impact Institute conducts entrepreneurship training for 150 women and girls

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Impact Institute, an indigenous Liberian group, has organized a two-day capacity building and entrepreneurs training summit for young women and girls. The training was aimed at building participants' capacity through economic empowerment and leadership development.

Held under the topic "Building Confidence & Self-esteem for Success in Business & Life," the event took place Monday, 7 November 2022 at the Duahzon United Methodist Church in Margibi County.

It brought together over 150 young women and girls from across Montserrado and Margibi Counties, respectively.

The training offered a unique experience for grassroots women and it has been developed to enhance the capacity of potential women and girls to build their confidence and skills to encourage and develop themselves in business and leadership.

Making his welcoming and introductory remarks at the

"Two things can strengthen and improve underprivileged and underserved communities: Economic empowerment and leadership development," he said.

Day one of the event focused on young women and girls while day two under the topic "How to Build a Small Business and Better Your Life is primarily for young men and Liberian contractors who do small to medium size contracts.

According to the Impact Institute Executive Director, the training will show how to build a small business and improve lives.

Also serving as a facilitator, Dr. Patience Martor of the John F. Kennedy Medical Center (JFK), motivated the participants to break the enormous challenges and be able to stand firm.

Dr. Martor urged the participants to pursue goals and dreams and make sure they come to reality.

"In this struggle, you should always remember that the only way you fail is when you give up," said Dr. Martor.

"In everything we do and anything we should always stand tall to



program, Impact Institute Executive Director Mr. Rudolph Bropleh, said the institution was established to build capacity within organizations and strengthen communities.

According to him, the objective of the training initiative is to inform, inspire, instruct, interact and initiate women and girls to enhance their business and leadership skills, adding that information is power.

"A principal target of our work will be children, women, and young people. The church, a strategic community organization, will also be a place of focus for the Institute's work," he said during the program.

According to Mr. Bropleh two things are usually evident in underprivileged and underserved communities.

He said they are inadequacy of economic opportunities and the lack of social mobility; or the marginalized means of the same.

overcome those challenges. In life, you need to be strong," Dr. Martor stated. Mrs. Mydea White-Simmons, also a facilitator, spoke on self-esteem and encouraged the women and girls who had gathered at the event to build on their strengths they have to understand what their weaknesses are and correct them.

She suggested that this will help them become a better person.

"Inspire yourself to achieve your goal. Challenge yourself and make sure that every day you are moving forward," she said.

She admonished the participants that people are their greater access, saying how they treat people, their pride, and integrity matter.

"Build on your strength and encourage yourself that you can be that person you want to be," he added.

In separate remarks, some of the

## UL 103rd graduating class leadership inducted

By Lincoln G. Peters

The 103rd graduating class of the University of Liberia (UL) over the weekend officially inducted into office as the newly elected leadership of the class. It will steer the affairs of the graduating class.

The program was held in the William V.S. Tubman Auditorium of the University of Liberia Capitol Hill Campus.

The ceremony brought together authorities of the University of Liberia and several students.

Those inducted into office are Mr. Amos M. Kollie, president; Ms. Rosetta Fardolo, vice president; and Evangeline S. Bundor, secretary general. Recently, delegates from various colleges of the 103rd graduating class went to elections to pick officials who will lead the graduating class. The process was observed by independent observers and the University of

Liberia police.

The 103rd graduating class leadership is charged to oversee activities and events for the conduct of the graduation ceremony.

It has the responsibility to ensure that there is a fruitful and historic graduation. Giving his induction speech, the 103rd graduating class president Mr. Amos M. Kollie expressed thanks and appreciation to his colleagues for giving him and his entire leadership team the opportunity to serve.

According to him, he takes

the responsibility given to him to serve and lead his colleagues very seriously, because it's the first test of his determination to serve in national and international leadership.

Student Kollie noted that the burden that they are carrying as leaders is herculean which requires their knowledge, skills, talents, and collaboration to leave behind a fond memory and a legacy of the class of 2021/2022.

"I want to say thank you

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▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Rep. Foko defies critics

Montserrado county District #9 Representative Frank Saah Foko, calls on all major contenders in his district to stop castigating him for not providing free tuition school and food to residents.

He says there is no way a representative can send

of school following a semester because there will be no money left to continue the process.

Addressing a news conference on Monday, November 7, in Monrovia, Rep. Foko said that the issue of free tuition school and food is a nationwide problem. He says therefore,

against me that's why you're telling them that you'll feed them? You cannot make it," he noted.

He maintains that no one representative can provide scholarships for over 20,000 students in the district therefore, he says the politics of lying to the people should stop. According to him, the discourse at this time should be, what government can do to address the issue of tuition and food, adding, "You have to come now with your strategy plan, rather than coming with insult and propaganda."

"Sometimes the way we carry out our self as a leader, that's how our supporters will behave. Because if you start to insult me as your community leader, your supporters will obviously do the same. So, what will happen if my supporters act the same way? Then it becomes a problem." However, he promises to provide public education and tutorials during the 2023 general election.

On the question of whether he would recontest in the pending election, the district #9 lawmaker says that decision is left with the people. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

it would be crucial to put forth a strategy that explains how the country can grow its own food or what government can do to address the issue, instead of castigating unnecessarily.

"So, when you become representative, are you going to provide food to people homes every day or because you want to incite the people

close to twenty thousand students to school and feed an entire district.

"What is your source of income? Where are you going to get the money from? It is impossible and your salary can not do that," he argues. He says even if those criticizing him were to do so, these students will drop out



## U.S. delegation comes for COVID lessons

--visits Liberia

On Monday, November 7, 2022, a U.S. Government delegation arrived in Monrovia to learn firsthand about Liberia's achievements in the fight against COVID-19, a U.S. Embassy release said.

The U.S. delegation also wants to learn about Liberia being among the first three African countries to achieve the World Health Organization (WHO) goal of vaccinating 70% of its population against the disease.

The delegation is led by Beth Tritter, Executive Director of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) COVID-19 Response Team and Dr. David Fitter, Acting Lead for the Global COVID-19 Vaccination Initiative of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

On the delegation also are Chris Runyan, Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID Africa Bureau; and Robert Pulwer, Country Support/Rapid Response Senior Advisor, USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance.

The delegation was formally welcomed Monday by officials at the U.S. Embassy, including Deputy Chief of Mission Joel Maybury, USAID Liberia Mission

Director Jim Wright, and the CDC Country Director for Liberia, Dr. Rachel Idowu.

According to the release, they also met with representatives of the Peace Corps and the National Institutes of Health in Monrovia.

They later visited the General Services Agency (GSA), one of the largest COVID-19 vaccination sites in the country, where they met with the GSA Director General, Madam Mary Broh.

Broh, who is also the National Coordinator for Liberia's COVID-19 Response, thanked USAID, CDC, and other donors for supporting Liberia's COVID response efforts.

She added that about 170,000 people have been vaccinated at the GSA, noting that lessons learned from the fight against the 2014-2016 Ebola epidemic, including the use of local voices in prevention and treatment messaging, have been useful in combating COVID-19. The delegation also met with the Montserrado County Health Team in Monrovia. The head of Liberia's Immunization Program Dr. Adolphus Clarke briefed them on successful COVID-19 interventions in Montserrado, including community-based awareness campaigns to combat vaccine hesitancy. Executive Director

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## NAYMOTE launches Democracy Advancement program today

NAYMOTE Partners for Democratic Development will today, November 8, 2022, officially launch its Democracy Advancement Program.

The program's overarching goal is to enhance democratic governance in Liberia with a strategic objective to increase demand on the government to deliver on its political, development, and campaign promises.

The program will directly benefit 300 young people in total, (150 males and 150 females) through the Young Political Leadership School (YPLS) Africa from across Africa.

The program will support YPLS Africa alumni to undertake civic engagement events towards the 2023 elections aimed at increasing youth and women's political participation and representation to promote peace.

According to a release, a total of 75 alumnae from YPLS Africa will benefit from internship and mentorship opportunities

to work on women's campaign teams and to provide services to their communities.

The program will inform citizens, especially women and youth about their role in making demands for improved service delivery and as well demand elected officials to be accountable based on their election promises in Liberia.

The program is built on Research, Advocacy, and Civic Engagement, (RACE) to ensure that citizens are aware of the operation of the county's service centers.

It is also to ensure that local government is responsive to the needs of citizens especially women and youth within the

selected counties. The program will be launched by the newly elected President of the Federation of Liberia Youth and an Alumnae of YPLS Africa, Ms. Banica T. Elliot, followed by special remarks from development partners, civil society, and the Government of Liberia.

The NAYMOTE Democracy Advancement Program is funded by the Swedish Embassy. It is valued at US\$1,150,000.00 and will target five counties which are Bassa, Nimba, Bong, Lofa, and Montserrado.

NAYMOTE Partners for Democratic Development is a good governance and research



Starts from page 6

## UL 103rd graduating class

again for the opportunity given to me to serve. I call on the administration, faculty, and the entire student body and the graduating class for us to aspire to the maximum potential and achievement ... expected to come out of this event," said student Kollie. He vowed to lead in a different from how the past administration conducted itself, adding that he and his team will ensure efficiency and orderliness

so that the graduation experience is enjoyable.

"In doing so, the Administration through the office of Students Affairs has to work with us properly," he urged.

"The Administration has to be willing to listen and advise us for us to continue [to] deepen the partnership and cooperation we already have ongoing with the Administration of the University," he concluded.

Starts from page 6

## Impact Institute conducts entrepreneurship

participants thanked Impact Institute for thinking in their direction to help them fulfill their life goals. Most of them shared similar experiences of their life stories and the necessity of the

program in reaching their goals. They termed the training as timely and impactful, promising to use the knowledge acquired to improve and better their lives.

institution working to advance the principles of democracy, rule of law, and good governance in Liberia.

NAYMOTE believes that a purposeful and effective civil society is needed to set the national policy agenda and stimulate sound and healthy grassroots responses to governance issues.

It added that a purposeful and effective civil society is needed to influence the uneven power dynamics that characterize the

relationship between Liberia's citizens and the government.

Since its establishment in 2001, NAYMOTE has initiated several programs to foster political accountability to make elected leaders more accessible, responsible, and accountable to the electorate.

It has also advocated for elected officials to build the capacity of local leaders to be more effective in the delivery of essential government services. --Press release

# Français

## L'IJG veut empêcher 6 responsables sanctionnés de se présenter aux prochaines élections

L'International Justice Group (IJG) a officiellement écrit à la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) pour lui demander d'empêcher six responsables actuels et anciens de se présenter aux élections présidentielles et législatives de 2023.

Dans une communication

portuaire nationale, Nathaniel F. McGill, ancien ministre d'État chargé des affaires présidentielles et Prince Y. Johnson, sénateur du comté de Nimba.

Cephus, Twehway, McGill, Johnson et Sherman ont été tous sanctionnés pour corruption par le Gouvernement américain.

L'IJG a demandé à la NEC de

Il demande en outre que pour toute autre personne ou entité publiquement désignée pour des sanctions à l'avenir, qu'il soit informé du dépôt des dossiers de candidature de ces individus.

La communication met un accent sur l'intention du groupe de s'opposer à la candidature des personnes sanctionnées pour diverses formes de transgressions contre l'intérêt public aux prochaines élections législatives et présidentielle de 2023,.

L'IJG a cité des actes de corruption publique, des crimes de guerre, des crimes contre l'humanité et des violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme et des lois humanitaires internationales, qu'ils soient répertoriés ou non dans les rapports finaux de la Commission vérité et réconciliation du Libéria (TRC).

"Bien que les sanctions du Global Magnitsky Act ne constituent pas une condamnation pénale, il s'agit d'une condamnation formelle et d'une réprimande d'un individu qui a fait l'objet d'une enquête du gouvernement

l'informer du dépôt des dossiers de candidature de ces personnes afin qu'il puisse présenter une objection en temps opportun à leur candidature pour être contraire à l'ordre public et préjudiciable aux objectifs d'intérêt public de l'État et l'intérêt supérieur du peuple libérien.

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## L'Africa Investment Forum 2022 attire 31 milliards de dollars d'intérêt pour les investisseurs

La Journée du marché du Forum de l'investissement en Afrique qui vient de s'achever cette année, la première plateforme d'investissement du continent, a attiré 31 milliards de dollars d'intérêts d'investisseurs africains et mondiaux.

Combiné aux 32,8 milliards de dollars de la journée du marché du Forum de l'investissement en Afrique 2021 reprogrammées - qui s'est déroulée sous forme de salles de réunion virtuelles en mars de cette année - le forum a mobilisé un total de 63,8 milliards de dollars d'intérêts d'investissement cette année.

L'événement de trois jours, qui s'est tenu dans la capitale commerciale ivoirienne, Abidjan, a attiré la participation de plusieurs chefs d'État et de gouvernement africains. Les dirigeants ont présidé des salles de réunion et mené des transactions avec des investisseurs potentiels. Parmi eux figurait le vice-président Tiémoko Meyliet Koné de Côte d'Ivoire, qui représentait le

président Alassane Ouattara.

D'autres étaient la présidente Sahle-Work Zewde d'Éthiopie ; le président Nana Akufo-Addo du Ghana ; le président Emmerson Mnangagwa du Zimbabwe ; la vice-présidente Jewel Howard Taylor du Libéria ; le vice-président Philip Mpango de Tanzanie ; le Premier ministre José Ulisses Correia e Silva du Cap Vert et le Premier ministre Patrick Achi de Côte d'Ivoire.

L'événement Market Days de cette année, le troisième

depuis 2018, s'est déroulé sous le thème : "Construire la résilience économique grâce à des investissements durables". Il s'est tenu dans un contexte de défis économiques mondiaux qui ont été aggravés par les impacts du changement climatique, la pandémie du Covid-19 et la guerre russo-ukrainienne.

L'événement a mis en évidence la volonté commune des partenaires fondateurs de l'Africa Investment Forum d'aider à

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## Éditorial

### Weah parti trop longtemps pendant que les citoyens végètent dans la misère

Le président George Manneh Weah a quitté le pays le mardi 31 octobre pour assister à la conférence MEDays au Maroc, regarder le programme officiel d'ouverture de la Coupe du monde 2022 au Qatar, honorer une autre invitation ailleurs avant de venir au Ghana, puis rentrer chez lui au mois de Décembre finalement.

Le voyage du président à l'étranger devrait durer plus de sept semaines, c'est-à-dire près de deux mois. Le président Weah vient pourtant de diriger une énorme délégation en septembre pour assister à la 77e Assemblée générale des Nations Unies à New York, où il est resté jusqu'à ce que la pénurie de riz frappe le pays.

Un président qui quitte son peuple et son pays au milieu de la crise économique et alimentaire mondiale pour voyager à l'étranger avec l'argent des contribuables pour prendre part à des conférences et juste pour regarder une Coupe du monde qui ne rapporte aucun bénéfice à son peuple doit repenser sa stratégie et ses priorités en matière de gestion.

Il est certes nécessaire de côtoyer les nations amies et de parler aux partenaires bilatéraux à l'étranger pour une collaboration sur des fronts communs, mais ce n'est un secret pour personne que la situation actuelle à l'intérieur du pays, en particulier au sein du gouvernement, est si inquiétante qu'elle nécessite une attention particulière qu'elle mérite.

Prenons par exemple la mauvaise gestion et la corruption flagrantes que l'on constate à l'Institut libérien des statistiques et des services d'information géographique (LISGIS) qui entravent l'organisation du recensement national du logement et de la population, entraînant le report répété de la date du recensement. A cela il faut ajouter l'incapacité des autorités de rendre compte des 11 millions de dollars américains que le parlement a alloués pour subventionner l'importation de riz afin de stabiliser les prix sur le marché. Il y a d'autres problèmes de transparence sur lesquels le gouvernement n'a pas encore pris la peine de se pencher.

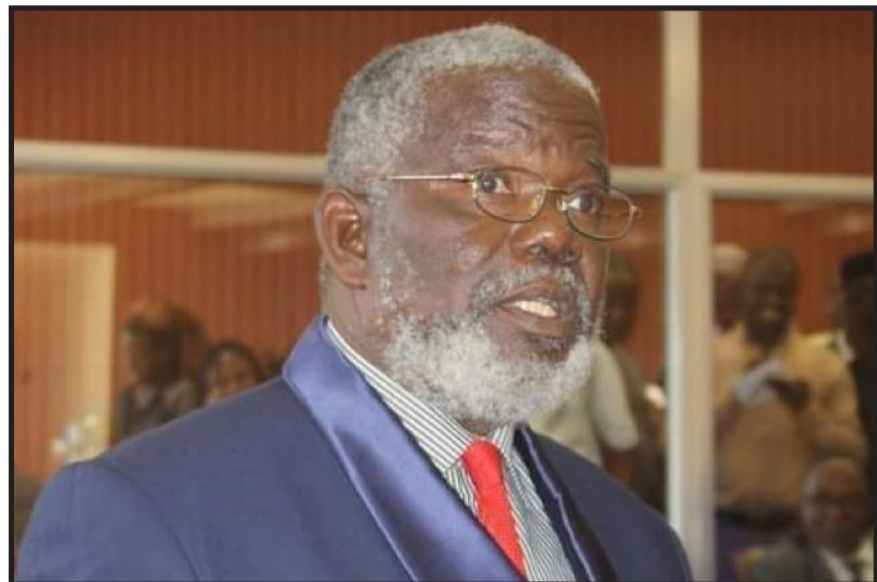
Le président Weah se fiche clairement de tous ces problèmes critiques. Il ne fait que voyager à l'étranger pour prendre part à des conférences pendant que son pays est en proie à d'énormes défis de gouvernance et économiques. Le manque de riz, l'aliment de base, et des services sociaux de base ne peut être résolu si les ressources, si maigres qu'elles sont, sont utilisées pour financer les déplacements du président à l'étranger pour aller en tourisme.

Les Libériens endurent des difficultés économiques chez eux, sur fond d'un manque d'investissements privés et d'emplois, de la réduction des salaires des fonctionnaires et de la réduction du panier de la ménagère, le tout couronné par des systèmes sanitaire et éducatif dérisoires.

Sans aucun doute, le pays est confronté à un sérieux déficit de leadership. Les Libériens se rendent périodiquement aux urnes et élisent des dirigeants pour servir et représenter leurs intérêts, mais il semble que les élus et les fonctionnaires nommés deviennent une grande déception pour le peuple libérien.

Pendant près de deux mois, le président Weah sera hors du pays. Et pendant qu'il est absent comme d'habitude, on ne fera pas grand-chose dans le pays. Le plus frustrant est qu'il reviendra sans aucun résultat significatif ou tangible qui aura un impact sur la vie des gens.

Au milieu de la crise économique mondiale actuelle, il est économiquement prudent que le président Weah réduise le nombre de voyages à l'étranger et se concentre sur les défis à la maison, pour encourager les citoyens à faire avancer le Libéria, plutôt que de prendre l'avion chaque fois rien que pour aller en tourisme, tandis que la grande majorité du peuple suffoque dans la misère.





# Français

## L'IJG veut empêcher 6 responsables sanctionnés

américain et qui a été jugé comme ayant suffisamment de preuves de corruption et/ou de violations des droits de l'homme pour justifier une sanction grave. ", indique le communiqué.

Le groupe a fait valoir que le gouvernement américain, sans aucun doute, enquête de manière approfondie sur chaque allégation de corruption et de violation des droits de l'homme avant de sanctionner officiellement qui que ce soit.

En conséquence, il a déclaré que le gouvernement américain

précise que personne ne peut effectuer de transactions commerciales avec ceux qui ont été sanctionnés.

"Par conséquent, en raison de nos liens historiques, le gouvernement du Libéria dépend fortement du soutien financier et politique du gouvernement américain, il semble donc inconcevable qu'un agent de l'Etat, élu ou nommé, qui a été sanctionné puisse être éligible à s'engager dans des affaires gouvernementales avec le gouvernement américain », a déclaré l'IJG.

## L'Africa Investment Forum 2022 attire 31 milliards

libérer le potentiel d'investissement de l'Afrique dans des secteurs aussi critiques que les infrastructures, l'agriculture, l'énergie, l'éducation, les industries créatives, les sports et les transactions qui défendent les femmes entrepreneurs.

Les partenaires fondateurs du forum sont la Banque africaine de développement, Africa50, Afrexim Bank, l'Africa Finance Corporation, la Banque de développement de l'Afrique australe, la Banque européenne d'investissement, la Banque islamique de développement et la Banque du commerce et du développement.

Les partenaires ont déclaré que les résultats de cette année ont dépassé les attentes, étant donné que le monde est actuellement aux prises avec de nombreux défis économiques sans précédent.

Le président de la Banque africaine de développement, le Dr Akinwumi Adesina, a salué les résultats du forum et l'engagement des partenaires.

Il a déclaré : "Malgré les défis, nous n'avons pas peur, et nous n'avons ni désespéré ni perdu espoir. Nous sommes enthousiastes et engagés dans un objectif collectif... accélérer la conclusion d'accords pour transformer l'Afrique et son paysage d'investissement".

Adesina a déclaré que l'objectif de l'Africa Investment Forum était d'attirer davantage d'investissements directs étrangers en Afrique et de veiller à ce que le secteur privé reste le moteur de cette transformation.

"Le secteur privé est l'accélérateur de la croissance de l'Afrique. Nous devons atténuer les risques réels et perçus et persuader le secteur privé qu'investir en Afrique est sûr", a-t-il souligné.

Le président de la Banque islamique de développement, le Dr Muhammed Sulaiman Al Jasser, a déclaré dans un

message que son organisation espérait que "notre engagement et notre dévouement à l'AIF se traduiront par des résultats tangibles et mesurables au profit de nos pays membres à travers l'Afrique".

Al Jasser a réaffirmé l'engagement du Groupe de la Banque islamique de développement à soutenir les projets africains transformateurs, en particulier ceux qui promeuvent la résilience, la durabilité financière, économique et sociale.

Le président et chef de la direction du groupe de la Banque de commerce et de développement, Admassu Tadesse, a souligné la valeur de "l'esprit AIF" en faisant plus pour faire avancer et clôturer les investissements.

Tadesse a souligné : « Nonobstant les crises mondiales en cours, nous devons garder un œil sur la balle. Nous devons continuer à encourager et à permettre les investissements dans l'agriculture et l'industrie, ainsi que dans les infrastructures. Cultiver notre propre alimentation et fabriquer davantage nous permettra de commercer davantage. Cela conduira à moins d'émissions globales de gaz à effet de serre liées aux importations en provenance de pays lointains, ce qui générera également plus d'emplois et d'opportunités pour nos peuples.

Le président de la Banque européenne d'investissement, Werner Hoyer, a déclaré lors de son voyage à la COP27 : "Une diversité d'initiatives ambitieuses et de grande envergure" a suscité un vif intérêt lors des Market Days de cette année.

"À la Banque européenne d'investissement, nous sommes ravis de voir comment la créativité et la vision des innovateurs africains ont un

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Raghuram G. Rajan  
et Viral Acharya

## Où sont passées toutes les liquidités ?

**C**HICAGO/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.

## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# Liberia's Weah has failed to deliver

By S.Karweaye

George Weah earned the nickname "Country Giant" during the 2017 presidential election, but his lackadaisical approach to reform as Liberia's president while dancing buga has also earned him the nickname "Buga Dancer."

He mismanaged the economy, failed to tackle corruption, and has been unable to revise the health, educational, agriculture, and security sectors as well as build sustainable infrastructures within the country.

Government corruption - in the form of bribery, waste, and siphoning off contracts is rampant in Africa's oldest independent country. According to the Transparency International Corruption Perceptions Index 2021, Liberia ranked 136 out of 180 countries. On August 15, 2022, the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) designated Weah top officials Nathaniel McGill, Sayma Syrenius Cephus, and Bill Twehway for their involvement in ongoing public corruption in Liberia.

To be fair to George Weah, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf bequeathed him an

The prices of rice, sugar, flour, petrol, kerosene, and diesel, have continuously increased beyond what the average household can afford; a perfect storm for skyrocketing inflation. Talking of prices, how was your experience the last time you visited the market?

After four years and nine months in power, in what many saw as self-deluding, Weah on October 25, 2022, launched the US\$100 million Accelerated Community Development Programme (ACDP) with the promise of healing Liberians climb out of poverty, improve their living standards, live a healthier and longer life while reducing gross inequalities between rural and urban areas. Well, unemployment currently accounts for half of the population (that's approximately 65% of the youth demographic) and despite social investment schemes like Social Cash Transfer Program, Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment Project (REALISE), Youth Empowerment Project (YEP), Temporary Employment for Community Youth (TECY) program, US\$13 million National Fund Drive launched by the Weah's administration.

It's hard to see how these programs have served as any meaningful solution to the trifecta of poverty, unemployment, and underemployment. The

country is among the world's ten poorest countries, 51% of the population lives below the poverty line. While education is expected to last 10 years, most Liberians only complete 4.7 years of schooling. 42.5% of Liberians are without access to protected wells, nutritional programs to offset one or three children under the age of 5 who are stunted, and initiatives against malaria and gender-based violence. Under Weah, Liberians have gotten poorer, crime has multiplied, drug cartels are plowing our shores and ritual killings are now the order of the day.

Weah has another woeful legacy. Liberia's social fabric became threadbare under his watch. At no time in our history have we seen one region of the country's dominance of the three branches of government. Though Liberians have always held themselves in mutual suspicion, Weah did nothing to address these fault lines. Matter of fact, he doubled down on these suspicions when he appointed 67-year-old Associate Justice Sie-A-Nyene Gaypay Yuoh Chief Justice

of the Supreme Court from his region of southeast. Currently, south easterners are heading the legislative, executive & judiciary branches of government. It is astonishing how the same Liberians who voted for him in 2017 across all regions are now disaffected with his government today.

I could go on and on explaining how Weah failed astoundingly in health, human rights, education, infrastructure, power, etc. But to his supporters, none of that matters. It doesn't matter how convincing cumulative evidence I present to them. They believe what they believe regardless. It's almost like a cult to them. Their confidence in Weah will never be swayed even in the face of incontrovertible evidence. But political leaders should never be venerated to such positions, especially in a so-called constitutional democracy.

As we prepare to elect fresh leaders next year, it's helpful to remind ourselves that the people we think are capable of doing the job may end up becoming a disappointment like Weah. If that happens, the honorable thing to do is to own up to the facts instead of being self-deluded like Weah's supporters.



economy in a tailspin. And of course, Weah promised he was going to fix it. To be fair to Ellen Johnson too, she reportedly left \$160 million in external reserves; contrary to frequent claims by the Weah government that hardly anything was left. Liberia's rubber, iron ore, and export dwindled under Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. The Liberia dollar was devalued. Corruption was rife. Liberia became heavily indebted after debt cancellation or forgiveness. But Weah was meant to be a breath of fresh air. He was meant to fight corruption and salvage what was left of the economy. Yet again, Weah would outdo his predecessor. For context, a month after George Weah took over from Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in 2018, our domestic debt stood at US\$604.4 million.

Weah would spend the next 4 years and 9 months increasing it to US\$ 800 million. Our debt rose to US\$1.8 billion (53.2% of GDP) in 2021 under Weah. Liberia owes so much debt, but there is nothing to show for it. We are spending US\$105 million of our revenue in 2022 on debt servicing in contrast to US\$12.73 million in 2016.

Under Weah's watch, the Liberian dollar continues to tank to all-time lows against the dollar.

# S/Court orders Finance Minister arrested

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia's Supreme Court has ordered the country's Finance Minister Samuel Tweah arrested for allegedly hindering the functioning of the judiciary. A court arrest order dated 7 November 2022

complete the number.

At the time of the release of the order, sources say Mr. Tweah was not in the country.

However, the high court demanded the immediate arrest of his living body to show cause why he shouldn't

But there have been claims in some quarters which this paper is yet to verify that salaries for judicial workers have been delayed for some time now. Sources have hinted that since she took over the Judicial branch of government, Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh has held meetings with workers allegedly surrounding similar concerns. There is no official information available surrounding what the issues were, but rumors have been about salary issues.

The writ of arrest which is signed by the clerk of the Supreme Court, Cllr. Sam Momolu directed the Marshal of the Court Amos B. Kesseh Dickson to arrest the living body of Minister Tweah.

"By directive of the full bench of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Liberia, you are hereby commanded to arrest the living body of Samuel D. Tweah, Minister of Finance," the writ ordered.

It added that Minister Tweah should show cause why he should not be held in contempt of court for impeding the function of the court and creating a constitutional crisis for the judiciary.



is authorized by all four sitting Justices of the nation's highest court.

be held in contempt for creating a constitutional crisis against the judiciary.

The court has five justices, but a new presidential nominee must be confirmed by the Liberian Senate to

The court order did not give details about how Mr. Tweah is hindering the functioning of the judiciary.

# ECOWAS hold 3rd retreat of network of legal advisers

Banjul, November 4, 2022 - The third retreat of the Network of Legal Advisers across ECOWAS Institutions and Agencies organized by the Legal Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission has been held in Banjul, The Gambia. The retreat which was started on 2nd November and ends on 6th November 2022 was to consider the draft legal text in view of the year-end statutory meetings for uniform interpretation and application of legal texts across the ECOWAS Institutions, Agencies and Offices. This is to provide a platform of legal cooperation and professional exchange regarding the standardization of drafting Community legal text.

achieve its goal in terms of drafting all the texts. He further presented the texts for drafting and reiterated the need for standard harmonization of Community legislative text as these modern instruments whose interpretation in the three (3) official languages shall contribute to the acceleration of the integration process. He added that the consequence of

varying community text can impede the integration process. Participants of the Legal Advisers Network present at the retreat include representatives of the ECOWAS Commission, Community Court of Justice, The ECOWAS Regional Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERERA), Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) and West African Power Pool (WAPP).



In his opening remarks, the Director, Legal Affairs, ECOWAS Commission, Mr. Daniel Lago welcomed participants to the retreat emphasizing that this retreat is for the Legal Network to

# Sen. Koung twists tongue on Weah

By Thomas Domah,

Nimba County

Nimba County Senator Jeremiah Koung, a strong supporter of the Weah administration has distanced himself from the ruling

Weah has failed to solve land disputes in Ganta, among other concerns.

"Up to now, I am supporting President Weah but, it could change depending on the result of negotiation on behalf of our



establishment, particularly President George Weah's bid for second term.

Senator Koung early Friday in Ganta, Nimba County, appeared on the Voice of Gumpa in Ganta City, Nimba county and told Nimbaians that he, including Senator Prince Johnson are not happy with the ruling Coalition and President Weah, citing neglect from the government.

Both senators had endorsed President Weah's second term bid several times and their Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction (MDR) party is in coalition with the government.

However, Koung twisted his tongue over the weekend when he said he was not happy with CDC-led government.

He said Nimbaians do not have ministerial posts in the Weah administration, and President

people. Sen. Prince Y. Johnson, my political leader is not also happy with the government. We are reviewing the MDR's marriage with the Coalition in terms of what we have benefited as a party", he disclosed.

Koung repeatedly said his people have been denied opportunities, including jobs in government.

The NEW DAWN has not been able to establish exactly what triggered the Senator coming out publicly to express his dissatisfaction about the administration, but report says some executives of the Alternative National Congress (ANC) have called on their Political Leader Mr. Alexander B. Cummings to choose Senator Koung as running mate in the 2023 Presidential and Legislative Elections. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

# Starts from page 7 U.S. delegation comes

Tritter said she and other members of her delegation were delighted to be in Liberia to learn for themselves how the country with the support of development partners mounted a strong campaign against COVID-19.

She congratulated Liberia for being a leader in achieving the WHO target of vaccinating 70% of its population against COVID-19.

On Tuesday, Tritter and other members of the delegation will join Health Minister Wilhelmina Jallah, representatives of the World Health Organization, and other donor partners to open a new oxygen production plant in Bomi.

The plant, established with support from USAID, will provide

life-saving medical oxygen for people in the western region of Liberia.

It is the second oxygen production plant established with USAID support in Liberia. On October 27, President George Weah opened an oxygen plant on Bushrod Island in Monrovia, built with funding from the German, Canadian and U.S. Governments.

That plant will serve the people of Montserrado and Margibi Counties.

Following the opening of the Bomi Oxygen Plant on Tuesday, the delegation will participate in a COVID-19 vaccination campaign on Wednesday at Lango Lippaye High School in Kakata. --Press release

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## NEC boss in Nigeria on ECOWAS Mission



Dr. K. Afari-Gyan is head of the ECOWAS Fact-Finding Mission to Nigeria and former Chairman of the Ghana Electoral Commission with NEC-LIBERIA Chairperson Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah

the conditions under which the elections shall be conducted, gather all pertinent information regarding the candidates and political parties involved in the contest, meet the candidates, political party leaders, government officials and other relevant stakeholders, among others.

The NEC statement issued Monday, 7 November 2022 said, Former Head of the Electoral Commission of Ghana, Dr. Kwadwo Afari-Ghan is the head of the delegation.

Other members of the delegation are: Mr. Mohammed K. Konneh, Chief Electoral Officer, NEC Sierra Leone, Dr. Remi Ajibewa, Director, Political Affairs, ECOWAS and Dr. Francis Gabriel Oke, PPO, EAD, ECOWAS, among others

According to a dispatch from Nigeria, the Mission has traveled to a number of States in Nigeria including, Lagos, Abuja, Enugu, Kano, Maidu guri, Port Harcourt, River State and held discussions with major stakeholders in the 2023 Elections to include Civil Society, Political Parties, Security Institutions, the Media, INEC, etc. to ascertain facts around preparedness for and Security for the Nigerian Elections which is scheduled for February 25, 2023.

The Chairperson of the National Elections Commission, Madam Davidetta Browne Lansanah is currently in the Federal Republic of Nigeria at the invitation of the ECOWAS Commission on an ECOWAS Pre-Election Fact Finding Mission from 21 October to 12 November 2022.

The Fact-Finding Mission is in line with the Additional

Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance (2001) which provides for ECOWAS assistance to member states organizing elections.

A NEC release said, the objective of the mission, among other things, to collect all the legal texts governing the conduct of the General Elections in Nigeria, collect information on

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