

**WWW** **Advertise Here!**  
**Subscribe to our website**  
*get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily*

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

| DATE                        | BUYING              | SELLING             |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| THURSDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2022 | L\$153.4123US\$1.00 | L\$155.0923US\$1.00 |

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

# The New Dawn

**French Version Inside**

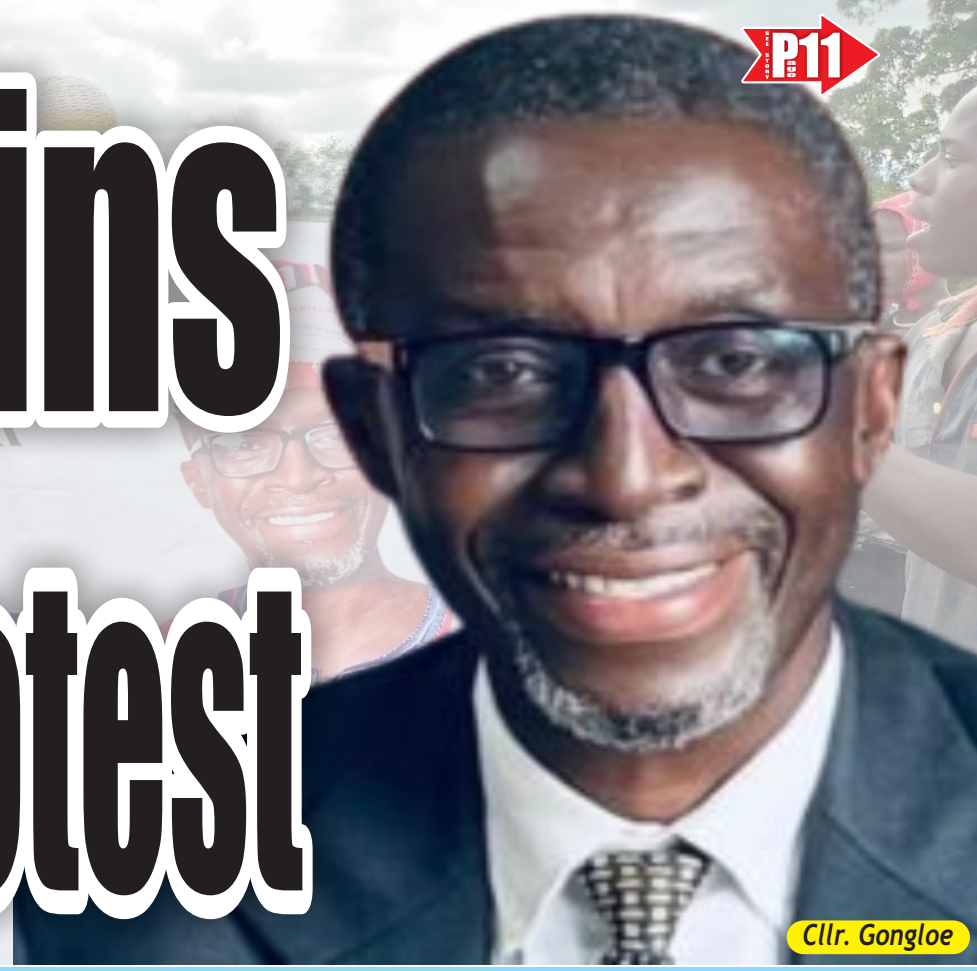
**TRULY INDEPENDENT**

ANDROID APP ON  
**Google Play**

QPR CODE: 797005  
**Down Load**  
**New Dawn**  
**Android App**

VOL. 12 NO. 222      THURSDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2022      PRICE LD\$40.00

# Gongloe joins December 17 protest



**P11**

Cllr. Gongloe



Maj. Gen. Prince Charles Johnson, III

# 'Completely reckless, premature'

**-Opposition replies AFL Chief of Staff**

**MTN MoMo**

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

**Dial \*156#**

Lonestar Cell | **MTN**





# Continental News

## Mozambique 'tuna bond' scandal: Ex-President Guebuza's son jailed for 12 years

The son of Mozambique's former president has been jailed for 12 years over a vast \$2.2bn (£1.8bn) fishing project scandal that triggered an economic crisis in the country.

became chairperson of all three newly-created state companies that took the loans.

Judge Baptista said they "were expected to be the guardians of public assets for being high ranking leaders responsible for security but

much of it without the knowledge or approval of the country's parliament. Despite this, the Mozambican government stood as guarantor of the loans, meaning the state would repay the money if things went wrong.

The money was allegedly used to buy a large tuna factory and a maritime security fleet, as well as to finance other deals involving companies in which the state is a leading shareholder.

In 2016, the government swapped some of the debt for a conventional bond, issued by the state. Soon afterwards, it admitted the full scale of the borrowing, triggering an economic crisis in Mozambique.

The country's currency lost a third of its value, inflation surged and foreign donors pulled out.

Auditors also reportedly discovered \$500m of the money was missing.

The loans were issued by Credit Suisse and the Russian bank VTB, with three former Credit Suisse bankers pleading guilty to US charges of money laundering over the case.

Late last year UK authorities fined the investment bank \$178m over the tuna corruption scandal.

The bank was also ordered to write off \$200m of debt "tainted by corruption" that was owed by Mozambique.

The fine was part of a \$475m settlement with UK, Swiss and US regulators. BBC

instead, they are the key culprits".

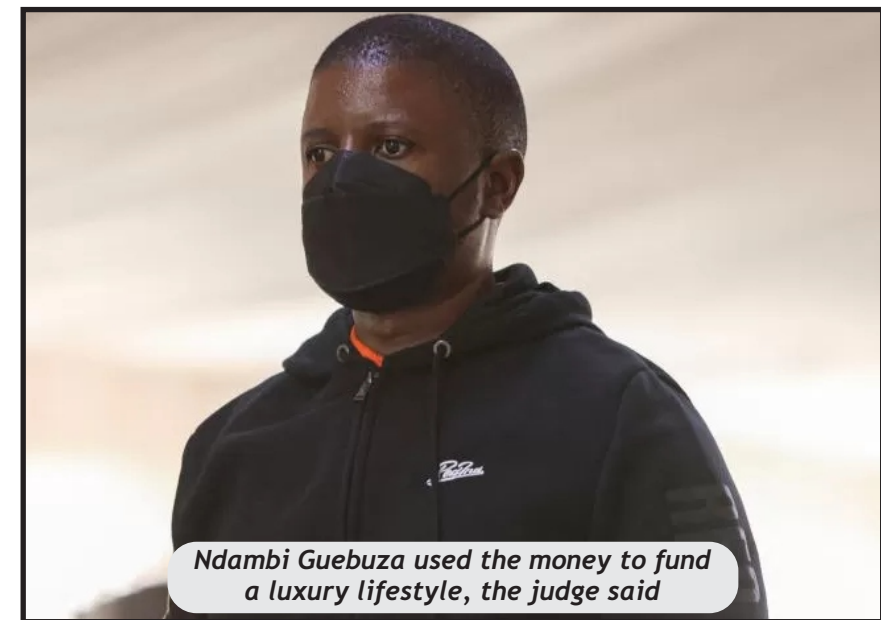
One notable absentee from the trial has been former finance minister Manuel Chang. He has been detained in South Africa since December 2018, in response to an arrest warrant issued by authorities in the United States, on charges of conspiracy to commit wire fraud, securities fraud and money laundering.

He denies any wrongdoing.

President Guebuza left office in 2015 after a decade in power.

However, his Frelimo party remains in charge - as it has been since independence in 1975.

Between 2013-2014, three newly established companies took on \$2.2bn (£1.5bn) of debt,



*Ndambi Guebuza used the money to fund a luxury lifestyle, the judge said*

Ndambi Guebuza, son of former president Armando Guebuza, was among 11 people found guilty of embezzlement and money laundering.

Kickbacks were also given to some senior politicians.

The consequences of the crime "will last generations", the judge said.

Judge Efigenio Baptista also said Ndambi Guebuza financed his taste for luxury through the crimes of embezzlement and money laundering.

Others given prison sentences include Gregorio Leao, head of the Security and Intelligence Service (SISE) under Mr Guebuza, and Antonio do Rosario, who

## Janusz Walus: Killer of South African anti-apartheid hero Chris Hani freed

The far-right gunman who killed South African anti-apartheid hero Chris Hani has been released on parole a week after he was stabbed in prison.

Janusz Walus, 69, has been discharged under strict conditions for two years, the authorities say.

He shot Hani in 1993 in a failed attempt to derail South Africa's transition from a white-minority government to democratic rule.

The killing still evokes deep emotions in South Africa.

Hani was regarded as the most popular politician after Nelson Mandela, who went on to become the country's first black president in 1994.

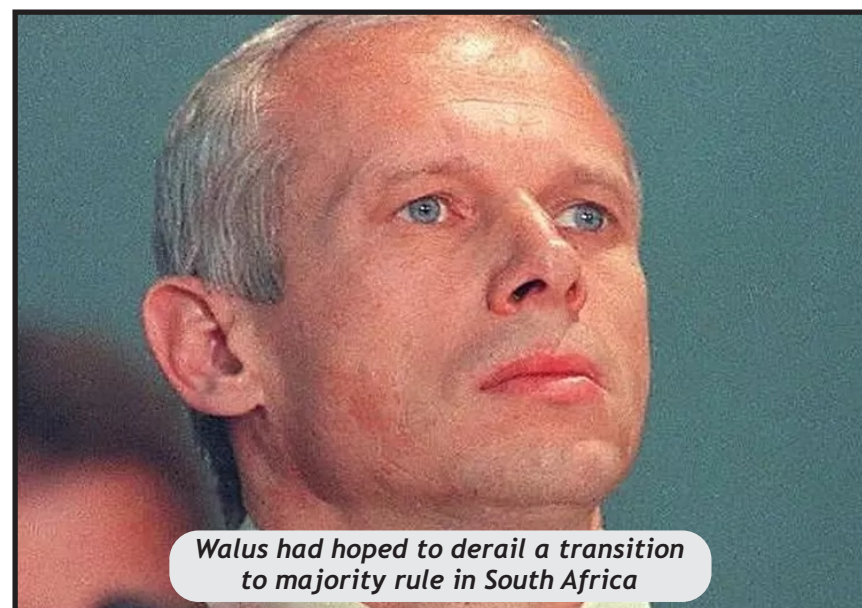
South Africa's government

and Mr Hani's widow Limpho have vigorously opposed Walus' attempts to gain his freedom.

Members of the governing African National Congress (ANC), the South African Communist

Party (SACP), which Hani led, and the Congress of South African Trade Unions have also expressed anger over his release.

In a ruling on 21 November,



*Walus had hoped to derail a transition to majority rule in South Africa*

## Nigeria 2023 election: The hunt for children and the dead

As soon as Nigeria's first-ever digital electoral register was uploaded on to the internet people began noticing problems.

Amateur digital sleuths uncovered numerous voter cards that appeared to have photos of children on them. Others on the preliminary list seemed to have registered more than once, simply by changing their facial expression, clothes or the way they were sitting.

The legal minimum voting age is 18 and by registering children as well as getting people more than one vote,

contested general election any discrepancies could be the difference between victory and defeat.

Just by looking at the voter cards it is easy to tell that some of them carry the image of the same person but somehow Inec staff could not pick this up.

"It was so obvious that you don't need any scientific process to identify the underage voters who registered," said Sunny Dada from the Institute for Media and Society in Lagos.

A total of 23 Inec officials are now being investigated for their alleged roles in the illegal registrations.

It has not been uncommon in



*Voters' fingerprints were taken when they went to register earlier this year*

crooked politicians can inflate their support.

Questions are now being asked about how these duplicate would-be voters slipped through the expensive fingerprint and facial recognition technology that was recently introduced.

Details such as age, gender, fingerprints and photos were taken at the registration centres of the Independent National Electoral Commission (Inec) with hopes of eliminating such problems.

In next February's hotly

the past for the dead to turn up on the electoral register as deaths are not always officially recorded, but it was the appearance of children and those registering multiple times that caused widespread concerns.

The problems, which have been documented in past elections, have now become glaring with the innovation of a digital register.

In the past, only hard copies of the register were available and as they were posted on the walls of polling units or local council buildings, it was hard to build a national picture. BBC

South Africa's highest court ordered Walus' release within 10 days, saying the justice minister's refusal to grant him parole was "irrational".

The Ministry of Justice and Correctional Services said in a statement on Wednesday that Walus had been released but that he had "been furnished with his parole conditions... If he violates the conditions, he will be returned to a correctional centre".

Walus has spend nearly 30 years in prison.

He killed Hani as the politician picked up the newspapers outside his home in April 1993 by shooting him

at point-blank range.

As well as leading the SACP, the 50-year-old anti-apartheid fighter was also a senior member of the ANC's military wing.

Walus was arrested and sentenced to death. The sentence was commuted to life after South Africa abolished the death penalty.

Walus is a Polish immigrant whose South African citizenship was revoked in 2017.

While in prison, he became a symbol for young Polish nationalists and fascists.

Huge banners bearing his portrait were often draped around football stadiums in Poland in 2020 to demand his release. BBC



# EDITORIAL

## Liberia and the global food crisis

**FOR LACK OF** understanding of the global market and seeming unwillingness to accept unfolding reality, Liberians are yet to digest the increase of the retail price for a 25kg bag of rice in the country from US\$13.00 to US\$17.50 or an increment of US\$4.00 per bag.

**THE GOVERNMENT OF** Liberia thru the Ministry of Commerce and Industry over the weekend set the wholesale price for rice at US\$17.00, while retailers are to add US\$.50 to each bag consumers purchase in the market.

**ORDINARY LIBERIANS MAY** see this increment of rice price by the government as abrupt, but it is not. For the past two to three years, the United Nations has continuously warned of a looming food crisis, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. The writings have been on the wall for quite some time, mainly for us in Liberia, who eat rice, as our staple, but we don't grow on a commercial scale.

**PRESIDENT GEORGE WEAH** and all previous Liberian presidents had tried to play politics with the issue of rice in Liberia by subsidizing price to have it available and keep the market stable. Sustainability of such subsidy has always been a challenge, as it is unfolding now in the country.

**THE SUSTAINABILITY ISSUE** has even worsened in the face of several externalities such as the current Russia-Ukraine war, the global Coronavirus pandemic, production and transport costs in exporting countries and heavy reliance on import. Besides, Russia and Ukraine are two major importers of the world's grain and fertilizers. Their involvement in war means the markets for these commodities are significantly affected.

**THIS NEGATIVE IMPACT** led the current President of the African Union, President Mickey Sall of Senegal to visit President Putin after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, to plead for access to food, including wheat, grain and fertilizers, among others.

**UNTIL THIS COUNTRY** can move expeditiously to invest heavily in the agriculture sector by growing enough rice to feed ourselves and perhaps export to neighboring countries, Liberians have no choice, but to adjust and cope with the current increment in order to have rice available on the market.

**LIBERIANS SHOULD ALSO** realize that President George Weah, who promised sometimes in August or September that under his administration, there will be no increase in rice price, does not have a farm to feed the nation, but relies on other countries and importers to have rice here.

**WE HAVE A CHOICE:** either to live with the current price increment and have rice in country to eat or risk a complete shortage that could see price skyrocket as high as US\$20, \$25, \$30 or \$50 per bag on the black market. This is simple economics (Demand Vs. Supply).

**THE CURRENT SITUATION** is not unique to Liberia. Many countries are going thru serious economic crisis, including food shortage. In next door Ghana recently, frustrated Ghanaians took the streets in protest, calling on President Nana Akufo-Addo to step down because of unbearable hardship.

**IN SRI LANKA** few months ago, citizens chased their President out because of scarcity of basic commodities, including food and fuel. Liberians should stop complaining and brace themselves because the worse is yet to come.

# COMMENTARY

By Jayati Ghosh

## The Monetary Tightening Trap

**N**EW DELHI - The Spanish-American philosopher George Santayana famously warned that "those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." But sometimes even those who can recall the past have a selective memory and draw the wrong conclusions. This is how the global policy response to the current bout of inflation is playing out, with governments and central banks across the developed world insisting that the only way to tame soaring prices is by raising interest rates and tightening monetary policy.

The Volcker shock of 1979, when the US Federal Reserve, under then-chair Paul Volcker, sharply increased interest rates in response to runaway inflation, set the template for today's monetary tightening. Volcker's rate hikes were intended to combat a wage-price spiral by increasing unemployment, thereby reducing workers' bargaining power and depressing inflationary expectations. But the high interest rates triggered the largest decline in US economic activity since the Great Depression, and recovery took half a decade. Volcker's policy also reverberated around the world, as capital flowed into the United States, resulting in external debt crises and major economic downturns that led to a "lost decade" in Latin America and other developing countries.

But the context for this heavy-handed approach was very different from current conditions, because wage increases are not the main driver of inflationary pressures. In fact, even in the US, real wages have been falling over the past year. Yet that has not stopped some economists from arguing that higher unemployment and consequent larger declines in real wages are necessary to control inflation.

Even some of the most vocal champions of tight money and rapid interest-rate increases recognize that this strategy will most likely trigger a recession and significantly damage the lives and livelihoods of millions in their own countries and elsewhere. There also seems to be little disagreement that rate hikes have not slowed inflation thus far, probably because surging prices are driven by other factors.

One would expect the supposed "adults in the room" of global macroeconomic policy to recognize the problem and seek to craft more appropriate responses. But national policymakers in advanced economies, as well as multilateral institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the typically more sensible Bank for International Settlements, appear to have no interest in alternative explanations or strategies.

This intellectual inertia is leading policy badly astray. Research has increasingly shown that the current inflationary surge is driven by supply constraints, profiteering by large companies in critical sectors like energy and food, and rising profit margins in other sectors, as well as commodity prices. Addressing these factors would require sensible policies such as mending broken supply chains, capping prices and profits in important sectors like food and fuel, and reining in commodity-market speculation.

While governments are well aware of these

options, they did not seriously consider them. Instead, elected officials worldwide left it to central banks to control inflation, and central bankers, in turn, have relied on the blunt tools of interest-rate hikes. While this will inflict needless economic pain on millions of people in developed countries, the consequences for the rest of the world will likely be even worse.

Part of the problem is that the macroeconomic policies of the world's major advanced economies focus solely on what they perceive as their national interest, regardless of the impact on other countries' capital flows and trade patterns. The 2008 global financial crisis originated in the US economy, but its impact on developing and emerging economies was far worse, because investors fled to the safety of US assets. And when the massive liquidity expansions and ultra-low interest rates that followed in developed countries caused speculative hot money flows to spread worldwide, low- and middle-income countries were exposed to volatile markets over which they had little to no control.

Similarly, today's rapid monetary tightening has revealed just how lethal such integration can be. For many developing and emerging economies, financial globalization is akin to an elaborately-built house of cards.

An important new paper by Dutch economist Servaas Storm shows the extent of the collateral damage that monetary tightening could cause in low- and middle-income countries. Interest-rate hikes in the US and Europe will likely result in more debt crises and defaults, significant output losses, higher unemployment, and sharp increases in inequality and poverty, leading to economic stagnation and instability. The long-term consequences could be devastating. In its latest annual Trade and Development Report, UNCTAD estimates that US interest-rate increases may reduce the future income of developing countries (excluding China) by at least \$360 billion.

Of course, rich countries cannot remain immune to this amount of damage. While policymakers in the US and Europe do not consider their policies' impact on other countries, the effects are bound to spill over into their own economies. But for low- and middle-income countries, the stakes are much higher. To survive, developing and emerging economies must seek greater fiscal autonomy and monetary-policy freedom that would enable them to manage capital flows differently and refashion trade patterns.

As the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and climate crisis have shown, pursuing greater multilateral cooperation and an equitable recovery is not just about kindness or morality; doing so is in the enlightened self-interest of rich countries. Tragically, however, hardly anyone in those countries - least of all their economic policymakers - seems to recognize that.

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

**New Dawn**  
FULLY INDEPENDENT

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,  
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,  
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 /  
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief:



## OP-ED

By Raj Persaud

# The World Cup Syndrome

**L**ONDON - As the world's most popular sport, football ("soccer" to Americans) is often a pillar of national identity and a source of collective pride. That is why the FIFA World Cup can trigger intense emotions in a way that no other sporting mega-event can. This year's tournament in Qatar is no different.

The 1998 World Cup, which took place in France, is instructive. A 2012 study identified a significant decline in France's suicide rate during the month-long tournament and a dramatic 19.9% decrease in the days following the French team's matches. France ultimately won that cup, but one's team does not need to win to provoke an emotional response. A 2015 study found a substantial shift in the ratio of male-to-female births nine months after the 2010 games in South Africa, which the researchers suggested was the result of an increase in sexual activity during the tournament. And in Brazil, heart attacks spiked during the 1998, 2002, 2006, and 2010 World Cups, particularly on days when the Brazilian team played.

Similarly, several studies have found that international football tournaments can significantly affect markets. A 2016 study found that the Italian team's performance has influenced domestic stock-market returns. National-level sporting victories, the authors concluded, can produce a sense of euphoria among investors. Losses, on the other hand, tend to depress investors, particularly non-institutional retail investors. Another study showed that losses tend to have a bigger negative impact on stock markets in countries with relatively more successful national teams, such as Spain and the United Kingdom. In countries with moderately successful teams, like Chile and Turkey, traders' appetite for risk increased after a win.

Expectations may have something to do with this. It is possible, the latter study's authors concluded, that losses had a greater effect on Spain and the UK because local football fans had grown accustomed to their national teams winning. In other words, the more you expect your team to lose, the more it will cheer you up when they win, and vice versa. Judging by their wild celebrations, Saudis were clearly cheered by their team's stunning victory over Argentina.

Football can also have a positive effect on economic perceptions. A 2006 study, based on telephone surveys conducted the day after every match played by Germany's national team during that year's World Cup, found that the team's better-than-expected performance boosted confidence among Germans. According to the authors, these findings confirm that psychological factors drive much economic activity. The primary proponent of this view was British economist John Maynard Keynes, who famously anticipated the market effect of mob behavior, noting that "it may often profit the wisest to anticipate mob psychology rather than the real trend of events, and to ape unreason."

Keynes's observation that savvy financial speculators could profit from market irrationality driven by mob psychology is supported by a 2010 study that examined the effect of the World Cup on the US stock market. While no one can predict the outcome of every football match, the authors identified a consistent trend that savvy investors could exploit: because a large proportion of investors in any given country hold US stocks, the negative effect on that market is more pronounced. The average US market return during the World Cup, they found, declined by 2.6%, compared to an average 1.2% increase in comparable periods. As the number of losing countries increases, the aggregate effect on the US stock market grows larger, resulting in a market slowdown.

Given this trend, shrewd investors may want to decrease their US equity exposure during the FIFA World Cup period. But if many investors adopt this strategy and reduce their exposure to US stocks simultaneously, a market decline could become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Another possibility is to short stocks just before the games start, but that would only aggravate price drops and may even precipitate earlier declines.

World-Cup-induced market irrationality is unlikely to disappear anytime soon. The reason is that football fans are infamously impervious to the indisputable fact that whatever teams you support, and no matter how successful they are, they will all inevitably lose in the long run.

But when your team does pull off the impossible, as Japan did when it defeated Germany and Saudi Arabia did when it beat Argentina in this year's tournament, the subsequent euphoria makes all those previous decades of humiliation worth it. It is this hope for a miracle in the face of long odds that drives sports fans, investors, voters, and those planning to have children or getting engaged to be married. None of it is rational. But it is part of what makes life as beautiful as the "beautiful game."

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2021. [www.project-syndicate.org](http://www.project-syndicate.org)

## OPINION

By Josep Borrell

# Why Europe and Latin America Need Each Other

**B**RUSSELS - In the more dangerous and unpredictable multipolar world in which we now live, trade relations remain of seminal importance. But they cannot be separated from geopolitics. Many Europeans long believed that they could be, but Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine has highlighted the risks raised by the European Union's dependence on Russian gas and shown us that this approach is no longer tenable.

If the EU wants to be recognized as a true geopolitical actor, strengthening our internal unity will not be enough. We must also recalibrate our strategic compass, using our political and economic instruments more coherently and identifying not only risks but also opportunities more effectively. This is why I have argued from the beginning of my mandate that Europe must deepen its ties to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

To make the qualitative leap we need, we will have to strengthen political dialogue at the highest level. But to ensure that our efforts are credible, we must also complete the modernization of existing association agreements with Mexico and Chile, sign the negotiated post-Cotonou agreement with the African, Caribbean, and Pacific community, ratify the association agreement with Central American countries, and finalize the EU-Mercosur agreement.

While trade plays an important role in all these agreements, none can be viewed as just a trade deal. The most complex of these agreements is the one with Mercosur, which we have been negotiating for more than two decades. The tango might say that 20 years is nothing, but in this case, it is too long.

On a visit to South America last month, I had the opportunity to meet with leaders from Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay, which currently holds Mercosur's rotating presidency. More recently, I congratulated Brazilian President-elect Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva on his election. In all these conversations, the EU-Mercosur agreement was at the forefront. I sought to convey to these leaders that the political will to finalize this mutually beneficial agreement is very much alive.

Admittedly, the word "strategic" is overused. But, in the case of the EU-Mercosur agreement, it could not be more apt. While some would oppose it - invoking the existence of conflicting interests - there are compelling arguments for finalizing this agreement.

For starters, the EU-Mercosur agreement is much more than a trade deal. It is a deeply political instrument that, by advancing dialogue and cooperation, would seal a strategic alliance between two regions that are among the world's most closely aligned in terms of interests and values, sharing a similar vision of the kind of societies we want.

Moreover, on both sides of the Atlantic, we intend to strengthen our strategic autonomy and improve our economic resilience by reducing excessive dependencies. But autonomy does not mean isolation. Rather, it means diversifying value chains, which in turn requires cooperation with reliable economic and political partners.

Bringing together two of the world's largest trading blocs - with a combined population of more than 700 million - the EU-Mercosur agreement would be the largest trade deal that the EU has ever concluded. It would also be Mercosur's first comprehensive trade agreement, reinforcing the grouping's integration.

Common rules would open doors between our large markets and generate real opportunities for businesses on both sides, supporting the creation of high-quality jobs in Europe and in Latin America. Recognizing the economic asymmetry between our markets, the agreement specifies that trade would be liberalized progressively, thereby giving relevant sectors time to modernize and become competitive.

The Mercosur countries want to export more to Europe, but they also want to avoid being reduced to exporters of extractive resources. They intend to develop their productive and export capacity, adding value to natural resources through innovation and technology, while adhering to stringent social and environmental standards.

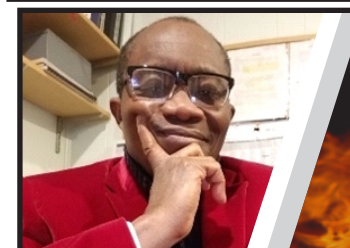
A third argument for the EU-Mercosur agreement lies in its potential to advance climate action and environmental protection. In fact, the political accord the EU and Mercosur reached in 2019 was among the first of its kind to include a reference to the Paris climate agreement. In Europe, however, there are doubts about the extent of this commitment, especially in view of the accelerating deforestation in the Amazon in recent years. Some in Europe argue that autonomous EU legislation would be the only credible way forward. But we cannot isolate ourselves and change the world at the same time. Our regulatory framework must be accompanied by more international dialogue and cooperation, focused on clarifying shared commitments and building more sustainable value chains.

Lula has made clear his desire to defend Brazil's democracy, heal its society's wounds, advance the cause of social justice, and boost the economy while addressing climate change and deforestation in the Amazon. The agreement with the EU would support this effort by enabling knowledge-sharing, improving standards, and strengthening environmental protection and sustainable modes of production. The European side will propose an additional instrument specifying our shared commitments to environmental sustainability.

Finally, the EU-Mercosur agreement is not an end, but a beginning. It marks the start of a shared path and creates the institutional framework needed to facilitate cooperation in a wide range of areas of mutual interest, from human-rights protection and sustainable development to the regulation of the digital economy and the fight against organized crime. This agreement will deepen relations not only among governments and institutions, but also among parliamentarians, civil society, entrepreneurs, students, universities, scientists, and creators.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2021. [www.project-syndicate.org](http://www.project-syndicate.org)





## LIBERIA POLITICAL

## HOT-FIRE

Jones Mallay explains how

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

## "I was compelled to offer my Apology to my Friends in the US on behalf of a CDC Minister who couldn't do his job properly."

The Republic of Liberia is rich in multiple mineral resources, which, when managed expeditiously, can help decrease hardship in the nation. Instead, President Weah is flying worldwide begging for money to improve the nation's mixed-shift economy. At the same time, one CDC Minister keeps having sleepless nights preaching complicated politics when he should strategize how his Ministry could generate revenues for the Liberian government.

One of Liberia's most attractive tourist destinations, known as the Kpatawee incredible waterfalls, located in Bongo County, is capable of yielding thousands of US dollars for the people of Bongo County and even making considerable contributions to the nation's national coffers.

The Ministry of Information, Culture, and Tourism, under the watchful eyes of Hon. Minister Lidgerwood Julius Rennie has virtually turned his blind eye to the Kpatawee waterfall and other excellent tourist attractions sites in Liberia that should generate significant government revenues. The Kpatawee site has become like a once deserted rebel-captured territory with total neglect and abandonment of proper care by the CDC's Information Minister Rennie. After I boasted about my nation's excellent tourist sites to most of my non-Liberian colleagues in the US, three decided to visit Liberia's Kpatawee waterfall site in Bongo County this year. My comrades, who came to Liberia and later returned to the US, said in an amiable tone with additional bitterness and down-heartedness that I gave them a false impression about Liberia's tourist destination. But the fault lies squarely with an information minister who doesn't understand how tourism works in Liberia for visitors.

The visitors also said the Kpatawee waterfall was laboriously jammed with huge debris, forest palm trees, and lack of proper landscaping; the pathways to the waterfall are horrible, with no maintenance, poor sitting capacities, and terrible bush paths to walk on. The waterfall ponds had dead creatures like snakes, mice, and other fearful unrecognizable African animals afloat the pond, which generated more fear. The disappointed non-Liberians tourists said they constantly looked over their shoulders for fear that several uncontrollable snakes could be above watching them as they walked through a narrowed bush path.

They equated the sitting places at the waterfall to the sleeping areas of the then sleeping sites of enslaved Africans in the South of the US due to poor setting management. The huts they sat under were infested with tiny moving bugs, and horrible flees. One account revealed how a rat jumped into one of the huts and physically attempted to challenge one of them but quickly called for help. They said there are no tourist guides, no proper visitors' educational platform about the dos and don'ts of the waterfall. They said Kpatawee waterfall is simply a no man's land. At the same time, Minister Lidgerwood Rennie focuses more on politics than on the Kpatawee waterfall and other tourist sites around Liberia. The Minister should concentrate on refurbishing tourist sites, having tourist guides, increasing security presence for visitors, and making the area conducive for foreign and local visitors.

My comrades lamented that there was no internet service in and around the waterfall. Both Cellcom and Lonestar companies are conspicuously absent at the Kpatawee's waterfall, to the detriment of visitors. There is no first aid, no mini clinic, and no attention. Electrical lines are lying all over the walking paths, some visibly seen by the roadside and others even crossing the road with no possibility of visitors traveling to the side of the narrow bushy path.

Does Minister Lidgerwood Julius Rennie know that Tourism also constitutes the vocabulary of his Ministry? Does the Minister indeed have a background in tourism? Does the Minister know that tourism is one of the vital sectors in Liberia which is capable of generating massive revenues for government coffers? In any case, I cannot blame the Honorable Minister entirely. I also accused Pres. Weah for not thoroughly investigating the career background of his appointees, as a result, some are simply occupying space and drawing on taxpayers' money, this is the condition the CDC's Minister Rennie currently finds himself in. Minister Rennie is only interested in the chicken egg, but not in the chicken itself. I was compelled to apologize to my friends from the US for Min. Rennie's inability for not simply doing his job properly.



CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA



## PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT Licensed Insurance Companies

The attention of the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) has been drawn to complaints about the operations of illegal insurers and insurance companies as well as brokerage firms in Liberia in violation of Section 2.1 Sub-section 1.0 of the Insurance Act of 2013.

The Insurance Act of 2013 mandates the CBL as the sole authority to license insurers, reinsurers, insurance brokers, insurance agents and loss adjusters.

Accordingly, the CBL hereby cautions individual(s) or institution(s) to not engage or do insurance business with any insurance company or insurance intermediary or brokerage firms other than the below listed, which are approved by the CBL in accordance with the Insurance Act of 2013.

### **The licensed insurance companies are:**

1. Accident and Casualty Assurance Company (ACICO)
2. Activa Insurance Company (AIC)
3. American Underwriters Group International Insurance Company (AUG)
4. Atlantic Life and General Insurance Company (ALGIC)
5. Blue Cross Insurance Company (BCIO).
6. Insurance Company of Africa (ICA), and
7. Medicare Insurance Company (MIC). Others are:
8. Mutual Benefit Assurance Company (MBA)
9. Omega Insurance Company (OIC)
10. Palm Insurance Company (PIC)
11. Saar Insurance Company (SIC)
12. Secure Risk Insurance Company (SRIC)
13. SKY International Insurance Company (SIIC), and
14. SUNU Insurance Company

Other licensed insurance brokerage firms authorized by the CBL to do insurance business within the Republic of Liberia are:

1. ASK Gras Savoye Liberia Limited (ASK Savoye)
2. KEK Insurance Brokers Liberia Limited (KEK)
3. SAJONA Intermediaries (Insurance Advisor & Broker)
4. Trust Brokerage Liberia Limited Company (Trust LLC), and
5. MicroEnsure Life-Jar Incorporated (Life-Jar).

While the focus of the CBL is on the implementation of the mandate to achieve the insurance commission by 2026 in accordance with the Amended and Restated Act of the CBL 2020, the public is hereby encouraged to inform the CBL about anyone or company doing unlicensed insurance business within the Republic of Liberia.

The CBL wants to reassure the public of its commitment to the transformation of the insurance industry leveraging capacity building from the Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) of the U.S Treasury, West African Insurance Institute (WAI), and the West Africa Insurance Companies Association (WAICA) and remains supportive of the collaboration with the Ministry of Transport as the implementer and enforcer of the Third-Party Car Insurance scheme.

**Signed: The Central Bank of Liberia**



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Smith gives Spoon Network 72 hours to retract slanderous statements

The former acting director-general of the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)

systematic campaign from June-November 2022 to defame his name by alleging that he stole and personally converted funds from the

character and cause him emotional suffering and mental anguish.

“Some of the specifics of your slanderous statements are indicated below:

i) You labeled Mr. Wilmot Smith as someone who had converted funds intended for the NHPC into his personal use. This statement of yours is untrue. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and steering committee international partners disputed your account on November 11, 2022, and cautioned Liberians not to politicize the census; additionally, on October 24, 2022, the UNFPA called on the Liberians to ignore your recording, which falsely accused our client.

“ii) You allowed and facilitated on your Spoon TV and internet communication networks that Mr. Wilmot Smith conspired with Minister Samuel D. Tweah to open a secret foreign account in the Republic of Ivory Coast in an Ecobank account. This statement is also untrue because Ecobank debunked your slanderous assertions against Mr. Smith, which appeared in FrontPageAfrica newspaper Vol.16 No.215, dated Monday, November 21, 2022.

“iii) For the nature of the work you do, the heart of the platform you own and control,

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



has given Spoon Network 72 hours to retract and correct all slanderous statements made against him during his stewardship at LISGIS.

Smith was dismissed by President George Weah for “administrative reasons” along with Alex Williams, who was deputy director-general for statistics and data processing, on 14 November.

In a November 30, 2022 letter addressed to Spoon chief executive officer Stanton Witherspoon, Smith’s legal counsel recalled how his client became a victim of a

national population and housing census (NHPC).

Cllr. Arthur Johnson reminded Witherspoon about how Smith was repeatedly labeled and stigmatized as a criminal on several broadcasts on Spoon Talk, which is aired live on social media and radio networks under their control and is followed by thousands of people nationally and internationally.

“This charge is untrue and deceptive, and its sole purpose is to tarnish his character for reasons best known to you. Your actions constitute defamation of

## ECOWAS and Spain sign MoU €1.4 Million on Support for Gender, Agriculture and Sustainable Energy in the Region

The President of the directly of 1.498,000 euros to E C O W A S the ECOWAS Specialized Commission, Dr. Agencies through the ECOWAS Omar Alieu Touray, has Commission as bro-ken down signed a Memorandum of below: A line of 500,000 euros Understanding (MoU) worth will go to the RAAF’s Project for One Million four hundred the Promotion of Integrated and ninety-six thousand School Feeding Models in West euros (€1,496,000) with the Africa; A line of 250,000 Euros for Spanish Agency for ECREEE’s Water and Energy International Development Project for the Increase of Food Cooperation of the Kingdom Security and Socio-Economic of Spain on support to Development, corresponding to ECOWAS Specialized the first annuity; A line of Agencies. The ceremony 498,000 euros from ACID’s took place on December 6, Ecological Transition Program 2022, in Abuja, Nigeria.

Areas to be supported are the ECOWAS Centre for Gender Development (ECDG), the ECOWAS Agency for Agriculture and Food (RAAF) and the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECEEE).

As per the MoU, the Spanish Cooperation will make a voluntary contribution in 2022



(FONTEC) will support the project Transition to a Clean Energy Circular Economy through the Optimization of High Energy Intensity Value Chains in High Impact Sectors, with ECREEE and a line of 250,000 euros will go to the Project of institutional support and promotion of the new strategies of the ECGD within ECOWAS on the promotion of gender equality and the fight against gender-based violence.

## LCF Kicks Off National Individual Championship Friday

The Liberia Chess Federation (LCF) will this Friday, December 9, 2022, kick off the National Individual Chess Championship on the University of Liberia (UL) Capitol Hill campus.

Following an official indoor program at the university this Friday, the games will begin immediately from 10 to 20 December.

The LCF’s Classical National Individual Championship is the fourth event for this year’s chess activities.

LCF President Mr. Thomas Karyah says the Federation has already completed the first three events for this year, which include the Club Team Championship (won by the

partners, and other stakeholders. This year’s championship is about the value of chess as an educational tool and a Keynote is expected to be delivered by a senior member of the International Chess Federation’s Chess in Education Commission at the opening ceremony.

The 2022 National Chess Championship is the 5th edition of this premier chess event since the establishment of the Liberia Chess Federation in 2014. FM Barcon Harmon, James Tondo, Thomas Saah, and Bobby Ballah won the 2016, 2018, 2019, and 2021 editions respectively.

In November, the Liberia Chess Federation launched the 2022 National Chess



Invincible Knights Chess Club), the 2022 Rapid Chess Championship (won by CM Anthony Waylea), and the 2022 National Blitz Chess Championship (won by Joel O. Ebiekuta).

He says the most important, which is the individual classical event, will determine the actual Chess Champion and Female Chess Championship of Liberia.

The Opening Ceremony this Friday is expected to be attended by chess fans and enthusiasts as well as students, sponsors,

Championships which is being organized as a chess festival.

In collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports with support from sponsors and partners, the Liberia Chess Federation is hosting the Championships which include all aspects and categories of the noble game. The winners (Open and Women Champions) will have first preference to represent Liberia at all major chess competitions next year. They will also become members of the LCF Executive Council.

**OFFSET** Printing

@

**The New Dawn**

TRULY INDEPENDENT



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### LRA honors 40 committed taxpayers Thursday

The Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) reveals plan here to celebrate and honor at least 40 individuals and institutions as the most compliant taxpayers, including highest tax contributors at an Award Dinner today, Thursday,

under the Theme: Pay Taxes, We All Enjoy". The week is meant to honor and appreciate taxpayers for their contributions and commitment to the development of Liberia through the taxes they pay.

Awards will also be given to taxpayers across different

under the Theme: Pay Taxes, We All Enjoy.

At the same time, the revenue house launched the LRA foundation on Wednesday, 7 December to help less-fortunate people in society.

The foundation is a charity initiative to support community development, especially the disadvantaged through volunteerism and humanitarian interventions.

To improve working relationship between the LRA and business stakeholders, the release notes that LRA in collaboration with the Liberia Chamber of Commerce will on Friday Dec. 9th launch the business climate dialogue.

The dialogue seeks to address, amend, and resolve standing issues between the business community and the LRA.

The Taxpayer Appreciation Week winds down on Saturday, Dec. 10th, with a Tax Talk. To be joined by partners, the Tax Walk will enable the LRA to carryout additional awareness and education to the general public about the importance of taxation in national development. **Press Release**



December 8, in Monrovia.

According to the LRA, the awards dinner is part of series of activities marking its Taxpayers Appreciation Week, observed under the

categories from the 14 other counties in Liberia, aside from Montserrado.

The LRA says the Taxpayer's appreciation week celebration is being held

### Swedish Ambassador laments corruption in Liberia

By Lewis S. Teh

Swedish Ambassador accredited to Liberia, Urban Sjostrom, says corruption in Liberia is a major obstacle to the growth and development of the country.

"We all know that corruption remains a major obstacle to the development that we want to see here in Liberia", Ambassador Sjostrom notes.

He made the statement Tuesday, December 6th while launching the 2022 state of corruption report released by the Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia or CENTAL, with funding from the Swedish International Development Agency or SIDA.

Ambassador Sjostrom extols CENTAL for the launch, adding that the Swedish Embassy and CENTAL have a stronger partnership on anti-corruption.

"This report is key for the people of Liberia to come together to fight corruption, because the menace is a major obstacle in the growth of Liberia."

He says corruption situation in Liberia is alarming and that nine out of ten finds the practice very

alarming, causing institutional decline which has reached crisis level.

He calls for strengthening of the corruption fight through national ownership, adding "the good thing is that there's a possibility within the report for change, but we must learn and work together."

He reveals that he Swedish Embassy is currently working with the national integrity forum and other relevant groups to address challenges along the way in the corruption fight.

Giving an overview of the report earlier, CENTAL finance and Administrative Manager Mr. William Tali, explained that the 2022 state of corruption report is aimed at

enlightening the public of issues involving corruption across the country.

The report, according to him, is the second edition of the score following the maiden edition released in 2021 that speaks specifically to corruption issues in both public and private sectors.

"Score 2022 is a product of mixed method including desk review, survey, key information interviews and media monitoring", Mr. Tali adds.

CENTAL board chair Cllr. T. Negbalee Warner, lauds the Center and its partners - the Swedish government through SIDA and USAID for efforts in ensuring the report is published.



Ambassador Urban Sjostrom

### LIS conducts aliens and naturalization documentation awareness

The Liberia Immigration Service Tuesday this week continued its Aliens and Nationalization Documentation, Validation awareness in Monrovia.

The two-day exercise was

also aimed at authenticating and validating documents of those who were issued licenses by the LIS but have not renewed them.

Deputy Commissioner Bah Kenneth said the naturalization reform authentication and



organized by the Department of Naturalization at the Liberia Immigration Service in collaboration with Criminal Court "B."

Speaking to a cross session of aliens in Gardnersville, Deputy Commissioner General for Naturalization, Atty. Asatu Bah-Kenneth said, the exercise is intended to encourage aliens to renew their permits and know their residence status.

She said the two events were

validation process was crafted by the Liberia Immigration Service in collaboration with criminal court "B" in 2015.

Recently, the LIS in collaboration with criminal court "B" was in Central and Western Liberia in rolling out similar activities in Bong, Nimba, Gbapolu, Bomi, Grand Cape Mount and Margibi counties, respectively.

The exercise is expected to be extended to southeast Liberia.

Starts from back page

### NDI conducts Roundtable

Chambers on Monday, 5 December said, external resources constitute US\$110M of the amount.

However, the NDI Resident Director says key things that should be considered in preparing a gender-sensitive budget include women's health programs, special education initiatives for the girl child, employment policy initiatives for women, provisions for daycare and after school facilities for children of working women as well as provisions for judicial platforms that protect women against violence more often perpetrated by men.

She says transparency is important during presentation of the Government budget and its entire process, because it fosters trust in citizens, in that their interests are respected to ensure that public money is used well.

"It also promotes inclusivity, responsiveness and at the same time supports better fiscal outcomes. It is essential to empower citizens to participate in public processes and to hold the government to account", Mrs. Bernard-Jones underscores further.

Several government ministries invited to the Roundtable to give their perspectives on sectorial areas of the budget did show up except the Ministry of Gender,

Children and Social Protection.

The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education were conspicuously absent.

Speaking on How can Civil society Organizations collaborate with the Legislature to make the Budget more responsive to the needs of citizens, the Co-chair of the House Committee on Ways, Means and Finance, Sinoe county district#2 Representative Matthews Zarzar says budgeting is not about Mathematics or Accounting, noting that the Budget is highly political.

"The Budget is called the President's Budget under our system", Rep. Zarzar notes.

He says the Legislature will work with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the budget hearing process, adding "CSOs are our partners, and we will work with them in the budgeting process."

The Director of the Legislative Budget Office, Moses T. Cooper, drills the participants step-by-step on how the budgetary process evolves, beginning with drafting of the National Budget by the Executive, scrutiny and approval by the Legislature, execution by spending agencies and ministries, and lastly monitoring and evaluation. **Story by Jonathan Browne**



# Français

## Donnée pour morte, Mme Sirleaf prend part une table ronde à Washington

Donnée pour morte sur les médias sociaux au Libéria, l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a participé à une table ronde privée avec la représentante permanente des États-Unis auprès des Nations Unies, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, à l'Institut

formation de la prochaine génération de dirigeantes via le centre présidentiel Ellen Johnson Sirleaf pour les femmes et le développement, selon une dépêche en provenance de Washington.

C'est une occasion unique et stratégique compte tenu de la publication de la stratégie

nécessite l'inclusion délibérée d'un large éventail de parties prenantes, y compris les femmes et les jeunes, tant pour prendre part au processus démocratique qu'accéder à des postes de responsabilité.

Ainsi, le tête-à-tête des deux femmes dirigeantes emblématiques à quelques jours du Sommet des dirigeants États-Unis-Afrique visait à explorer leurs parcours personnels, l'importance de l'autonomisation des femmes dans la politique, la fonction publique et le secteur privé sur le continent africain, et leur lien commun pour élever la prochaine génération.

La table ronde est animée par Aluel Atem et Angela Chin. Mme Atem est agente de programme au sein de l'équipe de conception du programme et de la formation de l'USIP. Elle gère également le projet d'engagement communautaire du programme de formation à la sécurité des frontières avec l'unité de police des frontières du Kenya et fournit un soutien technique au programme de formation à la sécurité des frontières (BSTP), y compris un soutien au processus de formation des formateurs (ToT) et dispense une formation, entre autres.

Quant à Angela Chin, elle est l'assistante principale de



américain pour la paix (USIP) à Washington, DC.

La table ronde privée de haut niveau avec Mme Sirleaf s'est concentrée sur sa mission inébranlable de promouvoir la participation des femmes à la vie politique et à la société civile, en particulier la contribution des femmes à la consolidation de la paix, y compris la

américaine pour l'Afrique subsaharienne et du fait que le Sommet des dirigeants États-Unis-Afrique aura lieu la semaine prochaine.

Plusieurs pays d'Afrique ont récemment connu un recul démocratique, avec les multitudes de coups d'État militaires, en particulier dans les régions de l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Sahel. Une gouvernance stable

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

## Le rassemblement du 17 décembre aura lieu contre vents et marées, selon l'opposition

Aucune menace ou intimidation de la part des voyous présumés parrainés par le pouvoir n'empêchera le rassemblement pacifique du 17 décembre, jurèrent les leaders de la Collaboration des Partis Politiques (CPP), une coalition de l'opposition.

La déclaration du bloc de l'opposition est intervenue le mardi 6 décembre 2022, quelques heures après qu'un groupe soupçonné d'être favorable au régime Weah s'est rassemblé devant une station de radio locale pour attaquer l'opposant Lewis Brown, directeur de campagne présidentielle d'Alexander B. Cummings. M. Brown est l'une des voix derrière le mouvement de contestation de la CPP prévu pour avoir lieu devant le complexe sportif Samuel Kanyon Doe à Paynesville le 17 décembre. Il a pour objectif de dénoncer les souffrances et la cherté de la vie qu'endurent les

populations et dues à l'échec et à l'ineptie présumés de l'administration du président George Manneh Weah.

« C'est une occasion pour les citoyens d'amplifier leurs exigences de bonne gouvernance et de la fin à la détérioration des conditions économiques dans le pays », a dit l'ancien représentant permanent du Libéria auprès des Nations Unies, qui fait l'objet d'un tas d'attaques et de critiques de la part des responsables du

pouvoir depuis qu'il a annoncé la marche pacifique.

La CPP accuse le maire de la ville de Monrovia, Jefferson Koijee, d'avoir parrainé un groupe de voyous qui a attaqué le directeur de campagne de M. Cummings dans la nuit du lundi 5 décembre. L'incident s'est produit alors que M. Brown quittait la station de radio qui

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Pres. Weah

ANC political leader Mr. Cummings

## Éditorial

### Le tout-puissant Comité présidentiel spécial

Depuis son confort à Doha, au Qatar, où il semble être en vacances, le président George Manneh Weah a constitué un comité présidentiel spécial le mardi 29 novembre pour travailler avec un comité ad hoc qui doit être établi par M. Lakshmi Mittal, président exécutif du géant mondial de l'acier, ArcelorMittal, pour résoudre toutes les questions en suspens relatives à un accord révisé sur le développement minier (MDA) entre le gouvernement du Libéria et la société minière de minerai de fer.

Les membres du comité de trois hommes sont le ministre des Affaires étrangères et doyen du cabinet libérien, Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, (qui en est le président), Emanuel L. Shaw II, Conseiller du Président et Me Archibald Bernard, conseiller juridique du président.

L'AML demande neuf années supplémentaires dans le cadre du MDA révisé (en plus de sa concession de 25 ans avec l'Etat) pour investir davantage dans le secteur minier.

Cependant, notre attention est vivement attirée sur ce qui semble clairement être un pouvoir absolu attribué au Comité par le Président pour exécuter un sujet aussi délicat qu'un accord de concession, dans lequel l'intérêt de l'État et de son peuple est en jeu, et dont la ratification par parlement a été suspendue.

Les habitants des zones opérationnelles d'ArcelorMittal Libéria, en particulier du comté de Nimba, se sont plaints du refus de l'entreprise à mettre en œuvre les obligations de développement social en vertu de l'accord, y compris les routes, les centre de santé, le logement et les écoles, entre autres.

Dans la lettre qu'il a adressée au président du comité, le président Weah a demandé au comité de rencontrer et de s'entretenir avec toutes les autorités compétentes de l'Etat du Libéria et d'ArcelorMittal, et toutes les autres parties prenantes, soit individuellement ou collectivement, à des moments jugés appropriés à la seule discrétion du comité, pour la finalisation et la mise en œuvre du MDA dans un délai raisonnable. Le comité devra soumettre son rapport contenant les conclusions, des recommandations et des conseils au bureau du président.

Les instructions que M. Weah a données au Comité, c'est-à-dire "rencontrer et s'entretenir avec toutes les autorités compétentes de l'Etat du Libéria et d'ArcelorMittal, et toute autre partie prenante, individuellement ou collectivement, chaque fois que cela est jugé approprié à la seule discrétion du Comité", relèguent le rôle puissant de tous les autres fonctionnaires de l'État et rendent tout puissant le Comité présidentiel spécial, qui devient arbitre et joueur en même temps.

Avec de tels pouvoirs attribués à des agents de l'Etat dans un pays dont les fonctionnaires sont connus pour solliciter et recevoir des pots-de-vin des investisseurs pour signer et approuver des accords de concession, il est extrêmement difficile de s'attendre à examen minutieux et à une procédure appropriée et digne de foi dans le MDA actuel avec ArcelorMittal Liberia.

Notre souvenir concernant l'accord initial signé entre le régime de l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf et l'AML en 2006 est encore frais comme si c'était hier.

Les législateurs du Capitol Hill ont reçu chacun une somme d'argent non spécifiée et un pick-up à deux cabines pour apposer leur signature lors de la ratification de l'accord qui fait l'objet de révision aujourd'hui.

Nous ne saurons peut-être pas de sitôt quelles enveloppes que l'on prépare pour les membres du soi-disant Comité présidentiel spécial dirigé par le ministre Dee-Maxwell Kemayah, qui n'a pas encore expliqué comment des passeports diplomatiques libériens sont tombés entre les mains des criminels qui font l'objet d'une enquête du FBI.

Quand l'exécutif s'attribue des pouvoirs aussi étendus pour un accord de concession, reléguant les opinions et les préoccupations du peuple qui subit directement les méfaits des investisseurs corrompus, il est nécessaire d'interpeller immédiatement le public, car c'est le rôle primordial des médias.



# Français

## Donnée pour morte, Mme Sirleaf prend

programme pour les programmes USIP Soudan et Soudan du Sud. Elle est originaire du comté de Prince George, dans le Maryland, et termine sa maîtrise ès sciences en service extérieur à l'Université de Georgetown, où elle se concentre sur la consolidation de la paix inclusive et l'évolution du rôle de la Chine en Afrique.

Mme Sirleaf était accompagnée au forum par deux dirigeants de son organisation phare, Amujae.

L'Institut américain pour la paix (USIP) s'efforce de prévenir, d'atténuer et de résoudre les conflits violents dans le monde. L'USIP le fait en s'engageant directement dans les zones de conflit et en fournissant des analyses, une éducation et des ressources à ceux qui travaillent pour la paix. Il a été Créé par le Congrès américain en 1984 en tant qu'organisation indépendante et non partisane. Les plus de 300 employés de l'USIP travaillent au siège de l'Institut à D.C. et sur le terrain dans les régions les plus

dangereuses du monde.

Pendant ce temps, le Centre présidentiel Ellen Johnson Sirleaf pour les femmes et le développement se dit choqué, consterné et troublé par les fausses rumeurs circulant sur les réseaux sociaux, qui font état du décès de l'ancienne présidente libérienne.

Le directeur de communication et de recherche du Centre, Christopher Ifeanyi-Nwanze, a écrit : « Les fausses rumeurs de cette nature sont très dangereuses et ne doivent pas trouver de terrain pour s'enraciner. Madame Sirleaf est bien vivante ».

Selon lui, Mme Sirleaf est actuellement aux États-Unis, où elle assiste à des événements internationaux et participera la semaine prochaine au Sommet des dirigeants États-Unis-Afrique avec le président Joe Biden.

L'actuel président libérien George Manneh Weah est déjà aux États-Unis à l'invitation du président américain pour le sommet.

## Le rassemblement du 17 décembre aura lieu

l'avait reçu à Capitol Bypass à Monrovia.

« Les attaques et les actes de gangstérisme commis par des jeunes qui ont agi au compte du pouvoir ne peuvent pas me perturber », a dit M. Brown au cours d'une conférence de presse.

« Le pouvoir utilise des jeunes pour menacer et intimider l'opposition et tous ceux qui osent dénoncer la mauvaise gouvernance, la corruption et le gaspillage des ressources publiques. Le rassemblement pacifique prévu pour le 17 décembre n'est pas une affaire de parti politique. Il implique la société civile, les groupes d'intérêts, les groupes religieux, ainsi que les Libériens ordinaires déçus et affectés par la mauvaise performance de l'administration Weah. Ce rassemblement est une plateforme créée par la CPP pour que les Libériens expriment leur frustration et leur mécontentement face à la détérioration des conditions économiques et à l'extrême pauvreté au Libéria », a-t-il dit.

« Si vous êtes satisfaits,

restez à la maison. Si vous aimez la cherté de la vie et la misère, restez à la maison. Si vous avez peur, restez à la maison. Mais si vous souffrez et ne pouvez plus en supporter, alors le rassemblement du 17 décembre est fait pour vous », a ajouté Brown.

Il a appelé tous les Libériens, quelle que soit leur affiliation politique, à participer au rassemblement, car il y a l'avenir de chacun.

Le comité d'organisation a tenté de rassurer les Libériens que le rassemblement du 17 décembre se déroulera dans le calme et que la police est tenue par la loi d'assurer une protection maximale des citoyens.

« Le comité d'organisation a satisfait à toutes les exigences de base. Une lettre officielle a été adressée au ministre de la Justice et des frais ont été versés au ministère de la Jeunesse et des Sports pour utiliser la devanture du complexe sportif SKD à Paynesville lors du rassemblement pacifique prévu », a déclaré le comité.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Jayati Ghosh

## Le piège du resserrement monétaire

NEW DELHI - Le philosophe hispano-américain George Santayana a lancé une mise en garde célèbre : "Ceux qui ne se souviennent pas du passé sont condamnés à le répéter". Pourtant, parfois, même ceux qui peuvent se souvenir du passé ont une mémoire sélective et tirent des conclusions erronées. Il en va ainsi de la réponse politique mondiale à la poussée actuelle d'inflation, les gouvernements et les banques centrales des pays développés insistant sur le fait que la seule façon de maîtriser la flambée des prix est de relever les taux d'intérêt et de resserrer la politique monétaire.

Le choc Volcker de 1979, lorsque la Réserve fédérale américaine, sous la présidence de Paul Volcker, a fortement relevé les taux d'intérêt en réponse à une inflation galopante, a servi de modèle au resserrement monétaire actuel. Les hausses de taux de Volcker étaient destinées à combattre la spirale prix - salaires en augmentant le chômage, réduisant ainsi le pouvoir de négociation des travailleurs et diminuant les anticipations inflationnistes. Mais les taux d'intérêt élevés ont déclenché la plus forte chute de l'activité économique américaine depuis la Grande Dépression, et la reprise a pris une demi-décennie. La politique de Volcker a également eu des répercussions dans le monde entier, car les capitaux ont afflué vers les États-Unis, entraînant des crises de la dette extérieure et des ralentissements économiques majeurs qui ont conduit à une "décennie perdue" en Amérique latine et dans d'autres pays en développement.

Cependant, le contexte de cette approche musclée était très différent des conditions actuelles, car les augmentations de salaires ne sont pas le principal moteur des pressions inflationnistes aujourd'hui. En fait, même aux États-Unis, les salaires réels ont diminué au cours de l'année écoulée. Pourtant, cela n'a pas empêché certains économistes de soutenir qu'un chômage plus élevé et la baisse plus importante des salaires réels qui en découle sont nécessaires pour contrôler l'inflation.

Même certains des plus ardents défenseurs de la politique monétaire restrictive et des hausses rapides des taux d'intérêt reconnaissent que cette stratégie déclenchera très probablement une récession et nuira considérablement à la vie et aux moyens de subsistance de millions de personnes dans leur propre pays et ailleurs. Il semble également y avoir peu de désaccord sur le fait que les hausses de taux n'ont pas ralenti l'inflation jusqu'à présent, probablement parce que la flambée des prix est due à d'autres facteurs.

On pourrait s'attendre à ce que les supposés "adultes dans la pièce" de la politique macroéconomique mondiale reconnaissent le problème et cherchent à élaborer des réponses plus appropriées. Pourtant, les décideurs nationaux des économies avancées, ainsi que les institutions multilatérales telles que le Fonds monétaire international et la Banque des règlements internationaux, généralement plus raisonnables, ne semblent pas s'intéresser à d'autres explications ou stratégies.

Cette inertie intellectuelle égare gravement les politiques. Les recherches montrent de plus en plus que la poussée inflationniste actuelle est due aux contraintes de l'offre, aux profits réalisés par les grandes entreprises dans des secteurs critiques comme l'énergie et l'alimentation, à l'augmentation des marges bénéficiaires dans d'autres secteurs, ainsi qu'aux prix des matières premières. Pour s'attaquer à ces facteurs, il faudrait mettre en place des politiques judicieuses telles que le rétablissement des chaînes d'approvisionnement rompues, le plafonnement des prix et des bénéfices dans des secteurs importants comme l'alimentation et les carburants, et la limitation de la spéculation sur les marchés des matières premières.

Bien que les gouvernements soient parfaitement conscients de ces options, ils ne les ont pas sérieusement envisagées. Au lieu de cela, les élus du monde entier ont laissé aux banques centrales le soin de contrôler l'inflation et les banques centrales, à leur tour, se sont appuyées sur les outils émoussés que sont les hausses de taux d'intérêt. Si cette situation inflige une douleur économique inutile à des millions de personnes dans les pays développés, les conséquences pour le reste du monde seront probablement encore pires.

Une partie du problème réside dans le fait que les politiques macroéconomiques des principales économies avancées du monde se concentrent uniquement sur ce qu'elles perçoivent comme leur intérêt national, sans tenir compte de l'impact sur les flux de capitaux et les structures commerciales des autres pays. La crise financière mondiale de 2008 a pris naissance dans l'économie américaine, mais son impact sur les économies en développement et émergentes a été bien pire, car les investisseurs se sont réfugiés dans la sécurité des actifs américains. De plus, lorsque les expansions massives de liquidités et les taux d'intérêt ultra-bas qui ont suivi dans les pays développés ont entraîné la propagation des flux de capitaux spéculatifs dans le monde entier, les pays à revenu faible et intermédiaire ont été exposés à des marchés volatils sur lesquels ils n'avaient que peu ou pas de contrôle.

De même, le resserrement monétaire rapide d'aujourd'hui a révélé à quel point cette intégration peut être mortelle. Pour de nombreuses économies en développement et émergentes, la mondialisation financière s'apparente à un château de cartes élaboré.

Un nouvel article important par l'économiste néerlandais Servaas Storm montre l'ampleur des dommages collatéraux que le resserrement monétaire pourrait causer dans les pays à revenu faible ou intermédiaire. Les hausses des taux d'intérêt aux États-Unis et en Europe entraîneront probablement davantage de crises de la dette et de défauts de paiement, d'importantes pertes de production, une hausse du chômage et une forte augmentation des inégalités et de la pauvreté, ce qui conduira à la stagnation et à l'instabilité économiques. Les conséquences à long terme pourraient être dévastatrices. Dans son dernier rapport annuel sur le commerce et le développement, la CNUCED estime que les hausses des taux d'intérêt américains pourraient réduire les revenus futurs des pays en développement (à l'exclusion de la Chine) d'au moins 360 milliards de dollars.

Bien entendu, les pays riches ne pourront rester à l'abri en cas de dommages aussi importants. Si les décideurs politiques aux États-Unis et en Europe ne tiennent pas compte de l'impact de leurs politiques sur les autres pays, les effets ne manqueront pas de se répercuter sur leurs propres économies. Néanmoins, pour les pays à revenu faible ou intermédiaire, les enjeux sont bien plus importants. Pour survivre, les économies en développement et émergentes doivent rechercher une plus grande autonomie budgétaire et une plus grande liberté en matière de politique monétaire, qui leur permettraient de gérer différemment les flux de capitaux et de remodeler la structure des échanges commerciaux.

Comme l'ont montré la crise climatique et la pandémie de COVID-19 qui perdure, la recherche d'une plus grande coopération multilatérale et d'une reprise économique équitable n'est pas seulement une question de bonté ou de moralité ; il en va de l'intérêt personnel éclairé des pays riches. Or, de manière tragique, presque personne dans ces pays - et surtout pas les responsables de la politique économique - ne semble le reconnaître.

Traduit de l'anglais par Timothée Demont

Jayati Ghosh, professeur d'économie à l'université du Massachusetts Amherst, est membre du Conseil consultatif de haut niveau du Secrétaire général des Nations unies pour un multilatéralisme efficace.

# Advertise with us!



## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# Political Neutrality: Keeping the Armed Forces of Liberia Out of Politics

By S. Karweaye

The old teaching and the military philosophy in Liberia have always been that the military should have nothing to do with law enforcement duties unless the situation reaches a stage where the civil power can no longer contain it. The National Defense Act of 2008 re-emphasized that military philosophy where Section 2.3(e) says "the duties of the AFL in peacetime shall include support to the national law enforcement agencies when such support is requested and approved by the President. Such support shall include the exchange of information, personnel training, and mobilization and deployment of security contingents. At no time during peacetime, however, shall the AFL engage in law enforcement within Liberia, such function being the prerogative of the Liberia National Police and other law enforcement agencies. Notwithstanding, the Military Police of the AFL may, on request of the Ministry of Justice made to the Ministry of National Defense, and approved by the President of Liberia, provide assistance to these law enforcement agencies as determined by prevailing situations. The AFL shall intervene only as a last resort when the threat exceeds the capability of the law enforcement agencies to respond."

During the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) Chief of Staff Maj/Gen Prince Charles Johnson's press conference on December 6, 2022, he also re-emphasizes Section 2.3 of the law by sending out as strong "a caveat for whosoever may feel or is disenchanted as we approach the 2023 elections to use the court system as was seen in the 2017 Presidential and 2020 midterm Senatorial elections. If you decide to take the law into your own hands (disregarding the rule of law), regardless of your current or past status or affiliation, and if the LNP can't control your actions and/or is overwhelmed, we will execute our constitutional duties. We will not allow anyone or a group of people to obstruct our hard-earned Peace and Democracy. We will support the LNP and relevant agencies to protect key installations where necessary." Maj/Gen. Johnson's warning comes amid a planned protest under the auspices of the opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) scheduled for December 17.

According to the National Defense Act of 2008 approved on August 21, 2008, the role of the military, mainly, is to ward off a foreign invasion, maintain territorial integrity on the land, sea, and in the air. If there is a breakdown of law and order by virtue of an insurrection, the military can come in with the approval of the President and Commander-in-Chief and the approval of the National Legislature. Article 86, Article 87, and Article 88 of the constitution of Liberia talked about EMERGENCY POWERS and the extraordinary role of the military, which must be done only when there is a state of emergency and the President and National Legislature have approved it.

Some Liberians now do not see any security arrangement as being effective unless it involves the military. That is unfortunately the thinking of most Liberians now. In fact, people tell you that the police cannot provide security. My worry is if anybody who is the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces has unfettered discretion over the use of troops, it means he can use them even for the purpose of election in the name of a declaration of a state of emergency. If this becomes the norm, we might as well say goodbye to democracy because no opponent of the President will win and no opponent of the President's choice will ever win because once you have the military, the most cohesive force of the nation, you have everything.

## Political Neutrality Of Soldiers

Soldiers must realize that they are recruited to serve the nation. They are paid by the nation and the uniform they wear belongs to the nation, therefore, at all times, those wearing the uniform must be prepared to protect the nation. Section 8.3 of the National Defense Act of 2008 says "as citizens all members of the AFL have a right to a secret vote, but in all other ways they should be politically neutral and shall not join, support or participate in the activities of any political party or similar organization." The laws say those in uniform cannot be involved in partisan politics. There must be a means by which such a law is enforced; there is also the need to train and retrain officers and men on the need to subject themselves to civil authority. The Ministry must craft a policy based on section 8.3 of the National Defense Act of 2008 if they haven't done so yet so as to encourage members of the armed forces to carry out the obligations of citizenship while keeping with the traditional concept that members of the AFL should not engage in partisan political activity. All members of the armed forces are prohibited from wearing military uniforms at political campaigns or election events.

Law enforcement and training, emphasizing rules and regulations are the only means by which you can insulate members of the armed forces from partisan politics. Anybody who fails to follow the rules should be shown the way out of the force. The constitution is there, and military rules and regulations are there. As a matter of fact, if a soldier or

an officer is interested in taking part in an election while still in uniform, he can apply for discharge and usually, the army would not stop him from leaving if his reason is that he wants to contest an election.

The military must be insulated from politics because they are a symbol of national unity and cohesion. But it is not only the military that should be insulated; the police in Liberia have also largely been accused of being partisan and playing politics in the discharge of their duties. The military, the police, and other security agencies' involvement in elections and other political activities must be defined and partisanship must be avoided. One way to insulate the military and the police from politics is to have effective leadership. If the leaders of the military are partisans, there is no way the men and officers will not be partisans. It flows from the top. So, the leadership of our security agencies must live by example and do what is right. If the military is partisan, it is going to definitely affect the conduct of the 2023 general elections which the world is interested in. We may also have lots of security challenges and when we have such loopholes, it is the military and other security agencies that will still bear the brunt.

So, we need isolated leadership first. Two, the AFL must not bow to political pressure. We know that the AFL takes orders from the authorities, but they must be seen to be non-partisan. This is because they are paid with taxpayers' money, and the taxpayers represent all the segments of the country; not one political party or group.

Therefore, we must be very careful about allowing the military or the police to become a political tool. For example, the Progressive Alliance of Liberia (PAL) called for a peaceful demonstration to protest the proposed price increase on April 14, 1979. The government called in the soldiers from the AFL to reinforce police units in the capital, which were overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of rioters. In 12 hours of violence in the city's streets, at least 40 civilians were killed, and more than 500 were injured. Hundreds more were arrested.

On April 12, 1980, President William Tolbert was shot three times in the head by a band of soldiers who broke into the executive mansion at 1 a.m. Samuel Doe, the leader of a People's Redemption Council denounced "rampant corruption" and the "continued failure of [Tolbert's] government to effectively handle the affairs of the Liberian people.

Although the National Defense law of 1956 at the time said military personnel should not be used to monitor the elections, however, during the 1985 presidential elections, the soldiers of the AFL were brought in to intimidate and threaten voters as well stuffing ballots in the ballot boxes on behalf of Dictator Samuel Doe to me, it was an eyesore. In September 1994, General John Hezekiah Bowen was accused of factionalizing the AFL for power at the Accra Conference.

Under the ECOWAS Peace Agreement, the AFL under General Bowen's leadership submitted a Two-Count Position Paper and a One-Backup Position Paper. Under the Two-Count Position Paper, ECOWAS leaders were advised that firstly, the AFL was a national army created by law to be restructured, not disbanded, at the end of every war. Secondly, service members of the AFL listed for discharge should be discharged with honors and respect in keeping with the laws and Army Regulations. Under the One-Backup Position Paper, it was proposed that if the AFL would be disarmed and disbanded like other warring factions, then AFL should be included in the power-sharing arrangements. At the end of the day, the ECOWAS leaders endorsed General Bowen's Two-Count Position Paper and offered him the Defense Minister post.

If we go into the 2023 general elections with the 1985 mindset of using soldiers to threaten, intimidate and cheat, I assure you that this country is going to go into election violence. This is because everyone is now conscious of their political rights and nobody wants to be taken for a ride. Thus, whether it is the ruling or the opposition political parties, everyone must learn to do the right thing and allow the military and other security agencies to do their work without interference.

What needs to happen is to have a strong polity and to have a strong polity doesn't come by magic. It has to be by a conscious consensus among the so-called political elite who will bring in political parties that are stable. We are talking of political parties, not as a platform for people to jump from one to another. Politics must also be played honestly, not a situation where you say to yourself I want to be President, Senator or Representative if I am NOT there won't be stability. The only way you can have strong political parties is to have politicians who play the game responsibly conscious of the need to have a national consensus. You can insulate the military when you ensure that the polity is harmonious.

CONTINUE NEXT EDITION





# Gongloe joins December 17 protest

By Lincoln G. Peters

The team supporting renowned Liberian lawyer Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe's 2023 presidential bid has announced its version of the opposition's planned December 17 protest, saying it will assemble at the Capitol.

The opposition Alternative National Congress/Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) of Mr.

held at the Legislature and the Executive Mansion.

LPP says the protest aims to call the attention of the world and the citizens to the alleged rampant corruption, and the delay and irregularity of civil servants' pay.

Additionally, the LPP says its protest is also against the alleged failure of the National Elections Commission (NEC) to sensitize Liberians on the

civic education for voters in the country. The National Housing and Population Census," he said further.

He said they will protest to demand the calendar of events for the October 2023 presidential and legislative elections, the Voter Registration Process: 'OMR or BVR.

Additionally, he said they will protest against President George Manneh Weah's 48-day presidential trip outside of Liberia.

Mr. Zayzay indicated that the purpose of the action is to alert the public that a constitutional crisis is looming unless the appropriate measures are put into place to avert the situation.

According to him, the mass action aims to draw the world's attention to the increasingly unbearable, harsh, and deteriorating living conditions of the downtrodden.

He claimed that these harsh conditions are indisputable because of the bad governance and corruption of the administration of President Weah.

Chairman Zayzay disclosed that the rally stems from the alleged corrupt actions of the current group of "kleptomaniacs" and "nincompoops" that have degenerated the motherland to the lowest ebb ever in peacetime.

Meanwhile, the LPP calls upon all political parties, civil society organizations, student groups, and youth groups to turn out in their numbers and join in a singular accord to speak out loudly and clearly to their leaders.

The party argued that this is in the exercise of their rights and responsibilities as enshrined in Article 15 of the Constitution of Liberia.

# 'Completely reckless, premature'

By Lincoln G. Peters

A stalwart of the opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) Mr. Fobbie Henries has damned Liberia's military chief Maj. Gen. Prince Charles Johnson, III, for his caveat that if the police get overwhelmed, the military will respond.

The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), Gen. Johnson warned this week against disturbing the peace.

His warning comes as the

of Liberia. "I listened to Maj. Gen. Prince C. Johnson, III, quoting Chapter 2.3(e) as his constitutional reliance for AFL stepping into civil matters," said Mr. Henries.

"Gen. Johnson, go and read again! You cannot deploy AFL on the streets for any reason, even if you feel so! It has to be upon the expressed request of the Justice Ministry [which] is approved by the President before you can put out MPs to help! Know your limits and act accordingly," Mr. Henries



Alexander B. Cummings has been planning a December 17 protest to voice anger at the alleged suffering that Liberians are facing.

In like manner, the Liberian People's Party (LPP) headed by Cllr. Gongloe on Wednesday, 7 December 2022 threatened a massive protest against the ruling Coalition for Democracy Change (CDC).

Gongloe's version of the December 17 protest has its caption as "Mass People's Action to Rescue the State," unlike the planned ANC-led protest with the caption, "We are tired suffering."

The LPP announced at Team Gongloe's head office in Congo Town that its protest will be

voting process, and the controversial National Housing and Population Census by the government.

Addressing a major press conference Wednesday, LPP Chairman Mr. J. Yanqui Zayzay said their protest seeks to call the attention of the local and international community to the alleged constitutional crisis and high corruption in the country.

"Key issues to be highlighted in our petition to the Legislature include delay and irregularity of civil servants' pay," said Chairman Zayzay.

"Failure of the NEC leadership to conduct sensitization awareness and



opposition plans a December 17 protest to denounce the alleged suffering that Liberians are enduring under the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) regime.

But many here like the ANC stalwart, have taken issues with the military chief for the statement, with some claiming that it's an attempt for the military to intimidate and allegedly interfere in civil matters.

Speaking in an exclusive telephone conversation with this paper Wednesday, 7 December 2022, Mr. Henries said Gen. Johnson's statement is a 'misspeak.'

Henries warned that the statement has the propensity to threaten the peace and stability

warned.

He emphasized that Chapter 3.1 of the Constitution further tells Gen. Johnson that he is under the president's supervision and decision to deploy military forces is on the orders of the president, not the military chief's personal feelings.

The two-time defeated representative candidate called on the Legislature to take due note of the 'reckless statement' by the AFL Chief of Staff, and that the president should also be concerned.

"At no time should the AFL get involved with internal security matters, unless requested by the Ministry of Justice through the Ministry of Defense with the expressed approval of the President of Liberia," Henries stated.

Starts from page 6

# Smith gives Spoon Network 72 hours

civilized norms require that you seek clarification from a party that is being accused of forming a balance in informing your thousands of listeners because social stigmatization has the propensity to cause irreparable injuries to the person causing reputational damages and emotional distress, mental anguish, pains, and sufferings," Cllr Johnson explained.

He said civilized norms demand that people publicly apologize to correct the errors that have caused irreparable injuries.

Cllr. Johnson said his letter is intended to enable Spoon to repent for their wrongful conduct.

"Under Liberian law, when you orally accuse a person of the commission of an indictable criminal offense, and that statement is untrue, it is considered slander perse.

"Cyber bullying and many internet acts that seek to defame, embarrass, and injure people's reputations are considered cybercrimes in Liberia and many parts of civilized communities

worldwide, including where you live [in the United States of America].

"Given the above, you are ordered to retract and correct your slanderous statement within 72 hours, and your failure to do so will compel us to exercise the legal options necessary to remedy these wrongful actions of yours," he concluded.

Spoon network has declined to comment on Smith's threats to seek legal redress for alleged defamation of character. -Press Release

**JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
**REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA ) IN THE CIVIL LAW COURT FOR SIXTEEN  
MONTERRADO COUNTY) COURT, MONTERRADO COUNTY SITTING  
OCTOBER TERM A.D. 2022

BEFORE HIS HONOUR:.....SCHEAPLOR R. DUNBAR.....ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE  
PRESIDING:

IN RE: THE PETITION OF EMMANUEL SUCCESS BANWON OF THE CITY OF MONROVIA, MONTERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, PETITIONER, PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME TO BE ISSUED FOR HIS TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND REGARDED AS EMMANUEL BANWON JR.,

**COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME 00006482**

WHEREAS, Petitioner herein named in the entitled cause of Action, EMMANUEL SUCCESS BANWON., having filed a petition with Affidavit attached thereto, requesting an Order from this Honorable Court to have his name formally and legally changed from EMMANUEL SUCCESS BANWON to "EMMANUEL BANWON JR.",

WHEREAS, AFTER THE Court having thoroughly examined Petitioner's and having been satisfied of the truthfulness of the allegations set forth:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED, ORDERED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS:

That Petitioner's Petition is hereby granted and the name of the aforesaid Petitioner is now formally and legally changed from EMMANUEL SUCCESS BANWON to "EMMANUEL BANWON JR".

THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS OF THE DATE OF ISSUANCE.

This order shall be registered in the office of the REGISTRAR OF DEEDS FOR MONTERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, and shall also be published twice in the recognized newspapers operating in the Republic of Liberia, within twenty days from today's date. AND IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED.

GIVEN UNDER MY HANDS AND SEAL OF COURT THIS 15 DAY OF OCTOBER A.D. 2022

SCHEAPLOR R. DUNBAR  
ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE PRESIDING  
FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT CIVIL LAW COURT  
MONTERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

COURT'S SEAL: REGISTERED ACCORDING TO LAW IN VOLUME: PAGE (5)

REGISTRAR, NATIONAL ARCHIVES CENTER, MONTERRADO COUNTY, RL  
\$5.00 REVENUE STAMPS AFFIXED ON THE ORIGINAL COPY.

# Advertise with us!



## NDI conducts Roundtable on budgetary transparency



women and men, girls and boys by ensuring equitable distribution of funds and contributing to equal opportunities for all.

Madam Bernard-Jones made the call in Monrovia on Wednesday, 7 December during introductory remarks at a Public Policy Roundtable on the theme, "Legislative Transparency During the Budget Process."

The Public Policy Roundtable was held under the auspices of the National Democratic Institute in partnership with the National Endowment for Democracy (NED).

The forum comes two days after the Executive branch of the Liberian government thru the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, submitted the Draft 2023 National Budget, totaling US\$777.94M, to the House of Representatives at the Capitol.

Deputy Minister of Finance for Budget and Development Planning, Mrs. Tanneh Geraldine Brunson, presenting the Draft National Budget to Speaker Bhofal

The Resident Director of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in Liberia, Mrs. Vandetta Bernard-Jones, emphasizes a need for a gender-sensitive budgeting process in the government to ensure that the collection and allocation of public resources are

inclusive, effective and contribute to advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment.

According to her, a gender-responsive budget must be inclusive in the national budget and must work for everyone, including

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

MTN MoMo

Perform any transaction on MTN Mobile Money and stand a chance to win.

Dial \*156#

### The new LRD \$5 & \$10 Coins



# The New Dawn PRESS

TRULY INDEPENDENT

WE DO GENERAL PRINTING SERVICES:

- \* Newspapers \* Magazines \* Flyers \* Posters
- \* Calendars \* Brochures \* Letterhead
- \* Receipts \* Invoices \* Souvenirs etc...

**DIGITAL & OFFSET Printing**

© 0886484201 | Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com | P.O. Box 1266 UN Drive & Center Street  
 © 0777007529 | Website: www.thenewdawnliberia.com | Opposite NIC, Monrovia, Liberia