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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 09, 2022	L$152.9009 /US$1.00	L$154.6625/US$1.00

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

The NewDawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

French Version Inside

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P11

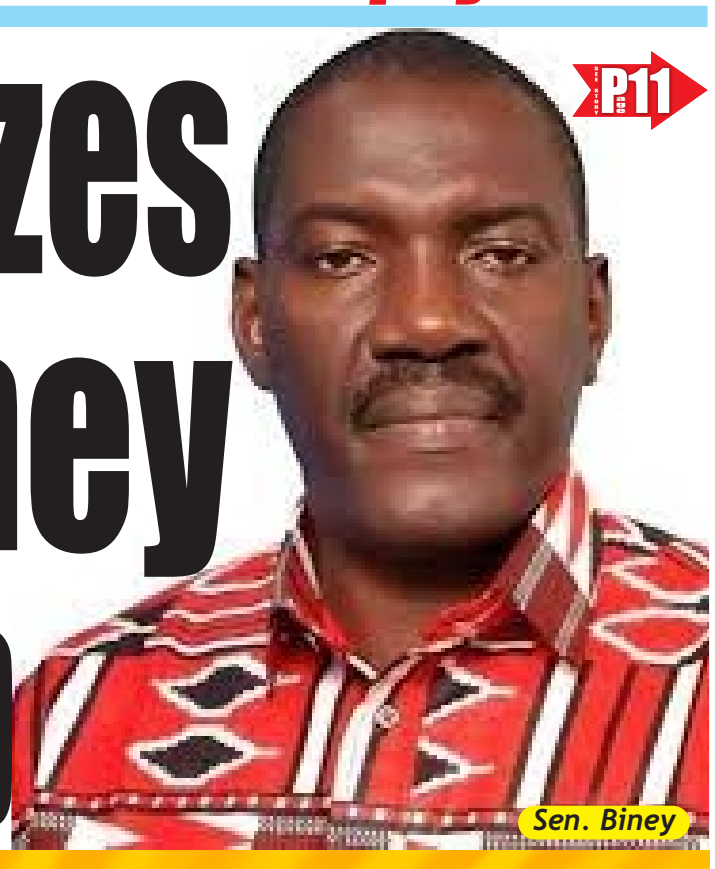
S/Court threatens tougher punishment

Chief Justice Yuoh

Min. Tweah

-As Finance Minister Tweah begins judiciary's salaries payments

CDC recognizes Jewel-Biney leadership



VP Howard-Taylor

Sen. Biney

Continental News

Notorious Instagram influencer jailed for fraud

A notorious Instagram influencer from Nigeria has been jailed for more than 11 years in the US for his role in an international fraud syndicate.Hushpuppi, whose real name is Ramon Abbas, was also ordered to pay $1,732,841 (£1,516,182) in restitution to two victims.

The influencer rose to fame flaunting his wealthy lifestyle on his page, which boasted 2.8 million followers.But it all came crashing down when he was arrested in Dubai two years ago.According to Don Alway, the assistant director in charge of the FBI's Los Angeles field office, Abbas had - behind the glitz of his account - become "one of the most prolific money launderers in the world".

"Abbas leveraged his social media platforms... to gain notoriety and to brag about the immense wealth he acquired by conducting business email compromise scams, online bank heists and other cyber-enabled fraud that financially ruined scores of victims and provided assistance to the North Korean regime," Mr Alway said in a court document on Monday.

Abbas pleaded guilty to money laundering last year, admitting attempting to steal more than $1.1m from someone who wanted to fund a new children's school in Qatar. Court documents in California say he played a key role in the scheme, playing "the roles of bank officials and creating a bogus website".He also admitted to "several other cyber and business email compromise schemes that cumulatively caused more than $24 million in losses", the US justice department said.

Hushpuppi's Instagram page remained available, even after he pleaded guilty to money laundering

Among them was a 2019 scheme, which plunged the European island of Malta into chaos as payment systems shut down after he tried to launder €13m ($13m) stolen by a gang of North Korean hackers from the Maltese Bank of Valletta.

At one point on Instagram, Abbas said he was a real estate developer and had a category of videos called "Flexing" - social media lingo for showing off.In 2020, he renewed his lease for another year at the exclusive Palazzo Versace apartments in Dubai under his real name and phone number."Thank you, Lord, for the many blessings in my life. Continue to shame those waiting for me to be shamed," he captioned an Instagram picture of a Rolls-Royce just a fortnight before he was arrested.

Those who knew Lagos-born Abbas before his transformation into Hushpuppi allege these are not the first scams he has carried out.

He allegedly started his fraudulent lifestyle as a "Yahoo boy" - the Nigerian term for men who commit romance fraud by stealing other people's identities online and swindling their none-the-wiser lovers out of money.

A Lagos driver called Saye told the BBC back in 2021 that he developed a taste for the finer things in life - but was always "generous". BBC

Malawi Fuel Crisis Shows No End in Sight

Drivers in Malawi are spending all night in long lines at fuel stations in hopes of filling their gas tanks as the country struggles with a weekslong fuel shortage.

Elizabeth Lingala runs a restaurant business in Blantyre market about six kilometers from her home in the Mpemba area. She said she stopped using her car Monday after a futile attempt to buy fuel at a pumping station.

"For example, last Sunday, I went there at 4:30 a.m. but up until 10 a.m., I had no fuel. And I had to leave that place. I am a woman. I have to take care of children. I have a home to run. I can't stay five hours at a fueling station waiting for fuel, which did not even come that day," she said.Users also flooded social media with reports of some people being robbed of their phones and other property, and cars being broken into while motorists waited in line for fuel at night.

Motorists queue for fuel at a pump station in Malawi.

Fuel has been in short supply in Malawi for about two months.Authorities say this is largely because of foreign exchange shortages, which affected the loading of fuel for Malawi at the ports in Beira, Mozambique and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.During a press conference over the weekend, government authorities failed to give clear answers to when the problem would end.

Henry Kachaje, executive director for the Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority, said he hopes the situation will start to normalize from mid-November if efforts to source foreign exchange are achieved.These include the $60 million the government said has been sourced to buy fuel."We also have some assurance that negotiations that have been ongoing with one international financier, are almost complete and one that comes on board, the National Oil Company, which is responsible for managing strategic oil reserves, will have adequate resources to help restock the strategic reserves," Kachaje said.

In the meantime, those in need of the commodity the most have been buying fuel from the black market, where prices are more than double the pump price.To end the problem, the Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority has suspended permits to buy fuel in bulk using jerry cans, saying many people were abusing it by purchasing fuel only to resell it on the black market.

Now, those who use generator sets are carrying their gadgets while waiting in line at gas stations.VOA

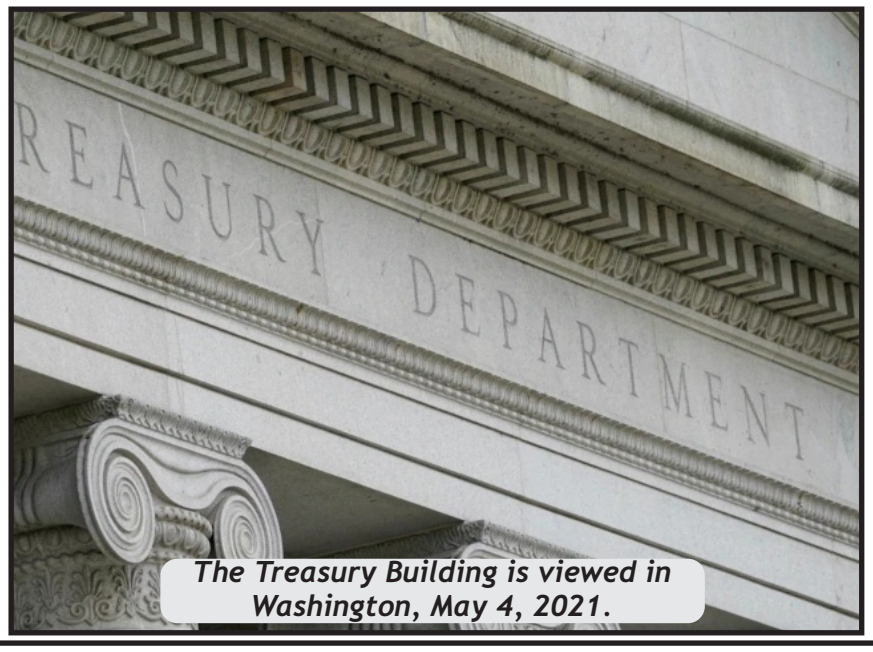
US Sanctions South African Islamic State-Affiliated Firms

The U.S. on Monday imposed its second round of sanctions in less than a week on people and firms in Africa who it says have provided financial or material support to the Islamic State group.The latest financial penalties target South African entities, including one cell leader, Farhad Hoomer, accused of expressing "the will and intent to attack the interests of the United States," the Treasury Department said in a statement. Last week, the U.S. sanctioned what it said was a Somali Islamic State weapons trafficking cell.

Government reports outline how the Islamic State group is expanding its presence in Africa, after the group faced defeats in Iraq and Syria. The State Department has designated nine groups worldwide as IS affiliates and foreign terrorist organizations.

In the latest action, Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control designated four people and eight companies controlled by individuals that it said were in the South African Islamic State cell — including Nufael Akbar, Yunus Mohamad Akbar, Mohamad Akbar, and Umar Akbar. Their gold trading, construction and other firms are targeted for sanctions.

The move freezes and blocks any potential transactions with U.S. entities and prevents Americans from doing business with them.



The Treasury Building is viewed in Washington, May 4, 2021.

State Department spokesperson Ned Price said in a statement that "as part of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, the United States will continue to partner with South Africa to deny ISIS the ability to exploit the country's economy to raise and transfer funds in support of ISIS terrorist activities."The Islamic State group sometimes is known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or ISIS.

The Treasury Department last week issued financial and diplomatic sanctions against a weapons trafficking network affiliated with the Islamic State group in Somalia and the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab extremist group, which are accused of carrying out deadly terrorist acts on civilians including car bombings.Treasury Under Secretary for Terrorism and Financial Intelligence Brian Nelson said the sanctions target "key individuals in ISIS's network in South Africa, as well as their business assets, who have played pivotal roles in enabling terrorism and other criminal activities in the region." VOA

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.

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COMMENTARY

By Raghuram G. Rajan

The Post-Inflation Economy That Could Be

CHICAGO – Economic commentaries nowadays are typically about inflation or recession, so let's instead consider the growth prospects once central banks get those challenges under control.

As matters stand, there appear to be worrisome headwinds to growth. As most advanced-economy populations age, their labor-force growth is slowing, so there will need to be greater productivity per worker to compensate. But with investment in physical capital muted, labor productivity is unlikely to grow rapidly without significant innovation, either in work processes or products. While it initially appeared that increased telecommuting during the pandemic would enhance productivity (by saving time and avoiding the duplication of capital at home and in the office), many firms are rediscovering the value of having workers in the office at least for some of the time.

Another headwind comes from poorer countries, where lower-middle-class households have suffered tremendously through the pandemic and now from food- and fuel-price inflation. Many children have missed more than two years of school and are likely to drop out, permanently impairing their earning potential and the skill-base of the labor force more broadly. Meanwhile, deglobalization – through reshoring, near-shoring, and friend-shoring – threatens to make it even more difficult for them to get good jobs. In the longer run, the weakness of demand in these countries will spill over to the developed world.

If the world does not find new sources of growth, it will fall back into the pre-pandemic malaise of secular stagnation. But this time, the situation could be worse, because most countries will have limited fiscal capacity to stimulate the economy, and because interest rates will not fall back quickly to their pre-pandemic lows.

Fortunately, there are tailwinds that could be unleashed. While trade in goods seems to have reached its limits before the pandemic, trade in services still has not. If countries can agree to remove various unnecessary barriers, new communications technologies would allow many services to be offered at a distance.

If a consultant working from home in Chicago can cater to a client in Austin, Texas, so can a consultant from Bangkok, Thailand. Yes, consultants in other countries might need to have front offices in the United States to assure quality or redress complaints. But the overall volume of work that could be undertaken by global consulting companies would grow substantially, and at a significantly lower cost, if their services could be offered across borders.

Similarly, telemedicine has become increasingly feasible not just in psychotherapy and radiology but also in routine medical diagnoses (sometimes aided by local equipment or a nurse practitioner). Again, global organizations (for example, a global Cleveland Clinic) could help reduce informational and reputational barriers, allowing for a general practitioner in India to conduct routine medical exams for patients in Detroit – referring them out to specialists in Detroit when needed.

The biggest barriers to such trade in services are not technological but artificial. Understandably, the authorities in advanced economies do not allow general practitioners in India to offer medical services without proper certification. But the problem is that most countries' certification procedures are unnecessarily cumbersome. What if the world could agree on a common certification process for the work done by general practitioners? A country with unusual ailments could tack on an addendum to the exam for those who want to practice there, but only if absolutely necessary.

A second problem is that national health-insurance schemes typically do not pay for services from outside the country. But if the certification challenge has been met, there is no good reason why they shouldn't, given the cost savings that would result.

A third barrier is data and privacy. No patient will be willing to share personal details or test results if she cannot be sure that the data will be kept confidential and safe from misuse. In an era of geopolitical tension and economic blackmail, meeting those conditions requires not just a commitment from the service provider but also assurances from the provider's government that it will not violate patient privacy. Democracies that can enact strong privacy laws (including limits on how much data their own government can see) will be better positioned to capitalize on this trade than autocracies, where there are few checks on government.

Imagine how much faster and more affordable it would be for a US citizen to reach a doctor if routine matters were outsourced. Developed countries would obviously benefit, but so would developing economies, because the incomes that their doctors generate would be used to employ more workers locally. Moreover, these doctors would be less likely to emigrate, and they could use the same telemedicine technologies to provide services in remote parts of their own countries. At the same time, specialists in advanced economies would be able to offer more of their services to patients in developing countries without them having to travel to New York or London, as they currently do.

But aren't service providers in rich countries likely to resist removing barriers that, together with the difficulty of competing at a distance, have ensured them high wages? Probably, but there will still be significant domestic demand for their non-routine services. Also, if barriers are lowered elsewhere, they will be able to serve much larger markets with specialized high value-added services. For this reason, an agreement on reducing barriers to trade in services among a broad set of countries will have a greater chance of success than bilateral agreements.

Moreover, many others in advanced economies, including manufacturing workers who have borne the brunt of global competition, will benefit from cheaper basic services. As economic inequality both within and across countries decreases, global demand should also strengthen.

Another potential tailwind for growth lies in "green" investments. Though Russia's war in Ukraine has complicated the clean-energy transition for Europe, much of the world's emissions-heavy capital still needs to be replaced, and those investments could help jump-start the global economy.

To aid the transition, each country will need to establish sensible incentives for businesses and consumers, such as investment credits, emission regulations, cap-and-trade systems, or carbon taxes. Governments also will need to agree on a system for allocating responsibility to high-emitting countries (which are typically rich and less vulnerable to climate change), so that they can help finance the energy transition in low-emitting countries (which are typically poorer and more vulnerable).

The post-pandemic, post-inflation economic outlook is not all doom and gloom. But much work needs to be done to dismantle artificial barriers and leverage existing technologies.

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).

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O-PED

By Rachel Kyte,Vanessa Nakate

It's the Energy System, Stupid

SHARM EL-SHEIKH – Ordinary people around the world are suffering from two massive, overlapping problems: surging living costs and the fallout from a rapidly warming climate. In the Horn of Africa, 22 million people are at risk of starvation, owing to the failure of four consecutive rainy seasons and soaring global grain prices.

Making matters worse, high fuel prices, exacerbated by Russia's invasion of Ukraine, are pushing communities and businesses across Africa to the brink of collapse. And in Europe, a summer of record-breaking heat is about to give way to a crippling winter as the high cost of gas drives up energy prices for everyone. While one should be careful not to oversimplify global problems that manifest differently in different regions, it is impossible to ignore the root cause of today's food, energy, and cost-of-living crises: our fossil-fuel-dependent energy system is broken.

For many years, the fossil-fuel industry has argued that its products offer a fast track to cheap energy and economic development. Yet this claim has been proven wrong time and again. Decades of fossil-fuel development have not served the 600 million people (a figure that continues to rise) in Sub-Saharan Africa who still lack access to energy.

Fossil-fuel prices are inherently volatile, and it is vulnerable communities that suffer most from wild fluctuations in global hydrocarbon markets. In the United Kingdom, this year's spike in gas prices has led to an 80% increase in projected household energy bills. In the coming months, many lower-income families will be forced to choose between heating and eating. Meanwhile, BP, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Total, and Shell raked in profits of$59 billion just in the second quarter of this year.

Worse, the pain that many are already feeling this year pales in comparison to what awaits us if we continue to burn fossil fuels. Earlier this year, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned that if we want to avoid catastrophic warming scenarios, we cannot build any new fossil-fuel infrastructure, and we must rapidly phase out the fossil fuels that we are already using. Similarly, in 2021, the head of the International Energy Agency declared that, "If governments are serious about the climate crisis, there can be no new investments in oil, gas, and coal, from now – from this year."

It would be madness to think that the current congeries of global crises can be solved with our current energy systems. More investments in fossil-fuel infrastructure and exploration will result in more pain and uncertainty for households, greater concentrations of profits and wealth, and unlivable climatic conditions for billions of people. But that's what we're getting: The OECD and the IEA report that government fossil-fuel subsidies around the world almost doubled in 2021, reaching $697 billion.

If we want reliable, clean, affordable energy for all, the quickest and most effective solution is to increase investment in renewables, energy efficiency, and integrated power grids. Electricity from solar and wind is now cheaper than electricity from gas, and the prices don't undergo dangerous fluctuations. In the UK, where successive governments have failed to lead on building renewable-energy capacity, homeowners are taking it upon themselves to install solar panels, because they know that the investment will pay for itself in lower energy bills.

Renewables are also a faster and cheaper way to expand energy access in rural Africa. Because they can be located closer to the point of consumption, they have been found to be more economically viable than building transmission lines from centralized gas-fueled power stations.

In pursuing the system-wide shift that we need, developed-country governments can pay their own way. But they also must do more to help finance the Global South's energy transition. The International Renewable Energy Agency estimates that Africa will need annual investments of $70 billion to ensure access to clean energy for all. More broadly, there will need to be large-scale investments in solar supply chains to reduce many countries' dependence on China, which has become another major source of economic risk, with supply disruptions fueling price surges.

In the run-up to COP26 last November, the global climate-financing gap was a hot topic. But the rich world's 2009 pledge to provide the developing world with at least $100 billion in climate financing per year by 2020 still is not being met. Without a substantial increase in both public and private finance from the advanced economies, there will be no global transition to a better energy system. Since these investments will benefit everyone, the Global North, development banks, and private institutions must rise to the occasion at COP27.

The energy and cost-of-living crises are affecting people everywhere – from the north of England and northern Uganda to Florida and Pakistan, which is still reeling from this summer's catastrophic flooding. In time, investments in resilience and clean energy will pay for themselves, in contrast to investments that funnel profits to a few multinationals and rogue, warmongering petrostates.

Unless we seize the moment, democratic stagnation, rising inequality, social unrest, and other deepening structural and systemic problems are likely to get even worse. If we make the right decisions today, we can create the conditions for a more stable, equal, and prosperous future.

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OPINION

By Kelly Levin,Andrew Steer

Dread or Hope at COP27?

WASHINGTON, DC – Ask two different climate experts at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt (COP27) to characterize their feelings about the future, and you may get quite different answers. "We are seeing more progress than we ever imagined," says one, while the other laments that we are heading full-tilt like lemmings over the cliff. They can't both be right, can they?

In fact, both have ample evidence on their side, and only by balancing the two perspectives will we muster the sense of urgency that the climate crisis requires.

To inspire hope, the first expert might point out that the cost of solar energy has fallen by 99% since President Jimmy Carter put panels on the White House roof in 1979, and that 2022 is shaping up to be a record year for renewables. Sales of electric vehicles are growing so fast that the internal combustion engine is already in permanent decline. In Indonesia, the rate of primary forest loss has fallen for five years in a row, owing to an innovative partnership between the government, business, civil society, and technology experts.

Moreover, nearly 100 countries – representing over 75% of global emissions – have committed to achieving net-zero emissions by mid-century. And the United States just made a massive down payment on its green future with the Inflation Reduction Act, which could mobilize an estimated $800 billion or more in climate-related investments.

But lest we come to think that we are almost out of the woods, our gloomy expert would point out that with just 1.1° Celsius of warming, climate change is already generating unprecedented costs. Disastrous flooding across Pakistan this summer left one-third of the country underwater, and southwestern North America is suffering its worst drought in 1,200 years. In China, drought has crippled hydroelectric power production and forced factories to shut down. The Great Barrier Reef has now suffered six mass bleaching events since 1998. And in East Antarctica, where temperatures one day this year were a whopping 38.5°C above normal, a massive ice shelf has just collapsed – the first such event in at least half a century.

Making matters worse, Russia's war in Ukraine has triggered a scramble for fossil fuels, and corporations, banks, and governments are finding it harder than expected to deliver on their climate promises. We are heading toward temperature increases well above the Paris climate agreement's 2°C threshold. A planet that hot would be scarcely recognizable to us today.

An important new report from the Systems Change Lab – an initiative organized by the World Resources Institute, the Bezos Earth Fund, and its partners – sheds light on both these realities, and points toward a new way of thinking about change. On the side of pessimism, the report shows that none of the 40 sectoral transformations required for addressing the climate crisis this decade is yet on track.

For example, the phase-out of coal needs to be accelerated sixfold – the equivalent of retiring 925 average-size coal plants each year. Similarly, annual deforestation rates need to be falling 2.5 times faster, and recent growth in crop yields needs to accelerate by nearly sevenfold this decade to feed a growing population without encroaching into forested areas. All these transformations depend on global climate finance, which itself must increase eightfold from its current levels.

But the report also explains that change is rarely linear, and that exponential progress – a sudden "hockey stick" acceleration – is possible when nurtured by bold leadership and supportive policies. In the space of just two years, from 2019 to 2021, solar generation grew by 47% globally, and wind power grew by 31%, dramatically outpacing analysts' predictions. And between 2013 and 2021, the global share of carbon-free bus sales increased from 2% to 44% – a 20-fold increase in under a decade.

Moreover, we know that some systems can be pushed toward positive tipping points – such as price parity between incumbent fossil-fuel sources and renewables – after which change becomes unstoppable. We must do everything we can to reach these tipping points as soon as possible. Given how little of humanity's carbon budget remains, we no longer have the luxury of pursuing only the least-cost options. We need systems change across all domains of human activity – from how we grow our food and power our homes to how we build our cities and transport ourselves and our goods.

Accelerating the transition to a net-zero economy will require a change in incentives, new regulations and laws, shifts in behavior, innovation, and unwavering leadership. We are about to begin the fourth year of the decisive decade for averting catastrophic climate change. We must move mountains, whatever the upfront costs.

Global leaders gathering at COP27 this month should neither wring their hands in despair nor cheerfully declare that victory is around the corner. Rather, they should thoughtfully examine what needs to be transformed and what it will take to cross the essential tipping points. This is the moment when we need to create the conditions that will make more positive changes both irresistible and unstoppable. That would make all those carbon-emitting flights to Sharm El-Sheikh well worth it.

Republic of Liberia
Ministry of Public Works
P.0 Box 9011, South Lynch Street
Monrovia, Liberia

Country Name: Liberia

Project Name: Monrovia Integrated Development Project/Liberia Urban Resilience Project

Assignment Title: Consulting Service for the Preparation of Detail Design, ESIA & RAP, Bidding Document & Works Supervision

CONSULTING SERVICES (Firm Selection)

Expressions of Interest

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works/ Project Management Unit has received financing from Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") and intends to use part of the funds thereof for payments under the Monrovia Integrated Development Project/Liberia Urban Resilience Project.

The Services of the Consultant shall consist of the Preparation of Detail Designs, ESIA & RAP Reports, Tender Documents / Work Packages & Works Supervision. This project has been conceptualized and structured for the improvement of urban livelihood and the construction of climate-resilient infrastructure in three specific designated neighborhoods, Lakpazee, Woodcamp, and Shoes Factory communities; all based upon completed feasibility studies conducted for this project. The study identified the following as key/ top priorities required for the community livelihood upgrading: **drainage facilities, improved roads (with safe designated pedestrian spaces), drinking water facilities, community halls, public spaces development, and public toilets.** The specific objectives of this assignment are to support the PMU to :

(a) Design Review & Validation: The consultant shall review, verify and validate the proposed interventions, and final proposed project budget for each specific infrastructure and determined their alignment with the overarching project objectives.
(b) Preparation of Detailed Designs: The consultant shall finalize all project designs including detailed site drawings, maps, and project costs for all proposed project interventions.
(c) Preparation of Environmental and Social documentation for the project as (but not limited): specific detailed E&S diligences (site-specific impact assessment and mitigation plans)_for each project location / Lot, Resettlement Action Plan and/or Livelihood Restoration Plan for each project location / Lot (depending on the work construction tendering) which includes resettlement, Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the whole project, Gender Action Plan for the whole project (which includes a Gender Based Violence part).
Note, as required by the Liberian regulatory framework, specific E&S diligences must be developed with the involvement of expert(s) locally certified/accredited by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
(d) Implementation of the Resettlement Action Plan and/or Livelihood Restauration Plan. The resettlement process should be achieved before the work construction.
(e) Procurement Support: With reference to the required procurement template to be provided by the Ministry of Public Works with approval from the AFD, the consultant shall prepare detailed procurement packages based upon recommendations from the Ministry and site-specific requirements. Procurement packages shall be based on location, the scope of works, and applicable technical judgment influenced by specific market conditions. The consultant shall also support the subsequent bid evaluation and contract finalization.
(f) Construction Supervision: Upon satisfactory completion of design and procurement services and with approval from the Ministry and AFD, the Consultant shall have the option to proceed to provide monitoring and supervision services during works implementation; the consultant shall be responsible to ensure full implementation of the proposed designs and environmental and social mitigation plans in coordination with the PMU/MPW while assuring quality control and safety at all times during the works.

The expected duration of the services to be provided by the Consultant has been provided below:

Part 1:
Detail design & Environmental and RAP Report preparation including procurement support services: 32 Weeks / 8 Man Months

Part II:
Construction Supervision Services: reports: 80 Weeks / 20 Man Months

The Ministry of Public Works/ Project Management Unit hereby invites Applicants (Firms) to show their interest in delivering the Services described above.

Eligibility criteria for AFD financing are specified in sub-clause 1.3 of the "Procurement Guidelines for AFD-Financed Contracts in Foreign Countries", available online on AFD's website: http://www.afd.fr.

The Applicant shall submit only one application, either in its own name or as a member of a Joint Venture (JV). If an Applicant (including any JV member) submits or participates in more than one application, those applications shall be all rejected. However, the same Subconsultant may participate in several applications.

If the Applicant is a JV, the expression of interest shall include:

– a copy of the JV Agreement entered into by all members,

or a letter of intent to execute a JV Agreement, signed by all members together with a copy of the Agreement proposal,

In the absence of this document, the other members will be considered as Sub consultants.

The experiences and qualifications of Sub consultants are not taken into account in the evaluation of the applications.

Interested Applicants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform those Services. For that purpose, documented evidence of recent (over the last ten years) and similar services shall be submitted. Applicants shall prioritize the most relevant experiences and present a maximum of 15 experiences.

Determination of the similarity of the experiences will be based on:

– The contracts size;
– The nature of the Services, including :
  - Detailed technical studies,
  - Preparation of bidding documents and procurement support,
  - Preparation of Environmental and Social Documentation as specified above and consistently with the World Bank standards;
  - Implementation of the involontary resettlement process consistently with the World Bank standards;
  - Works supervision.
– The technical area and expertise, covering :
  - Design of infrastructural integrated urban upgrading/development projects, inlcuding flood risk management and livelihood upgrading;
  - Environmental & Social assessment and management on World Bank's standards
  - Involuntary resettlement on World Bank's standards;
  - Certified expertise by the Liberian Environmental Protection Agency;
  - Elaboration of Gender analysis and action plan
  - Works supervision of urban projects including on health- safety- security & environment aspects (HSSE)
– The location : urban context in West Africa

The Client will also take into account for the evaluation of the applications the following items:

– Skills and availability of in-house technical back-up experts provided to the on-site experts
– Local representatives/partners are encouraged;
– Presentation of the following certifications:
  - ISO 9001 or equivalent;
  - ISO 14001 or equivalent;
  - ISO 45001 or equivalent.

Among the submitted applications, the Ministry of Public Works/ Project Management Unit will shortlist a maximum of six (6) Applicants, to whom the Request for Proposals to carry out the Services shall be sent.

Interested Applicants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 08:00 AM to 04: 00 PM Liberia time (GMT).

The Expressions of Interest must be submitted to the address below in written form in person, or by mail /courier no later than November 18, 2022, at 2:00 pm local Liberian time along with a completed and signed Statement of Integrity, Eligibility, and Environmental and Social Responsibility which can be downloaded from the following links: www.mpw.gov.lr / www.emansion.gov.lr.

Hon. James Reynolds
Assistant Minister Planning & Programming
Ministry of Public Works
Tel: 0777-004004 / 0778779161
E-mail: midpmpw@gmail.com / javensiorey@gmail.com / tmaxsr@yahoo.com

Republic of Liberia
Ministry of Public Works
P.0 Box 9011, South Lynch Street
Monrovia, Liberia

Country Name: Liberia

Project Name: Monrovia Integrated Development Project/Liberia Urban Resilience Project

Assignment Title: Consulting Service for Involuntary Resettlement Audit "South Triangle Site" (Community Corner, Lakpazee)

CONSULTING SERVICES (Individual Consultant)

Expressions of Interest

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Public Works/ Project management Unit has received financing from Agence Française de Développement ("AFD") and intends to use part of the funds thereof for payments under the Monrovia Integrated Development Project/Liberia Urban Resilience Project.

The Services of the consultant shall consist of **conducting an Involuntary Resettlement Audit in order to clarify the compliance of the intervention undertaken by the Liberian government on the Community Corner 1 in the Lakpazee site, both from the point of view of the national legislation and the World Bank ESSs, especially the ESS5 "Land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary resettlement". *Consultations with the local*** population and authorities confirmed that a resettlement/eviction process has indeed been undertaken by the Local government in order to prepare the site for the AFD project.

The Ministry of Public Works/ Project Management Unit hereby invites applicants to show their interest in delivering the Services described above.

The objective of the assignment is to conduct a Resettlement Audit (independent evaluation) on Community Corner 1 in Lakpazee, which shall :

- Through the desk-based review, site visits, and adequate engagement, clarify the resettlement/eviction process that the local authorities have undertaken between April and September 2021.
- Analyze the compliance of this process with: (i) the national legislation and (ii) the Updated RPF (July 2022) prepared for this project, and (ii) the World Bank's ESSs.
- In case of non-conformities, define the actions to be taken for the development of a compliant RAP or LRP. The recommendations can be formalized through a Resettlement Process Compliance Plan.
- To provide a framework for the involuntary resettlement process that will be followed throughout the project (MIDP project activities).

This Request for Expressions of Interest is open to all interested individuals meeting the criteria:

Eligibility criteria for AFD financing are specified in sub-clause 1.3 of the "Procurement Guidelines for AFD-Financed Contracts in Foreign Countries", available online on AFD's website: http://www.afd.fr.

Interested Applicants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified and experienced to perform the Services. For that purpose, documented evidence of recent and similar services shall be submitted.

Determination of the similarity of the experiences will be based on:

- The contracts size;
- The nature, type, and role(in case of firms responsibility) of the services performed

For technical area and expertise

- At least 7 years of experience in conducting RAP, LRP, and resettlement audit using World Bank ESSs procedures, especially ESS5, 'Land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary resettlement"
- Demonstratete / provide evidence of strong expertise in public consultation and participatory approach with a gender perspective.
- Expertise in databased and GIS usage ;

- The location
- Good knowledge of the Liberian context and national regulations relating to national legislation, regulations, and practices on resettlement. References in the Country would be an advantage

– The Client will also take into account for the evaluation of the applications the following items:
- BA + 5 (or equivalent) in Social Sciences including Socioeconomics, Socioanthropology, Geography, etc.
- Quality assurance procedures and certifications of the Applicant- ISO 9001 or other relevant environmental and social certification;

An application that does not meet any of these requirements will be rejected.

Among the submitted applications, the Ministry of Public Works/Project Management Unit will shortlist a maximum of six (6) applicants, to whom the Request for Proposals to carry out the Services shall be sent.

Interested applicants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours 08:00 am to 03:00 pm Liberia time (GMT).

The Expressions of Interest must be submitted to the address below in written form in person, or by mail /courier no later than November 15, 2022, at 2:00 pm local Liberian time along with a completed and signed Statement of Integrity, Eligibility, and Environmental and Social Responsibility which can be downloaded from the following links: www.mpw.gov.lr / www.emansion.gov.lr.

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Significant number of Liberians without birth certificates

–LRRRC alarm

By Lewis S. Teh

The Government of Liberia through the Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) has alarmed that a significant number of Liberians are without birth certificates.

At an official program in observance of the World Day Against Statelessness held in Monrovia on 7 November 2022, LRRRC Executive Director Rev. Festus Logan said this poses a serious threat to those in this category becoming stateless citizens.

"We have a good number of our citizens, some even in government, who do not have a birth certificate and they are at risk of being stateless," said Rev. Logan.The occasion was held under the theme: 'Gender Equality, Nationality Laws and Statelessness.'

Rev. Logan said he is grateful to President George Manneh Weah who ensured that the Alien and Nationality Law was passed and signed into law.He said before the passage of that law, many citizens were victims of being stateless.

"Some of us were born in the house and our parents didn't make it their responsibility to go to the hospital to obtain a birth certificate," said Rev. Logan."Listen, when you do not have a birth certificate, you are at risk of being stateless," he warned.

At the same time, Rev. Logan vowed to institute policies that will address the issues of stateless citizens, especially by allowing citizens across the fifteen counties to acquire birth certificates.

For her part, the Program Director at Christian Aid Incorporated, Rev. Miatta Sirleaf, used the occasion to encourage citizens who have not acquired their birth certificates to attach values and seriousness to getting the document.

"We stand here today on this occasion to create awareness on the issues regarding the statelessness of citizens under this difficult condition," said Rev. Sirleaf.She said the lack of a birth certificate can't guarantee you any citizenship or make you a resident of any country."If you do not have a birth certificate, it's difficult for anyone wanting to travel and acquire education outside of any country," she explained further. According to her, about 80% of the country's population is unaware of statelessness. --

Edited by Winston W. Parley

Weah laments in-equity and imbalance

-at COP27

By Jonathan Browne

As world leaders confer at the UN Climate Change Conference or Conference of Parties (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, President George Weah laments that in-equity and imbalance still persist between high and low emitters.

He also points to disproportionate and unfair financial inflows to low-emitting countries, especially those with significant carbon capture capability, such as Liberia, who are expected to reserve their forests without commensurate benefit to their populations.

Addressing fellow world leaders Tuesday, 8 November in Egypt, President Weah reminded that at COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, they acknowledged their shortcomings in terms of in-equity and admitted shortfalls in meeting targets for reduction in carbon emissions and footprints.He further recalls that they re-confirmed commitments to increase financing towards such efforts and reviewed and re-evaluated chances of limiting rise in global warming to meet temperature target of 1.5 Centigrade by 2030.

"Now, one year later, as we meet in Sharm el-Sheikh today, we are observing, waiting, and hopeful that our promises made in Glasgow will be kept, and pledges fulfilled", Mr. Weah urges.

He calls for renewed dedication, commitment, and sincerity in harnessing collective strength to develop lasting solutions to save the world, not only for present generation, but generations yet unborn.

President Weah: "Let us stand by the decisions and commitments we make at this COP27 conference here in Egypt to avert a global catastrophe. Together, we can implement and make our one world a better place."

World leaders attending the two-weeklong conference that critics describe as mere talking shop say the fight against global warming is a battle for human survival.

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres urged delegates on Monday to accelerate transition from fossil fuels and speed up funding to poor countries that suffer the impacts of climate

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

Major boost for rice import at Freeport

-As APM Terminals Liberia launches new rice discharge equipment

AMP Terminal Liberia has launched a new rice discharging equipment at the Freeport of Monrovia to ease the process of offloading rice and improve vessels turnaround time.

Before, discharging rice vessels at the Freeport of Monrovia has traditionally been executed through legacy processes and equipment and has not achieved an optimal level of performance.

This situation is now a thing of the past as APM Terminals Liberia has launched new rice discharge equipment and process intended to fast-track the offloading of rice vessels.

At a stakeholder observation ceremony led by the Acting Minister of State and leaders of government, the company demonstrated this new method, Before this new process, rice was discharged off vessels using a sling which could only contain 2.5 metric tons of rice in a single lift. This new process makes use of a 20-ton Spreader and will deliver 7.5 metric tons in a single lift improving turnaround time for customers. Additionally, this will increase productivity and make cargo operations much safer.

Finally, the use of these equipment and processes employs higher levels of Stevedores, increasing employment for Liberians at the Freeport.

Rice importer Mr. Abdul Aziz Ezzeddine, Operations Manager of Supply West Africa Trade (SWAT) who has been doing business at the Port shared his thoughts on this development.

"It is exciting to see APM

General Cargo Business Partner at APM Terminals Liberia, Christian Bodio Freeman threw more light on this new development.

"The process involves the use of a 20 tons spreader designed to lift 6 jumbo bags that is 50x25kg bags of rice/25x50kgs. The process starts with the loading of 6 jumbo bags in the hatch of the vessel and the bags are hooked unto the spreader. The spreader lift and position on the chassis of the truck"

On the importance of this new process for customers and the ease of doing business at the Port, Mr. Freeman continued; "The benefits to business are enormous but the key benefit is the fast turnaround of vessel which reduces the turnaround time of vessels."

Terminals Liberia beef up its equipment to be able to offload rice vessels at a faster turnaround rate. Of course, that brings relief to us as importers because it allows us to get our goods safer and faster onto the market," said Mr. Ezzeddine

Annual rice throughput volume analysis of import at the Freeport shows that rice importation increased by 3% in 2022 compared to 2021, this after a large jump in volumes in 2021. This underscores the importance of rice as a major import item hence APM Terminal Liberia's strategic move to invest in new equipment to facilitate its speedy discharge at the Port.

With rice being Liberia's staple food, this new development will ultimately impact the economy and livelihoods of all Liberians.

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'Liberia never lost a Compact'

-Says Samuel Tweah

By Kruah Thompson

Finance Minister Samuel Tweh says Liberia has never lost the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) compact as it has been spread by some media people in the country.Speaking on state broadcaster ELBC Tuesday, 8 November 2022, Minister Tweah said he sees it as a fundamental error to say Liberia has lost the MCC compact.

The Finance Minister indicated that the Compact began in 2016 and ended in 2021, arguing that Liberia can not lose a contract when the life span of the contract has not ended."The MCC does not look at a one-year scorecard, what they look at is your performance as a country during the entire life span of the compact," Tweah argued. "The scorecard has shown a consistent pattern of improvement, contrary to what has been narrated by the public. And … MCC has just put the country Liberia on the globe," said Mr. Tweah.In this year's report, Liberia has historically passed the MCC compact scoring 12 out of 20 indicators. The country is eligible for consideration for a compact, after failing miserably in 2021.

The annual MCC scorecard measures a country's commitment to just and democratic governance, investment in its people, and economic freedom.The indicators measure countries' broad policy framework for encouraging poverty reduction through economic growth.

A country needs to pass just 10 out of 20 indicators to pass the scorecard.According to the MCC website, for the Fiscal Year 2023, Liberia has successfully passed 12 out of 20 indicators. This marks the most Liberia has scored since the MCC began publishing the scorecard in 2008.Minister Tweah said the MCC compacts are five-year agreements through which the United States provides grants to partner countries to support programs that reduce poverty through economic growth.

Minister Tweh further said citizens are confused about why the government did not pass the country's eligibility scores when they were still on the five years Compact.

However, he said if the country had passed the scorecard in 2019, it would have still applied for another Compact.

Minister Tweah noted that the year that was most important for winning the Compacts was 2021 because, after that year, the country would have had a fair chance to reapply for another compact. He said the MCC compact seeks to help every country to solve two major important problems. For Liberia, he said the biggest problems are roads and electricity.For this reason, he said the Weah government and the previous government decided to put their focus on roads and electricity, and access to finance and education.He revealed that the MCC invested US$27 million into the Mount Coffee Hydropower Plant.He hailed the president for mounting pressure on officials to pass the MCC scorecard.

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S/Court threatens

but the judiciary did not benefit.She said the money was distributed by the executive and legislative branches, and the judiciary was excluded.

Associate Justice Joseph Nagbe also raised concern about the unilateral cut and slash of the judiciary's budget when it's presented to the government.He warned that this is not good because it's impeding the judiciary's operation.

Responding, Minister Tweah said the delay in the payment of the judiciary's salaries was due to a technical error.

Mr. Tweah said he regretted the incident which led to the non-payment of the judiciary's salary for two months.

He assured the court that the Finance Ministry is working to make sure that the money is paid this week.

Explaining the technical error, Minister Tweah noted that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) normally gives Liberia US$23 to be placed in the country's reserve at the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL).

Mr. Tweah informed the court that when the money was paid in the government's reserve, staff at the Central Bank mistakenly put it in the government's revenue account.

He added that when the IMF realized the action, it mandated that the money be taken back to the reserve.

Minister Tweah said this caused a technical error and resulted in the delay of the judiciary's salaries payment.

"The September salary of the judiciary has already been paid to the account as we speak. However, at the end of the week, we will pay October into the account. For the Act and all that you have said, we will look at the'' Minister Tweah noted.

During his explanation of the technical error, Minister Tweah was quickly halted by the Chief Justice.

She said Tweah's technical explanation was belated and he should have approached them earlier instead of waiting for a writ of arrest to be issued against him. She said as far as she is concerned, the other two branches of government have taken pay, therefore, his explanation can't hold.

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Weah laments in-equity

change, saying "Humanity has a choice: cooperate or perish."

President Hage Geingob of Namibia was blunt when he accused rich nations of dishonesty in talking about fight against climate change.

He told the BBC that wealthier countries, who he says are responsible for the current crisis, had turned climate conferences into talking shops, describing the world's largest polluters as "criminals" and poorer countries as "victims."

The BBC also quotes President Lazarus Chakwera of Malawi as saying that wealthier countries should take on more responsibility in the climate change fight. "We are all equal in value before God, but our obligations, our capacities, our opportunities our offences vary", President Chakwera says.

Liberia, Guinea, S/Leone sign pact

The Customs Department of the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) has signed an MOU with its Guinean and Sierra Leonean counterparts for mutual administrative assistance to combat customs crimes and boost customs revenues in the three countries.

The Customs authorities agreed to foster meaningful and more robust collaborations in facilitating cross-border trade and improved security to attract domestic resource mobilization in the three Mano River Union (MRU) countries.

A press release from the LRA says the customs administrations signed the resolution over the weekend in Conakry, Guinea at the close of their first tripartite meeting. Customs Commissioner Saa Saamoi signed the resolution for Liberia, while Sierra Leonean Customs Chief Abu Martin Kanneh and Guinea's Director General of Customs Brigadier General Moussa Camara signed for their respective countries.

The release says the MOU contains a chain of immediate actions that seek to strengthen cohesion, solidarity, and cooperation in countering Customs frauds that are detrimental to the economic, commercial, fiscal, social, cultural, or security interests of the three countries.They also resolved to strengthen cooperation among border officers, improve intelligence sharing, and called on their respective governments to rehabilitate roads and bridges to enhance trade facilitation and boost revenue collection.

The MRU Countries Customs Chiefs, in separate closing statements, underscored the need for mutual administrative assistance among them as a workable way of addressing revenue frauds, facilitating cross-border trades, and engendering regional security.

From Left: Liberia's Customs Commissioner Saa Saamoi, Sierra Leonean Customs Chief Abu Martin Kanneh and Guinea's Director General of Customs Moussa Camara signing the MOU for their respective countries in Conakry

The need for customs collaboration among our three countries is imperative…in fighting security threats and revenue frauds," Liberia's Customs Commissioner Saa Saamoi insisted during the two-day meeting. Saamoi stressed, "Our borders are extremely porous, and it takes only collaboration among our countries and ports to put revenue fraud under control."

Guinea's Customs Director General Camara noted that cross-border criminality has increased in recent years and that the three countries needed to collaborate – with each playing its role - in arresting cross-border crimes in a region with multiple porous borders. He said the collaboration would help fight trade-based money laundering and unwholesome cross-border trades.The MOU, he said, contains recommendations and challenges which solutions will require interventions of state authorities, saying "We will take note of the challenges and find a way to solve them…we will take these matters to the political authorities." In his closing statement, Sierra Leonean Customs Chief Abu Martin Kanneh noted that "The only way we can succeed in fighting cross border crime and illicit trade is to collaborate."Kanneh described the MOU as the beginning of a new era in the MRU region for customs administrations, adding that they would work to help each other in terms of intelligence in tracking down customs-related crimes and protecting revenues. ***Press Release***

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Français

COP27 : les dirigeants africains appellent les pays riches à verser les financements promis

Plus de 140 chefs d'État et de gouvernement sont réunis à Charm-el-Cheikh pour tenter de relancer l'action contre le réchauffement climatique. Ce 7 novembre 2022, les dirigeants africains ont appelé les pays responsables des émissions historiques, les

pays riches, à assumer leurs responsabilités en versant les financements promis aux pays pauvres. D'autant plus que ces pays rendent d'immenses services climatiques, notamment grâce à leurs forêts.

Premier dirigeant africain à intervenir à la tribune, le président sénégalais Macky Sall, également président en exercice de l'Union africaine, s'est exprimé au nom de tout le continent. Il faut agir à Charm-el-Cheikh pour faire l'histoire et non la subir, a-t-il martelé. L'Afrique doit recevoir les financements promis au nom de la dette climatique et des services qu'elle rend avec ses forêts.

« Je rappelle qu'avec la forêt du bassin du Congo, notre continent abrite un quart de ce qui reste encore de forêt tropicale, offrant à la planète un de ces rares poumons verts, lance le président sénégalais. Nous voulons aussi aller de l'avant dans l'adaptation au changement climatique. Nous en supportons le coût avec le développement de projets verts financé souvent par recours à la dette, alors même que la mise en œuvre doit être financée par des dons conformément aux engagements convenus. » Le droit à une transition verte adaptée à son niveau de développement doit aussi lui être reconnu.

Appels à protéger la forêt du bassin du Congo

Le bassin du Congo capture plus de 30 milliards de tonnes de CO2, a souligné lui aussi le président de la République du Congo. Selon Denis Sassou-Nguesso, la population congolaise a pris conscience très tôt de la nécessité d'entretenir et d'augmenter le couvert forestier du pays.

« Depuis quarante ans, l'ensemble de notre population est ainsi invité à planter un arbre dans le cadre de la Journée nationale de l'arbre, célébrée dans notre pays, le 6 novembre de chaque année. Ce type d'action volontariste, jointe à un Code forestier rigoureux, nous a permis de maintenir l'un des taux de déforestation

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La Cour suprême ordonne l'arrestation du ministre des Finances

La Cour suprême du Libéria a ordonné l'arrestation du ministre des Finances du pays pour avoir prétendument entravé le fonctionnement du système judiciaire.

Le mandat d'arrêt du tribunal qui date du 7 novembre 2022 est autorisé par les quatre juges en exercice de la plus haute cour de justice du pays.

Le tribunal compte cinq juges, mais un nouveau candidat présidentiel doit être confirmé par le Sénat libérien pour compléter le nombre.

Mais le mandat d'arrêt a été rendu public au moment où le ministre Samuel Tweah n'est pas dans le pays. Pourtant, la haute cour a exigé l'arrestation immédiate de son corps vivant pour montrer pourquoi il ne devrait pas être accusé d'outrage pour avoir créé une crise constitutionnelle contre le pouvoir judiciaire.

La haute cour n'a pas donné de détails sur la manière dont M. Tweah entrave le fonctionnement du système judiciaire. Mais des informations non vérifiées qui circulent dans certains milieux font état du fait que les salaires des travailleurs du secteur de la justice ont été retardés depuis un certain temps maintenant.

Des sources ont laissé entendre que depuis qu'elle a repris la présidence du pouvoir judiciaire, la présidente de la cour suprême Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh a eu une série de rencontres avec des travailleurs du secteurs, qui auraient pas mal de préoccupations similaires.

Aucune d'information officielle concernant ces problèmes n'est disponible, mais des rumeurs ont porté sur des problèmes de salaire.

Le mandat d'arrêt qui est signé par le greffier de la Cour suprême, Me Sam Momolu, a ordonné au maréchal de la Cour Amos B. Kesseh Dickson d'arrêter le corps vivant du ministre

CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Éditorial

Les choses semblent s'effondrer dans le régime de Weah

La Cour suprême du Libéria n'a pas mâché ses mots lorsqu'elle a ordonné l'arrestation du ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement Samuel Tweah, pour entrave aux fonctions du pouvoir judiciaire. C'est ainsi que les choses ont si mal tourné dans le gouvernement du président George Weah.

"Par directive de la formation plénière de la Cour suprême de la République du Libéria, il vous est ordonné d'arrêter le corps vivant de Samuel D. Tweah, ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement", lit-on dans un mandat d'arrêt de la Haute Cour, qui date du 7 novembre 2022.

Le ministre Tweah serait hors du pays, mais il est étrange que l'arbitre final de la justice du pays s'en prenne à un membre en exercice du cabinet. Tweah est recherché pour outrage aux fonctions de la justice libérienne.

La décision de la Cour suprême montre comment les choses sont allées de mal en pis dans l'administration Weah. Elle expose également clairement comment le pouvoir exécutif de l'Etat a continué de prendre pour acquis le pouvoir judiciaire.

A en juger par son comportement, on dirait que le ministre Tweah serait soit en train de cacher quelque chose ou se considèrerait intouchable au gouvernement. Il est aussi recherché par le pouvoir législatif libérien pour répondre à des allégations de corruption à l'Institut libérien des statistiques et des services d'information géographique (LISGIS) en tant que chef du conseil d'administration de cette agence. Les membres de l'Assemblée législative l'ont également invité à rendre compte des 11 millions de dollars américains alloués pour subventionner l'importation du riz dans le pays. Il doit encore comparaître et fournir des réponses à ces préoccupations.

Le mandat d'arrêt de la Cour suprême semble être la dernière goutte d'eau qui débordera le vase. Il semblerait que le patron des Finances est soupçonné de faire des choses comme bon lui semble sans avoir la moindre considération pour les trois pouvoirs de l'Etat distincts mais coordonnés.

Le poste de ministre des Finances est sacré et devrait être tenu ainsi. Mais ce qui se passe dans cette administration avec le ministre Tweah qui roule comme si de rien n'était laisse clairement à désirer.

En tant que ministre des Finances, il devrait mener ses activités publiques avec un haut degré de respect et de confiance, plutôt que de se laisser convoquer ici et là par les deux autres pouvoirs de l'Etat.

Il incombe au patron des Finances de démontrer au-delà de tout doute qu'il a la profondeur de maturité nécessaire pour continuer à occuper cette fonction sacrée qui préside aux activités fiscales de la nation. Rien de moins que cela est une trahison de la confiance du public, comme les circonstances semblent l'indiquer.

Plus tôt Tweah reconnaîtra cela et agira en conséquence, mieux ce sera, non seulement pour sa propre crédibilité, mais pour éviter à l'ensemble du gouvernement un embarras plus grave.

Français

COP27 : les dirigeants africains appellent les

le plus faible au monde », a déclaré le président congolais.

De son côté, le président gabonais, Ali Bongo Ondimba, regrette le retard des pays riches à verser les financements promis, étant donné les services rendus par la forêt du Gabon.

« La République gabonaise, comme les autres pays en développement, devrait pouvoir recevoir plusieurs centaines de millions de dollars, par an, issus de cette promesse. Ceci pour financer notre adaptation aux changements climatiques, notre juste transition énergétique et économique et pour récompenser nos efforts de séquestration nette de carbone », a, pour sa part, déclaré le président gabonais.

Ali Bongo passe à l'anglais pour rappeler la certification toute récente des crédits carbone gabonais par l'ONU Climat, avant d'évoquer le prochain One Forest Summit en 2023 à Libreville.

Les besoins d'adaptation et les « pertes et dommages » liés au changement climatique ne sont pas une abstraction en Afrique, souligne le président kényan William Ruto. Son pays affronte la pire sécheresse en 40 ans. « Deux années consécutives sans pluie ont plongé des millions de personnes dans la misère. 2,5 millions de têtes de bétail sont mortes au Kenya rien que cette année, causant plus de 1,5 milliard de dollars de pertes. Il y a deux jours, nous avons distribué de l'aide alimentaire à 4,3 millions personnes dans le cadre d'un plan d'urgence qui nous a demandé de réallouer des fonds prévus pour la santé et l'éducation, explique le président kényan. Les arbitrages que nous sommes contraints de faire entre des services publics indispensables sont la preuve que le changement climatique menace directement la vie, la santé et l'avenir de nos populations. »

La faune sauvage, héritage précieux du Kenya, n'est pas été épargnée, poursuit William Ruto. Porte-parole du groupe Afrique à la COP27, il estime à 50 milliards de dollars par an le coût pour le continent d'ici à 2050 et il déplore les promesses de financement non tenues pour l'aider à surmonter ces catastrophes, alors même que l'Afrique, affirme-t-il, offre des solutions au changement climatique, grâce à ses ressources naturelles et au déploiement très volontariste des énergies vertes.

« Les pays riches sont les principaux auteurs de cette mise en danger de l'humanité »

De son côté, le président de la République centrafricaine Faustin-Archange Touadera n'a pas mâché ses mots envers les pays riches : « Les crises climatiques exceptionnelles de ces dernières années ont eu des effets dévastateurs de grande portée sur la survie de l'humanité. Les pays riches, grands pollueurs, sont les principaux auteurs de cette mise en danger de l'humanité. L'Afrique [...] ne doit pas continuer à payer pour des crimes qu'elle n'a pas commis [...]. Les pays riches doivent aider les pays pauvres à appliquer leur plan d'action nationale de réduction à caractère volontaire. »

Pour sa part, À l'intérieur de l'Afrique, le Sahel est assurément la région présentant les plus grandes vulnérabilités et mérite à ce titre un traitement particulier au regard des défis combinés auxquels elle fait face. Nous ne le dirons jamais assez, la violence qui ravage aujourd'hui le Sahel est grandement liée avec le désastre climatique que subit cette région.

La Cour suprême ordonne l'arrestation

Tweah.

"Par directive de la Cour suprême de la République du Libéria, il vous est ordonné d'arrêter le corps vivant de Samuel D. Tweah, ministre des Finances", a ordonné le mandat.

Il a ajouté que le ministre Tweah devrait montrer pourquoi il ne devrait pas être accusé d'outrage au tribunal pour avoir entravé son fonctionnement et créé une crise constitutionnelle pour le système judiciaire.

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COMMENTAIRE

Par Raghuram G. Rajan

Quelle économie après l'inflation ?

CHICAGO – Les commentaires sur l'inflation et la récession vont aujourd'hui bon train ; examinons plutôt quelles pourraient être les perspectives de croissance lorsque les banques centrales auront mis bon ordre aux difficultés actuelles.

D'inquiétants vents contraires semblent actuellement souffler sur la croissance. À mesure du vieillissement de leur population, les économies avancées voient se ralentir l'expansion de leur force de travail ; il leur faudra donc parvenir, pour compenser, à une plus grande productivité par tête. Mais il est peu probable, quand s'atténue l'investissement, que la productivité du travail croisse rapidement sans innovation significative, que ce soit dans les modalités du travail ou dans les produits. Si l'on a pu penser que le recours de plus en plus fréquent au télétravail durant la pandémie améliorerait la productivité (en gagnant du temps et en évitant la duplication du capital, à domicile et au bureau), de nombreuses entreprises redécouvrent l'intérêt d'avoir, au moins une partie du temps, des employés dans leurs bureaux.

Un autre vent contraire souffle des pays pauvres, où les ménages de la classe moyenne inférieure, après avoir beaucoup souffert de la pandémie sont aujourd'hui frappés par la hausse des prix des denrées et des carburants. Nombre d'enfants, dont la scolarité a été interrompue pendant plus de deux ans, n e termineront probablement pas leurs études, ce qui réduira leurs capacités à bien gagner leur vie et, d'une façon plus générale, rétrécira la base qualifiée de la main-d'œuvre. Alors même que la démondialisation – avec ses relocalisations, totales, de proximité ou dans des pays « amis » – menace de rendre plus difficile encore l'obtention d'un emploi décent. À long terme, la faiblesse de la demande dans ces pays se répercutera sur le monde développé.

Si le monde ne parvient pas à trouver de nouvelles sources de croissance, il retombera dans l'inconfort de la stagnation séculaire qui sévissait avant la pandémie. Mais la situation pourrait cette fois s'envenimer, car non seulement la plupart des pays ne disposent que de faibles marges de manœuvre budgétaires pour stimuler l'économie, mais les taux d'intérêt ne retomberont pas de sitôt à leurs niveaux historiquement bas d'avant la pandémie.

Heureusement, des vents favorables pourraient aussi se lever. S'il semble que les échanges de biens aient atteint leurs limites avant la pandémie, ce n'est pas encore le cas des échanges de services. Si les pays parvenaient à s'entendre pour faire tomber certaines restrictions inutiles, les nouvelles technologies de la communication pourraient permettre à de nombreux services d'être fournis à distance.

Dès lors qu'un consultant travaillant de chez lui à Chicago peut répondre aux besoins d'un client à Austin, au Texas, pourquoi ne pourrait-il pas le faire aussi depuis Bangkok, en Thaïlande ? Certes, les consultants travaillant depuis d'autres pays peuvent avoir besoin de bureaux pour leurs relations avec leurs clients aux États-Unis, afin de contrôler la qualité de leurs prestations ou de gérer les contentieux, mais le volume total de travail effectué par des sociétés de conseil mondialisées augmenterait substantiellement, et pour un coût significativement moindre, si leurs services pouvaient être proposés au-delà des frontières.

De même, il est de plus en plus concevable de faire appel à la télémédecine, non seulement pour la psychothérapie et la radiologie, mais aussi pour des diagnostics de routine (avec l'aide, éventuellement d'un équipement local ou d'un praticien infirmier). Là encore, des organisations mondialisées (on peut imaginer une Cleveland Clinic plus développée à l'échelle internationale) pourraient contribuer à réduire les fractures de notoriété et d'information, et permettre à un généraliste en Inde d'effectuer des examens de routine pour des patients de Detroit – avec orientation, si nécessaire, vers des spécialistes locaux.

Les restrictions les plus importantes à ce genre d'échanges de services ne sont pas technologiques, mais artificielles. Comme on peut le comprendre, les autorités des économies avancées ne permettent pas à un médecin généraliste en Inde d'offrir sans diplôme approprié ses services médicaux. Or les procédures de délivrance d'un tel diplôme sont dans la plupart des pays excessivement lourdes. La situation serait très différente si les pays du monde pouvaient s'entendre sur une procédure commune de validation du diplôme pour le travail qu'exige la fonction de généraliste. Un pays où séviraient des affections inhabituelles pourrait ajouter à l'examen une épreuve supplémentaire pour celles et ceux qui voudraient y exercer, mais seulement en cas de nécessité absolue.

Les systèmes d'assurance santé, qui ne remboursent généralement pas les prestations délivrées dans un autre pays, constituent un deuxième problème. Mais dès lors qu'aura été résolue la question du diplôme, rien ne permet de penser qu'ils n'évolueront pas, étant donné les économies qu'ils peuvent réaliser.

La troisième restriction est celle des données et du respect de la vie privée. Aucun patient ne souhaitera partager des informations le concernant ou des résultats d'examen s'il n'est pas certain que ses données personnelles resteront confidentielles et seront protégées contre des usages malveillants. À une époque de tensions géopolitiques et de chantage économique, il faut plus, pour que ces conditions soient remplies, qu'un simple engagement du prestataire, il faut aussi celui que l'État où il exerce respecte la vie privée du patient. Les démocraties, qui peuvent voter des lois solides de protection de la vie privée (fixer notamment des limites à la quantité de données auxquelles leur administration publique peut avoir accès), seront en meilleure position pour capitaliser sur ce type d'échanges de services que les autocraties, où le contrôle exercé sur les pouvoirs publics est moins rigoureux.

Il ne fait guère de doute que les citoyens américains jouiraient d'un accès beaucoup plus abordable et beaucoup plus rapide à un médecin si les examens de routine étaient confiés à des prestataires délocalisés. Les économies développées en bénéficieraient, mais les économies en développement en profiteraient tout autant, car les revenus générés par leurs médecins pourraient servir à créer des emplois locaux. En outre, ces médecins seraient moins tentés d'émigrer, et ils pourraient utiliser les technologies de la télémédecine pour proposer leurs services dans les régions reculées de leur propre pays. Parallèlement, les spécialistes, dans les économies avancées, auraient l'opportunité de proposer les leurs plus souvent et plus facilement aux patients des pays en développement, sans que ceux-ci soient contraints, comme c'est actuellement le cas, de se déplacer à New York ou à Londres.

Mais les fournisseurs de services dans les pays riches ne vont-ils pas s'opposer à la suppression des restrictions qui, jointes à l'improbabilité de voir leur activité concurrencée à distance, leur garantissent des rémunérations élevées ? Une demande domestique importante pour des services proposés hors des situations de routine subsistera pourtant. Et si les restrictions sont levées ailleurs, consultants ou médecins verront s'ouvrir des marchés beaucoup plus vastes où les prestations spécialisées jouiront d'une forte valeur ajoutée. C'est pour cette raison qu'un accord sur la limitation des restrictions aux échanges de services aurait plus de chances d'aboutir et d'enregistrer des succès que de simples accords bilatéraux s'il était conclu par un grand nombre de pays.

En outre, d'autres populations, dans les économies avancées, notamment la main-d'œuvre industrielle, qui a été le plus durement touchée par la compétition mondialisée, bénéficieront de services de bases plus abordables. Et tandis que se combleront les inégalités, tant au sein des pays qu'entre eux, la demande mondiale se renforcera.

Les perspectives économiques d'après la pandémie et d'après l'inflation ne sont pas aussi sombres qu'elles y paraissent. Mais il reste encore beaucoup à faire pour lever des restrictions artificielles et tirer partie des technologies existantes.

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ARTICLE ARTICLE

Tiawan Saye Gongloe: The President Liberia Needs in 2023

The Presidential candidate of the Liberian People's Party (LPP), Cllr. Taiwan Saye Gongloe arrived back in Monrovia Sunday after a 14-day acquaintance tour in Nimba County.

Cllr. Gongloe's tour took him to the major towns and villages in Nimba county including Sokopa, Kpein, Neigbahyee, Gban, Tunukpyee, Benekpalala, Gbeyee, Lao-Zao, Bunadin, Zahn-Boiyee, Zahn-Bemon, Zahn-Bahnla, Blowee, Zahn-Duo, Duo-Tornwein, Kopea, Denaman. Zuluyee. Gbeiden. Kitoma. Sanniquellie. Dahn-Lorpa, Gboa-Darvoyee, Gehwee, Tiahyee, Borsonnoh, Sehyi-Geh, Zolowee, Gba-pa, Liagbala, Kinnon, Yarmi-Gbelee, Yarmi-Karnla, Yekepa-Camp 4, Sehkeinpa, Zor-Gorwee, Zor-Tappea, Zor-Goulay, Karnplay, Loelay, Kpaieplay, Lowlay, Veneyenglay, Baylehglay, Gbor-Wehplay, Gbor-Fiaplay, Geialay, Gweiplay-Bounla, Bahn, Gbor-Payee, Gbor-Kpayee, Gbor-Zayglay, Gleah, Bialatuo, Beeplay, Gbarlay New Town, Gbarlay Old Town, Gbloulay, Nyarlay, Lepula, Yao-Seblee, Gonmanplay, Yor-Butuo, Yor-Buutuo, Dianplay, Florlay, Glaarlay, Toweh's Town, Zuatuo, Zuolay, Graie, Saoley, Beatuo, Yorpea, Blewalay, Dubuzon, Nuoblee-1, Nuoblee-2, Kparblee, Zuodru, Quepea, Gblordiala, Segbeh Town, Vahn Town, Kwendinm Camp-1, Gwah's Town, Kpoweinm, Zekepa, Kayee, Garnwee, Gleyee-Zorpea, Blaimeh, Mehnla, Fleedin, Yansain, Gbanquoi, Sacleapea, Gbaryee-tro, and Karnwe where he was besieged by ecstatic citizens as he discussed his "Better Liberia is Possible" agenda.

Cllr. Gongloe's presidential bid represents a rare chance for Liberia. Liberia ought to be rich: the country is endowed with natural resources, an abundance of water, plenty of fertile lands, and a young population. Yet about 51% of the people live in poverty, and 16% are in extreme poverty. The reasons why Liberia is rated among the top tenth poorest countries in the world are rotten politics, bad governance, and corruption. And by making this election about competence, character, and most important solution-driven ideas, Gongloe is promising to upend the old electoral calculus, which is based on horse trading to form majorities between politicians who gathered votes and get elected by mainly giving rice, money, and scholarship to voters.

With his promises of cutting the cost of governance, tackling corruption and accountability through the rule of law, his broom movement is gaining support amongst the populace who are tired of a profligate political elite in the country. Gongloe's bid for the presidency has excited parts of disillusioned electorates, who criticized the inability of politicians in the defunct Collaborating Political Party to forge a united front against the incumbent, President George Weah, and his CDC. Drawn by his record of honesty and integrity in the private and public sectors, as well as Gongloe's frugal attitude, and his message of transforming Liberia for the better, the people are using him as a vehicle to channel their frustration with the Liberian system. Gongloe isn't running just for himself, if you check online sentiment, you'll see he's running on behalf of the Liberian people.

Gongloe faces George Weah, the 56-year-old current President of Liberia and candidate for the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC), and Joseph Boakai, the 77-years of former ruling Unity Party (UP), a former vice-president and serial presidential hopeful. Cllr. Gongloe is running on the ticket of the Liberian People's Party (LPP), a party that played an important role in Liberia's struggle for social justice and democracy. At 77, former vice president Boakai is hoping to preside over a nation that has a median age of 18 while president Weah, despite his government's massive failures, is hoping to get elected for the 2nd term.

Cllr. Gongloe's overwhelming support among the voters in Nimba during his tour is a direct reaction to president Weah's term in office which has brought massive poverty, unemployment, corruption, secret killings, etc to the Liberian people. It also signals our people believe that Gongloe is the most credible candidate based on his track record of service to the Liberian people. The vocal support for Cllr. Gongloe traces its roots to his humility, honesty, and integrity over the past 45 years in the public and private sectors. Gongloe, affectionately called "Poor Man Lawyer," provided legal representation for journalists illegally arrested and detained by the government or held in contempt by courts (many of whom were in exile in the United States), pro-democracy, media and human rights groups as well as NGOs.

Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe

As shown in his just-ended two weeks tour of towns and villages in Nimba county. Gongloe is not just a candidate for young people, he eventually is a candidate for elderly people. For all the enthusiasm surrounding Gongloe"s candidacy, his path to the Executive, Liberia's presidential residence, is littered with obstacles. No presidential candidate outside the main two parties (Unity Party & Coalition for Democratic Party) has garnered more than 20 percent of the vote since 2005. Candidates need to earn more than 50% of the votes to be declared the winner, but Gongloe has said he is undeterred. He insists, by contrast, his vision and experience could solve many of the country's challenges. Cllr. Gongloe argues in Nimba that "the Liberian people need an alternative leader who does not say one thing and does something different. The Liberian people need an alternative leader who will not lie to them. The Liberian people need a leader whose income and sources of income will be known to the people at all times."

There are, of course, no guarantees that Gongloe would break the kleptocracy that is throttling Liberia. Liberia's election system has a habit of electing crooks, murderers, and economic criminals to political office, but if Gongloe continues visiting towns and villages throughout the 15 countries until October, he would be the first politician in decades to show that a new sort of politics is possible in Liberia. If he keeps energizing rural and urban voters across the country's main divides of religion, geography, and ethnicity, he may well redraw Liberia"s electoral map by 2023.

At a time when our country contends with a faltering economy weak infrastructure, rising food insecurity, massive unemployment of the youth, insecurity in the country, etc., Gongloe told the masses in every town and village in Nimba that he intends to redirect the economy of Liberia towards self-sufficiency in food production, engaging in import substitution and value-added export promotion as well as expanding economic activities in the rural parts of Liberia by granting tax incentives to rural-based manufacturing. He argues the 2023 presidential election will be a choice between the old politics of plunder and corruption, and the new regime of honesty and public service. Gongloe's acquaintance tour in Nimba County imbibes the spirit of patriotism. He has placed national interest above his interests because there must be Liberia as a country before there can be leaders to lead it. His ten-point agendas guarantee victory for the Liberian people.

Truth be told, Gongloe is a person who has worked selflessly for the Liberian people. As it stands now, the electorates are no longer interested in the political parties. but in the antecedents of the candidates. This time, they don't want to hear well-drafted manifestos, all we want is a competent, credible, and capable person to succeed President George Weah in 2023. We have heard a lot of unfulfilled sermons of campaign promises by politicians and Liberians are tired of empty promises by politicians just to get elected into public offices. If you had occupied or occupied public office and others and you did not make a positive impact in the lives of the people as in the case of President Weah, our electorate won't vote for you. Gongloe's campaign is issue-driven and he is telling the people of Nimba county what he will do for the country and how he intends to accomplish them when he is elected as president.

During his Nimba county tour, Gongloe lamented that the country is presently insecure, not unified, unproductive, and collapsing. According to him, going by the enormity of Liberia's problems, Liberians are not looking for a consensus candidate. They are looking forward to somebody, who will start solving the numerous challenges in the country. The majority of Liberia are unemployed, hence Gongloe told the gatherings it is a matter of urgent importance to create employment opportunities that will enable young men and women to be engaged after graduation. Gongloe presented a forceful case for new leadership in Liberia. "I am strongly in the race, fully prepared for the contest. Continuing, he said, "You need to check my track record. I am a human rights lawyer. I have operated in the public and private sectors. I have been an Executive Assistant to the President, Solicitor General of Liberia, and Minister of Labor. That's the record you need to check. You don't need to ask me. Just check my trajectory. I believe I can transform Liberia for the better."

Gongloe's three-week tour of Nimba county was a forceful case for new leadership in Liberia. "I am strongly in the race, fully prepared for the contest", he said. Besides, he said, if he wins the presidency next year, he will lead a government that will unite and serve the country and manage the nation's resources effectively and efficiently. The zest with which Gongloe speaks about the envisioned "Better Liberia is Possible" under his leadership; the promise of fighting corruption and giving the country back to the real owners- the masses of the country, and the excruciating pain being experienced by the masses of Liberia, may have combined to swell support across Nimba county for Tiawan Gongloe.

Undoubtedly, Liberia today is a broken nation. We have high unemployment today and the worst problem a country can have is to have young people in their productive age doing nothing. There is a collapse in our health, education, agriculture, and security sectors. The 2023 election will be a game-changer, so we need to elect people with the capacity and competence to drive our country. We need a transformer, not a divider or corrupt leader anymore. Cllr. Gongloei's track record speaks volumes of what he's capable of doing. Deconstructing Gongloe's promise to unite and transform Liberia, he spoke the truth. Liberians have lost faith in their elected leaders and institutions. Currently, there's a huge disconnect between the leaders and the citizens. Someone needs to restore that trust. The country yearns for the performance of a leader and many Liberians strongly believe that Gongloe's victory in October would mean an end to public corruption, insecurity, poor governance, poverty, and all the negative things associated with a non-performing government.

Gongloe's attributes are not in doubt: Gongloe has a quick mind and the ability to articulate issues and proffer solutions as evidenced in his rural Liberia tour. His performance as a human lawyer, solicitor general, minister of labor, and president of Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA) is proof that he has the capacity, confidence, and willingness to deliver. "I am not aspiring for a political position, but for an opportunity to serve the Liberian people and transform Liberia." Again, that's a forceful case of a man of vision and thinker, not your usual politician who wants power for his advancement. And without a vision beyond one's selfish gains, that person and the country are paralyzed once the goal has been achieved. That's why Liberia has been heading in the wrong direction all these years. Gongloe has been tested and tried. He's ethical and trustworthy.

My ideal candidate is ethical, someone who has common sense, and someone who truly, genuinely cares about the masses through their actions over the decades/ A candidate who doesn't judge based on what part of the country you are from and whose interest is to unite and not divide. Someone who wants to bring an end to corruption, end to bad governance, and an end to poverty. I believe the candidate who, although not perfect, comes close to these ideals is Tiawan Saye Gongloe.

My advice for Liberians, as the political campaign commences next year is to remember your choice. Remember who it is that has your interest at heart. Someone who has character. Someone who cares about creating a better life for you and your family. Someone who cares about every Liberian citizen and wants to create more jobs and tackle insecurity. Don't be swayed by political jingles and adverts. Vote your conscience. This is your future. This is your life. Make the right decision. I rest my case.

S/Court threatens tougher punishment

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia's Supreme Court on Tuesday threatened Finance Minister Samuel Tweah with a harsher punishment in keeping with the law if he ever delays and refuses to pay the Judiciary's salaries in time.

The court issued the threat warrant … harsher punishment in keeping with the law. The writ of arrest is quashed, and the Minister is free to go about his normal business as a free man,'' Chief Justice Yuoh declared.

On his way to the Supreme Court on Tuesday, Minister Tweah was escorted by the

Chief Justice Yuoh — Min. Tweah

during Minister Tweah's appearance before it Tuesday, 8 November 2022 to show cause why he should not be held in contempt for hindering the functioning of the Judiciary.

On Monday, the court ordered Minister Tweah's arrest.

But following his appearance, payment for September 2022 salary was made, and Minister Tweah also committed to paying the October salary at the end of the week for the Judiciary.

Subsequently, the full bench of the Supreme Court through Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene Yuoh purged Minister Tweah of the charge and declared him a free man.

However, Chief Justice Yuoh warned that a repetition of the act by the finance minister to delay the Judiciary's salary payment would warrant harsher punishment in keeping with the law.

"Repetition of the act could

Assistant Minister for Codification at the Ministry of Justice Cllr. Nyanati Tuan.During the hearing, Cllr. Tuan told the Supreme Court bench that he had appeared to represent Minister Tweah.

His presentation triggered Associate Justice Jamesettea Howard-Wolokolie's question about who represents the court when the Justice Ministry represents the Finance Ministry in a case involving two branches of the government.

In response, Tuan said if any government entity has a problem, he should come to their defense.

But Chief Justice Yuoh rejected Tuan's response and told him that the Ministry of Justice represents the government that has three branches.She wondered who is representing the judiciary if Tuan is in court to represent an individual.

"If there is a problem between the two branches, the Ministry of Justice will come on the side of the law to give advisory opinion not to represent an individual. That's what the law says," said Chief Justice Yuoh.

"You can only escort him because of the writ but not to represent him on issues between [branches of the] government. Please make the proper representation and sit down,'' the Chief Justice ordered Minister Tuan.

Following the legal ratification, the full bench proceeded with questioning Minister Tweah regarding what has been delaying the judiciary's salaries.The bench also informed Minister Tweah about the result and consequences of his action.

The bench also questioned Mr. Tweah on the Financial Autonomy Act which grants financial security to the judiciary and ensures the smooth operation of the judiciary.

The bench informed Minister Tweah that the Act mandates the government to pay the judiciary quarterly.

It said the government should provide salary and operation funding to the judiciary instead of the usual happening.

Justice Howard-Wolokolie also pointed out that other times for six months, there was no gasoline and operation funds for judges.

She noted that it's not just about salary payment, but also operation.

According to Justice Howard-Wolokolie, the Government of Liberia, mainly the Executive, is responsible for the downward trend of the judiciary because of the lack of adequate support for it.

She added that if any branch of government should be paid first, it should be the judiciary.

The Associate Justice also reminded Minister Tweah of the supplementary budget for the government a few years ago,

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

CDC recognizes Jewel-Biney leadership

Following intervention in the National Patriotic Party (NPP's) internal political bickering, the Governing Council of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) says it recognizes Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor as NPP's standard-bearer.

In a statement released Tuesday, 8 November 2022, the CDC said it also recognizes Senator James Biney as Chairman of the NPP.

The CDC Governing Council

VP Howard-Taylor — Sen. Biney

explained that in recent months, the ruling party has been tackling disagreements surrounding the leadership within one of its constituent political parties, the NPP.

CDC is made up of President George Manneh Weah's Congress for Democratic Change (CDC); Vice President Howard-Taylor's NPP; and former House Speaker Alex Tyler's Liberian People Democratic Party (LPDP).

Last month, violent clashes led to NPP, a former ruling party of imprisoned former President Charles Ghankay Taylor, holding separate conventions at the Paynesville City Hall.

The conventions were held by factions of the NPP loyal to Vice President Howard-Taylor, estranged wife of Mr. Taylor, and the embattled chairman of NPP Senator James Biney on the other hand.

That internal crisis led the ruling CDC to appoint a Dispute Resolution Committee to mediate lingering disharmonies within its constituent party, the NPP.

"Given that all sides in the NPP crisis have agreed to return to status quo ante in preparation for 2023 Elections, the Coalition for Democratic Change calls on all three parties to set-up a 7-man delegation each to immediately commence discussions on details of the Coalition Framework Document," the CDC Governing Council has mandated.

"The Governing Council recognizes H.E. Jewel Howard-Taylor as Standard-bearer of the NPP. The Governing Council recognizes Senator James Biney as Chairman of the NPP," the release added.

It also mandated that the NPP standard-bearer Madam Howard-Taylor proceeds to nominate party members to fill all vacancies on the NPP Executive Committee.

"That deliberations on the Coalition Framework Document begins on December 10, 2022," the release said further.

The ruling party explained that it acknowledges that these challenges confronting the NPP are but the normal political bickering characterizing political parties and their activities.

It made special reference to disagreements bordering on inclusive democratic framework for legitimate leadership formulation.

It said the CDC being a coherent, peaceful and united political structure welcomes the cooperation of leaders and stalwarts of the NPP, which it said appears to have emerged stronger out of recent disharmonies.

As the highest-level organ of the Coalition arrangement, the Governing Council said it is pleased to announce decisions reached consistent with the intervention of the Chairman of the Coalition Governing Council, President George Manneh Weah.

The CDC Governing Council also encourages all members of the NPP to take due cognizance of the announced measures as deliberations continue and join other members of constituent parties to mobilize in a gargantuan fashion for both the November 12, 2022, Membership Dues Drive, and the December 20, 2022, Nomination Day.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Let it be known by all people that the interstate of the late Lesilie Bola Jacobs, and Julia R. Jacobs situated in Logan Town between former Buchanan Building material store and girl child restaurant and along the port of Freeport Road opposite L.P.R.C. and situated between the Old Peugeot Garage and LBDI Bank containing ten (10) acres of land and no more is owned by their children and not this scrupulous imposter Nicky S. Jacobs who is just one of my Nieces. Later Lesliy b. Jacobs and Julia R. Jacobs living children new is as off Beatrice Jacobs Akiwumi (Eldest)
Rebecca Jacobs Hampton
Martha Jacobs Bass

Prudence Julia Jacobs and lastly Roland William Jacobs the probate court ruling the case last year by the late Judge Vincent Holder rules against Nicky S. Jacobs who was fighting the children, she is still collecting rent and even planning to sell the ware house to one Kromah. This statement was made in public by Kroma to the security man; in the yard. She obtained a false document as an administrator of said property at the Probate court; she has no regard to obey the laws o the country by the court. The ruling of the Probate court ruled and the children won the case. And Roland Jacobs is sole administrator of his late father's property. The public has to be careful in doing land business with her and with the concern of the children Rev. Emmanuel Arthur is authorized as the Estate Manager.

Sincerely,

Roland w. Jacobs
Attorney-In-Fact

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Guinea objects MRU SG handover

Ambassador Medina Wesseh

The chair of the Mano River Union (MRU), Guinea Junta Leader, Colonel Mamady Doumbouya has placed a hold of the scheduled handover of outgoing MRU Secretary General Ambassador Medina Wesseh.

Amb. Wesseh was expected to handover the Secretary General position on Monday November 7, to Mrs. Maria G. Harrison, who was appointed by President George Manneh Weah few months ago but the ceremony could not be held due to Guinea expressing reservation over a breach in protocol, thus leading Guinea to postpone the handover ceremony indefinitely.

Diplomatic sources say the postponement of the handing over ceremony was based on the request of Guinea's Foreign Affairs Minister to have it slated for a later date.

The MRU comprises four countries: Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Ivory Coast. Guinea currently holds the chairmanship, while Liberia appoints the Secretary General.

Amb. Wesseh, who was appointed by former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, tenure had expired and was expected to handover to Mrs. Harrison on October 15.

There had been speculations that she had refused to handover to her successor, thus prompting a directive from the Liberian Government requesting that she handover by the 15 of last month.

"There are protocols and procedures which guide such a turning over ceremony and all countries must be guided by such, and this calls for consultation with the chair who is the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guinea," a source explained.

Sources say the move by Guinea to stop the handover ceremony only points to a diplomatic mess caused by the Liberian Government adding that this poses a serious diplomatic embarrassment for the country.

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