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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA		
MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR		
DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2023	L\$155.3973/US\$1.00	L\$157.5403US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn

French Version Inside

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Weah out**

UP Standard Bearer Amb. Boakai

-Boakai reiterates vow

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Continental News

Cameroon Deploys Troops to Nigerian Border after Separatists, Herders Clash

MAROUA, CAMEROON — Cameroon's government deployed at least 100 troops Wednesday to Gayama, a village on the border with Nigeria, after clashes between Cameroonian separatists and Nigerian herders left at least

herders, who are ethnic Fulani from Taraba and Benue states, returned home and organized a counterattack.

Aliou said the herders came back in huge numbers, attacked separatist camps, and killed at least four fighters. Six civilians, including the traditional ruler of

fear the military. Speaking by telephone from the region's capital, Bamenda, he said villagers should help the troops by denouncing rebels hiding in their communities.

"The future is bright, provided we are united against the agents of chaos that are trying to hijack our youths," Tchoffo said. "The armed forces are bringing themselves close to the population. That is the reason why, compared to last year, things are becoming more and more normal in the Northwest region, even if we still have some hotspots."

Tchoffo said Cameroon's military would protect civilians in all border villages.

Separatists on social media, including WhatsApp and Facebook, acknowledged they have been battling Nigerian herders, who they say should respect their orders.

This is not the first time Cameroon's anglophone separatists have attacked Nigerians along the border.

Last June, villagers in western Akwaya town said armed men believed to be rebels carried out a series of attacks that killed at least 30 people, including five Nigerian merchants.

The separatists have been fighting since 2017 to carve out an English-speaking state from French-speaking majority Cameroon. VOA



Cameroonian troops stand in formation in Douala

12 people dead.

Cameroonian officials say the fighting broke out six days ago, after herders who crossed the border in search of food for their cattle refused to pay taxes the rebels demanded.

Abdoulahi Aliou, the highest-ranking government official in Menchum, the administrative unit in charge of Gayama, said the rebels killed two herders immediately upon their refusal to pay. The surviving

Munkép village and his son, were also killed in the clashes.

Authorities say at least 20 civilians were injured, scores of cattle were killed, and homes were torched.

The Roman Catholic Church in Menchum says many civilians fled Gayama and neighboring villages to avoid getting caught in clashes between separatists and the arriving troops.

The governor of Cameroon's Northwest region, Deben Tchoffo, said civilians should not

Malawi President Fires Prosecution for Abuse of Office

BLANTYRE, MALAWI — Malawi's president fired the director of public prosecution, Steven Kayuni, for allegedly abusing his office to avenge what he saw as a personal slight.

Malawian President Lazarus Chakwera announced the dismissal during a televised national address Wednesday. Chakwera was reacting to the findings of a commission of inquiry he established last month to investigate the circumstances that led to the arrest of the country's anti-corruption chief, Martha Chizuma.

The commission found that Chizuma was arrested a few days after Kanyuni complained to police that he felt criminally injured by statements Chizuma made in January 2022. In audio that was later leaked to social media, Chizuma said that high-ranking officials, including lawyers, a judge and government

authorities, were hindering her fight against corruption.

Chizuma was arrested on December 6, but detained for only a few hours, following calls from other officials, ordinary Malawians, and the British and U.S. embassies for her release.

The report from the commission of inquiry said Kayuni was wrong to file a personal complaint on matters pertaining to his office as

director of public prosecutions.

The commission asked Chakwera to take appropriate action against Kayuni.

"As such, to prevent him from using a public office to settle a personal injury, I have removed Dr. Kayuni from office with immediate effect, and I thank him for his many years of service," Chakwera said. VOA



Malawi President Lazarus Chakwera speaks in Lilongwe, Malawi

South African Farmers Cull 10 Million Chicks, Due to Power Cuts

CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA — South Africa's poultry farmers say they've had to cull almost 10 million chicks because of the country's power crisis. The record blackouts have slowed down production, creating a backlog in processing and no room for the chicks. Farmers' groups warn if the power cuts are not resolved soon, South Africa's longer-term food security could be affected.

South Africa's struggling state-owned power company, Eskom, this week shortened power cuts that, since December, had forced homes and businesses to go without electricity for up to 10 hours per day.

However, Eskom says the rolling blackouts will continue for at least another year to

the power shortage soon, the price of chicken will increase even more than last year, when Russia's war on Ukraine caused feed prices to jump.

"We've seen material increase of chicken prices of about 17% in the period 2021 to 2022," he said.

The drop in production could lead to a chicken shortage in South Africa and job losses in a country with a 33% unemployment rate.

Ensuring food quality and safety Theo Boshoff, CEO of South Africa's Agricultural Business Chamber, said the entire food production chain is affected by the power cuts.

"It's right up and down the value chain," he said. "If you think about primary agriculture; irrigation especially during this time it's peak summer. The cold chain is absolutely critical so that's where the biggest risk lies of course to



Chickens are seen at a poultry farm at Hartbeesfontein, South Africa

prevent a total collapse of the grid.

The record power cuts are crippling South Africa's economy and harming production, including foods.

Izaak Breytenbach, general manager of the South African Poultry Association, said the power crisis means they can't run slaughterhouses, or abattoirs, on the usual 24-hour schedule.

"When we take chickens into an abattoir there's a water bath with electric stunner and that is the main approved method of killing the chickens," he said. "And then in that whole process where we do the cut-up of the chicken, the temperature is controlled in the abattoir."

Breytenbach says the lack of power to run the machines dropped production by a quarter, creating a backlog and overcrowding on poultry farms.

The association says farmers were forced to cull 10 million chicks in just weeks.

Breytenbach warned if government doesn't resolve

ensure food quality and safety."

Boshoff said the chamber is doing a survey to determine the cost to South African agriculture.

He said farmers met on January 13 with Agriculture Minister Thoko Didiza to discuss the problem and request an exemption from power cuts.

"It's a tough ask in the current climate," he said. "We don't have enough generation online currently so if you have an exemption for one sector that means you'll need to cut from another sector."

He said the ministry agreed to appoint a task force on the issue and is expected to report back next week.

South Africa's aging power plants were forced to introduce power cuts since 2008 amid corruption scandals involving the state-owned power company, Eskom.

The shortage worsened in the past two years with Eskom having to cut power more than 200 days in 2022, the most ever in a calendar year.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa this week cancelled his trip to the World Economic Forum in Davos to hold urgent meetings on the blackouts. VOA

EDITORIAL

Time for deep reflection

NEARLY SIX YEARS ago in 2018 Liberians went to runoff Presidential election and voted current President George Manneh Weah and his Coalition for Democratic Change with the campaign slogan, “Change for Hope”, relegating the former Unity Party headed by former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai. Clearly, that was the majority will of voters dominated by youth, who saw themselves in Mr. Weah.

SIX YEARS LATER, the youth are walloping in drug addition and other deviant activities with ghettos springing up in every community across the country, while Liberia goes down in history for the importation or smuggle of cocaine valued US\$100 million. Today, youth consumed by dangerous substances have been branded as “At Risk Youth”.

EVEN MORE REGRETTABLE and disappointing is that state security institutions like the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency, including immigration border guards are directly facilitating and escorting people smuggling contrabands across our borders, while the government pays lip-service to the issue drugs.

SIX YEARS AGO, Liberians were promised that they would no longer be spectators in their own economy. Today, the reality is totally different. Liberians are nowhere near activities of the economy least to talk of watching its interplay. Instead, foreigners dictate what happens in the economy, and they are in full control. Not even the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has a say in what goes on in the economy with Liberin entrepreneurs at a disadvantage.

SIX YEARS AFTER, salary of public workers has been drastically reduced, particularly within the Civil Service with civil servants, the least paid, practically left with nothing to take home to their families amid increase in prices of food and other basic commodities, including petroleum.

SIX YEARS AFTER, many parents can hardly afford to send their children to school and maintain them there due to increase in tuition and fees. The government brags about tuition-freed public universities but standards and quality have fallen significantly with instructors and lecturers striking for pay and students protesting against poor learning environment.

LEST WE BE misconstrued or perceived as doomsayers. The government has been endeavoring in the last six years to build some roads and housing units in several counties, including hospitals and market buildings, but state of the economy and poor governance marred by widespread corruption in the public sector that has drawn attention of bilateral partners leading the United States Government, leading it to sanction some officials, are drawbacks against whatever gains made.

IT IS TIME that Liberians take sober reflection and think whether six years under the Weah administration brought improvement in their living condition or they find themselves retrogressing, falling behind the poverty line.

IT’S TIME TO reflect and project what another six years under President Weah would deliver that will change the tide in any significant way in terms of better education and healthcare, vibrant economy and a better image for the country, as our diplomatic passports are being placed in the hands of criminals, who are now making concessions, expressing willingness to call names in government that are part of such syndicate.

EQUALLY SO, LIBERIANS need to look attentively and evaluate those presenting themselves as alternatives for leadership in order to make a better choice in October or else, this country may risk falling from the frying pan into the fire that could spell more hardship with unimaginable consequences. It’s time to rise and put on the thinking cap to avoid being consumed again by the political speeches and campaign promises, because after polling day on October 10, and a winner is declared by the National Elections Commission, the euphoria will evaporate and we are left to face the consequences of our decision.

COMMENTARY

By Richard Haass

What in the World Will Happen in 2023?

NEW YORK - The American baseball player Lawrence “Yogi” Berra is widely quoted as observing, “It’s tough to make predictions, especially about the future.” Whether or not he actually said it, the point is valid. Nevertheless, here are ten predictions for the world for the year just getting underway.

First, the war in Ukraine, the dominant issue of 2022, will continue, albeit at a less intense level. Neither Russia nor Ukraine will be able to achieve a complete military victory, if victory is defined as routing the other side and dictating the terms of a post-war territorial or political settlement.

Nor will the diplomats achieve victory, if victory is defined as reaching an arrangement both governments are willing to sign and abide by. Peace requires leaders who are willing and able to compromise, two elements that are conspicuously absent (if for very different reasons) on both sides.

Second, while many policymakers are focused on the potential for a war over Taiwan, this seems highly unlikely in 2023. Chinese leader Xi Jinping has his hands full contending with a surge of COVID-19 cases that is overwhelming his country’s health-care system, raising questions about the competence of the ruling Communist Party, and further weakening what was a slowing economy. China has by no means abandoned its goal of taking control of Taiwan, by force if necessary; but while it will continue to raise the pressure on Taiwan, it has most likely put off highly aggressive action for at least a few years.

Third, the sleeper story of the year will be Japan’s emergence as a major geopolitical actor. Economic growth in the world’s third-largest economy has been revised upward to 1.5%, and defense spending is now on track to double, reaching 2% of GDP. Japan, with one of the most capable militaries in the region, will also more closely align itself with the US to deter or, if necessary, defend against Chinese aggression against Taiwan. Even more than is the case with Germany, 2023 will be the year Japan enters the post-post-World War II era.

Fourth, North Korea will almost certainly carry out what will be its seventh nuclear test, in addition to frequent missile tests. Neither South Korea nor the US will be able to prevent such actions, while China, the only country in a position to do so, will hold off using its considerable leverage lest it weaken its neighbor and set in motion dynamics that could cause instability on its periphery.

Fifth, transatlantic relations, stronger for now because of a shared willingness to stand up to Russia’s invasion and help Ukraine, will suffer from increased friction, owing to Europeans’ unhappiness with US economic protectionism and Americans’ unhappiness with the continent’s continued economic dependence on China. Ties could also suffer from emerging differences over the extent of military, economic, and diplomatic support for Ukraine and levels of defense spending.

Sixth, the global economy is likely to expand more slowly than most observers currently forecast. The International Monetary Fund is predicting 2.7% overall growth, but the reality could well be lower, owing to the knock-on effects of China’s mismanagement of COVID-19 and the trajectory of the US Federal Reserve, which seems determined to continue to raise interest rates in an effort to bring down inflation. Political instability in parts of Africa and Latin America, extreme weather events, and supply-chain disruptions will also prove to be a drag on global economic performance.

Seventh, the annual United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28, set to meet in Dubai) will continue to disappoint. With near-term economic concerns trumping medium- and long-term climate considerations, the effects of global warming are likely to get worse before they get ... even worse.

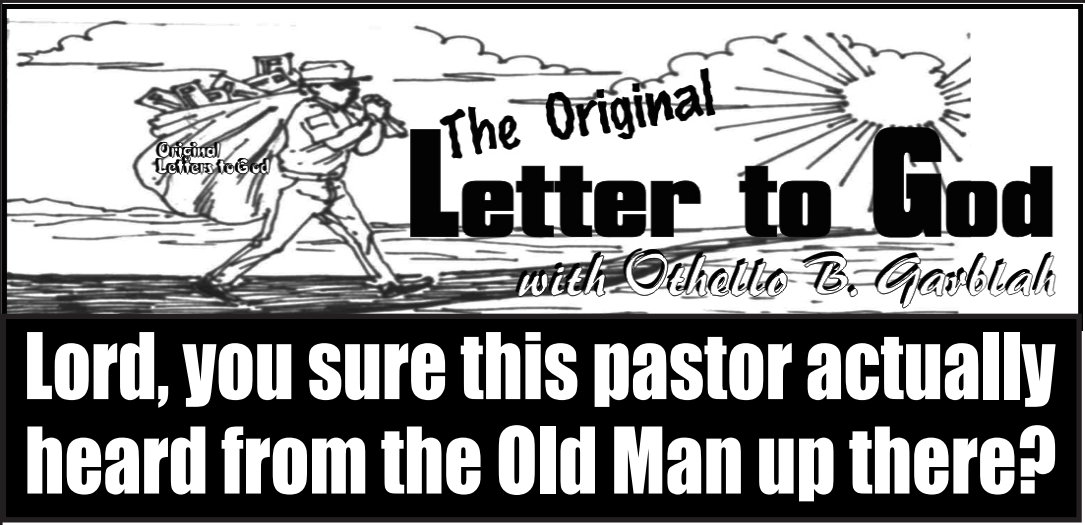
Eighth, Israel-Palestinian relations will become more violent as Israeli settlement activity expands and diplomacy shows no prospect of bringing about a Palestinian state on terms both Israelis and Palestinians could accept. Instead, a future that could be described as a “one-state non-solution” will come closer to becoming reality.

Ninth, India will continue to frustrate those who predict great things for it. India will continue to buy arms and oil from Russia and cling to a posture of non-alignment even as it seeks greater help from the West against China. And at home, the danger is that India will continue to become progressively more illiberal and less secular.

Lastly, Iran will likely be the dominant issue of 2023. The protests against the regime will gain traction against the backdrop of worsening economic deterioration and emerging divisions within the leadership over whether to compromise with the protesters or arrest and kill them. The 2015 nuclear deal will not be revived, given Iran’s military assistance to Russia and the US desire to avoid throwing an economic lifeline to the embattled regime.

Iran’s leaders may opt to continue to advance their nuclear-weapons program in the hopes of either achieving a breakthrough or triggering an Israeli strike, a development that would allow them to call for national unity in the face of external attack. Another possibility is that the cohesion of the security forces will give way to something resembling a civil conflict. For the first time since the fall of the Shah in 1979, the future of the Islamic Republic will be in serious doubt.

All this may not make for a happy new year, but it will ensure an interesting one.



Dear Father:

You know, the other day the upper end of our Traditional Council was thrown into laughter -though funny, but it was also serious. The man of God said he had a dream, and the Old Man up there told him that one former deputy village paramount chief will never chop paramount chief in our village because that former deputy paramount chief is too mean to himself.

As this so-called man of God made his dream so real that by the time, he got thru explaining it, the Paramount Chief from the Upper end of our Traditional Council his gave instruction that they should buy him one Jeep straight.

Tell me something my son!

Yes, ooh Father. See how they can embarrass themselves and they say God say. If he had nothing to say, he just suppose to do the people opening prayer and sit down. But you know na-this year that voting year, he mon say something to get him owner bosses ears.

It look leh your people na fear God ehn, he sure that God he heard or himself?

But Father ehn that some of the thing there. The people nag eh same, they just say all kina thing just to geh favor.

Anyway, the good old Book says in the last day people will have itching ears. So maybe the pastor was just saying that to justify his pay-and surely, he was rewarded with a brand-new jeep.

Poor Papay, he just there and they na trun him to some kina goworment bone. One minute they say he sick. The other minute him people making him to do all kina thing just so they can prove that he well-we inside.

Hmm anyway leh talk different thing ya my son. So, your people say what happen to this gun bisnay na, becus we na hearing anything about it again?

Um, Father, that thing we were talking about just na. But they say three more containers coming.

Ehn?

Yes, oo Father. They say Uncle Sam fini telling our people maybe they will be here next month.

I say whatin your people them want do?

Fahter, da the one me, myself I can't understand right na. I don't know what the people really one. Already, you na fight war that put your village backward for 1000 years, still you na satisfy. You mon fight to take power.

The thing sef na full everybody mouth. This one voting thing we coming do na that the one people just bringing in guns. And the guns they catch that the one we know about ooh. Imagine the one them we na know where they are keeping them yet.

Father, that only the Big Man up there can help our village right na ooh, becus this other news here about some more guns coming to our village it scaring ooh.

Instead the Pastor talking against this kina gun bisnay, he there telling the people how God say one former deputy Paramount chief will na chop chief.

He na put God in our village politics.

You mind him, let him go one side mehn.

OP-ED

By Landry Signé

A Year of Opportunity for Africa

WASHINGTON, DC - The past year has been challenging for Africa. After a hopeful 2021, during which the continent-wide GDP increased by nearly 7% and every region experienced real growth, the economy slowed in 2022 amid rising inflation, monetary tightening, and geopolitical tensions. But it was also a year when African countries were finally able to make their voices heard on the global stage. At the start of another critical year, with the continent’s GDP projected to increase at a relatively modest pace of 4.1%, governments can take several steps to boost economic activity and ensure a sustainable future.

For starters, policymakers must foster trade and investment through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Under a fully implemented AfCFTA, Africa’s combined consumer and business spending is expected to reach \$6.7 trillion by 2030 and \$16.12 trillion by 2050, transforming value chains and potentially reducing poverty across the continent.

Eight countries - Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Tunisia - began trading under AfCFTA’s Guided Trade Initiative last year. To build on this momentum in 2023, policymakers must accelerate the implementation of the agreement’s next phases, improve intra-African coordination, and call attention to early successes. Moreover, eliminating non-tariff barriers by introducing reporting and monitoring mechanisms would reduce business costs and encourage countries to increase imports.

Policymakers should also rely more on Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) technologies like artificial intelligence and cloud computing to create new value chains and strengthen economic resilience. To realize the transformative potential of these tools, political leaders must honor the infrastructure commitments they made at the African Union’s 2022 summit on industrialization and economic diversification. Policymakers should also consider investing in strategically important industries, such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture and agro-processing, the automotive sector, and logistics. Sub-Saharan governments must also invest in education, particularly in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) and digital skills, and seek partnerships with private-sector actors to expand access to information and communication services and mobile phones.

At the same time, because Africa’s economic future hinges importantly on its ability to redefine its global status, governments must build on recent diplomatic breakthroughs. In the past few years, African governments have assumed a more prominent international role, presenting a united front in multilateral climate negotiations. US President Joe Biden has called for the AU to become a permanent member of the G20, which would help solidify the AU’s position as the world’s top agriculture negotiating group. Agreeing on a shared agenda would enable African leaders to secure funding for sustainability-related projects and hold the United States, China, and the European Union to their promises.

Given the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, rising inflation, and climate change on income and wealth disparities across Africa, concerted action is becoming all the more important. Without it, the United Nations estimates that at least 492 million Africans will be pushed into extreme poverty by 2030, and at least 350 million will remain extremely poor in 2050. Moreover, despite recent progress toward gender equality in educational opportunities and political representation, African women are still more likely to live below the international poverty line, experience severe food insecurity, and leave the labor force to perform care work.

To achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals, African countries must focus on providing quality education, health care, and job-creation programs that leave no one behind, particularly women and young people. African development agencies like the AU’s Development Agency must be given the resources and authority they need to fulfill their mission.


Such capacity building will, however, require African governments to address institutional decay. As Freedom House’s annual Freedom in the World report shows, 2022 was the 16th consecutive year of global democratic decline, and Africa is no exception. If allowed to persist, political instability, corruption, and lack of accountability can undermine even perfect policies. By working with partners and using evidence-based methodologies to monitor projects, assist in implementation, and guide decision-making, African countries could bridge the gap between policy goals and outcomes.

Lastly, ensuring a fair and sustainable green transition remains the most pressing issue facing Africa, the most climate-vulnerable continent. While African countries would need \$2.8 trillion by 2030 to meet the emissions targets set by the 2015 Paris agreement, Africa’s annual inflows of climate finance currently amount to only \$30 billion. But governments can and must build on the momentum generated by the UN Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Egypt, which resulted in a groundbreaking decision to create a “loss and damage” fund to help developing countries mitigate the worst effects of climate change. Policymakers could mobilize such resources to invest in adaptation efforts and renewable energy.

African leaders must use this moment to accelerate the continent’s shift to a carbon-neutral economy. In what is sure to be a pivotal year for climate-change action, Africa can and must make significant progress toward a more equitable, sustainable, and resilient future.

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JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA



OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Invitation for Bids for Cleaning Materials & Services

DATE: December 20, 2022
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/SBA/ 002/2023

1. The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2023 fiscal budget for the procurement of services appertaining to **Cleaning Materials & Services**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers in the provision of Cleaning Materials & Services. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this service which appeared in two dailies.

2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the provision of the services described below. The items will be contained in one lot. Bid submission begins on **December 20, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM daily. The final date of submission is January 23, 2023 @ 12:00 Noon.**

Package: **Cleaning Materials & Services.**

LOTS #:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
Lot-1a	Cleaning Materials & Services.	Assorted	US \$897.74

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC Act) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC guidelines.

4. A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Cleaning Materials & Services may be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice; fifth floor Room # 505 as follows:

(a) Through Inquiry from the Director of Procurement;

(b) Upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US\$50.00** for a set of bidding documents for the aforementioned lot consisting of cleaning materials & services.

Bidders are required to submit a bid security in the form of Bank Guarantee during the bid submission.

5. Qualification requirements include the following:

(a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry);

(b) Current Tax Clearance Certificate (Ministry of Finance);

(c) Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);

(d) Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;

(e) Availability of products at all times.

(f) Demonstrated ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.

(g) **Restricted to Liberian Businesses Only.**

(h) **PPCC Vendor registry**

(i) **Business Activity Code**

(j) **Bidders should submit a signed and notarized listing of both the legal and beneficial owners of their businesses**

6. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501or 505, from Monday – Friday during the hours of 9:00 A.M. thru 3:00 P. M. daily.

7. All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates and placed in one envelope including other requested information.
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/SBA/002/2023 - CONFIDENTIAL BID for the provision of cleaning materials & services to the Judiciary for Fiscal Year 2023; and shall be addressed to:


DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

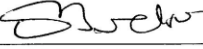
8. All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest January 23 2023 @ 12:00 NOON. Moreover, no electronic bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.

9. A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **January 19 2023 @ 12:30 P.M.** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501 to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswered.


10. Sealed bids for cleaning materials & services will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **January 23, 2023 @ 12:00pm**. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.

11. **Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: 
Director of Procurement

Approved: 
Court Administrator

JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREM COURT OF LIBERIA



OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Invitation for Bids for Air Ticket

DATE: December 20, 2022
IFB NO. JUD/SBA/NCB/003/2023

1. The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2023 fiscal budget for the procurement of services appertaining to **Air Ticket**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable agencies dealing in the provision of services relating to Air Ticket. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this service as slated in this document.

2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified Liberian bidders for the provision of the services described below. The items will be contained in one (1) lot. **Bid submission begins on December 20, 2022 from 10:00AM to 3:00PM daily. The final date of submission is January 24, 2023 @ 1:00 pm.**

Package: **Air Ticket.**

LOTS #:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
Lot-1	Air Ticket	Assorted	US \$900.00

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC Act) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC guidelines.

4. A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Air Ticket may be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice; fifth floor Room # 505 as follows:

(a) Through Inquiry from the Director of Procurement;

(b) Upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US\$50.00** for a set of bid documents for the aforementioned lot consisting of Air Ticket.

Bidders are required to submit a bid security in the form of **Bank Guarantee** along with the Bid Documents.

5. Qualification requirements include the following:

(a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry);

(b) Current Tax Clearance Certificate (Ministry of Finance);

(c) Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);

(d) Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;

(e) Availability of Space and Accommodation at all time.

(f) Demonstrated ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.

(g) **Restricted to Liberian Businesses Only.**

(h) **PPCC Vendor registry certificate.**

(i) **Business Activity Code**

(j) Due diligent exercise will be done after the opening of bid documents.

(k) **Bidders should submit a signed and notarized listing of both the legal and beneficial owners of their businesses**

6. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501/505, from Monday – Friday during the hours of 9:00 A.M. thru 3:00 P.M.

7. All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicate copies and placed in one envelope and sealed.
IFB NO. JUD/SBA/NCB/003/2023 - CONFIDENTIAL BID for the provision of Air Ticket; to the Judiciary for Fiscal Year 2023; and shall be addressed to:


DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

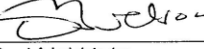
8. All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest **January 24, 2023 @ 1:00 P.M.** Moreover, no electronic bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.

9. A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **January 20,2023 @ 1:00 P. M.** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswered.

10. Sealed bids for **Air Ticket** will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **January 24,2023 @ 1:00 P. M.** All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.

11. **Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: 
Director of Procurement

Approved: 
Court Administrator

Liberia health sector to receive big boost

-as MOH and partners to host first International CHW symposium

By Lincoln G. Peters

T

he Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Health in partnership with Golden Touch Corporation (GTC) is for the first time expected to host the 3rd International Community Health Workers (CHW) symposium in the country to be followed by official launch of a new ten-year National Community Health Policy (2023-2032).

Liberia bided in 2019 to host the 3rd International Community Health Workers Symposium and was awarded the bid by Health System Global (HSG), Community Health Workers TWG, on June 29, 2020.

that has been made.

The symposium is held every two years and is intended to provide an opportunity for advocacy for the host country and other nations for investment in Community Health Program and the health system in general.

The theme of the third CHW Symposium is “Advancing Community Health Worker Programs to Build Resilient and Equitable Health Systems that Accelerate Primary Health Care for Universal Health Coverage”.

The conference is expected to bring together 40 countries from every region of the world with 600 delegates, including high-level government officials UN Agencies, the Africa Center for Disease Control, development partners,

The previous two CHW Symposia were held in Uganda in 2017, and Bangladesh in 2019, and the Institutionalizing Community Health Conferences (IHC 2017, and 2021).

The vision of this new policy is to expand access and delivery of high-quality services to all communities through a government management community health workforce that would contribute to reduction of morbidity and mortality through provision of a high-quality, cost-effective standardized essential package of community health services and to mitigate potential public health risks in communities.

The 3rd CHW Symposium is poised to kickoff March 20 - 24, 2023 at the renamed Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Inter-Ministerial Complex, in Congo Town.

In 2016, Liberia lunched the National Community Health Program with the aim of transforming the country’s healthcare delivery system and increasing access to quality and affordable care at the doorsteps of rural communities.

Liberia’s National Community Health Program has gradually advanced and made significant progress since the 2014 - 2015 Ebola Epidemic, which saw a complete breakdown in the healthcare delivery system, prompting the government to place the rebuilding of the health system at the top of its development agenda as is evidenced in the progress

Community Health Champions, Community Health Workers, Researchers, and foreign missions accredited to Liberia.

Participation in the symposium will be through a hybrid method and by invitation, while a considerable number of others will be by abstract applications.

At the same time, there will be a two-day pre-conference activities centered on country engagement; creating the space for experience sharing and collaborations amongst Community Health Roadmap Countries, the Global Fund NFM4 application engagement, and any partner who may want to have pre-conference meetings or workshops.

The approach to the main event will be guided by a global agenda that focuses on global best practices exchange, community health financing, CHW program institutionalization, and emerging evidence and innovations.

There will be an opening ceremony and plenary session followed by a series of corresponding sessions of presentations, panel discussions, and plenaries as well as marketplaces for posters presentations, institutions engagement, sponsorship, and sales by accredited local vendors.

Moreover, the event will climax with a closing ceremony followed by an awards night for honoring key stakeholders and Community Health Workers from Liberia and other countries.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Maryland county to benefit US\$6m storage facility

By Patrick N. Mensah
Maryland

The people of Southeast Liberia, especially Maryland County are to benefit a modern petroleum storage



terminal, at an estimated cost of US\$6 million. Construction work on the storage terminal, which is ongoing in Harper City, Maryland County Electoral District#1, is expected to be completed shortly and ready for dedication on January 30th. Addressing a news

conference on Monday, January 16, in Harper, Chief Executive Officer of Power Oil Liberia/Express Oil, Leon Daniel Nyentue, expressed excitement about level of work ongoing at the project

CEO Nyentue explained that construction of the multipurpose office complex and petroleum storage facility is aimed at promoting the economy of the county especially, the Port of Harper and the Southeast at large. The investment will help in addressing age-old problems associated with supply of petroleum products to major southeastern counties, including Maryland, River Gee, Grand Kru, and Grand Gedeh, respectively. He further disclosed that the new facility contains three major tanks that will store about 940,000 gallons of fuel and gasoline respectively.

"Let me make this clear, the tanks when completed, will have three major facilities right, and within it we will put both fuel and gasoline, meaning one will host two hundred-sixty thousand gallons and the other will take two hundred-eighty thousand gallons of fuel while the other will take four hundred thousand gallons of gasoline respectively", he detailed. He commended the Weah administration especially, authorities at the Harper Port, for reposing trust in his company to construct such a facility in the southeast.

NaFAA ends awareness on use of Lifejackets

By: Naneka Hoffman

The National Fisheries and Agriculture Authority (NaFAA) has ended a two-day awareness on use of life-jackets for



fishermen in Marshall, Margibi and Montserrado counties. The benefiting communities include Co-Management Association and Liberia Artisanal Fishermen Association, including Marshall fish community, ELWA fish

community, Kins Gray fish community, West Point, Popo beach, Banjor beach, Kpekor and Bernard beaches, respectively. Official launch of the jackets takes place today, Friday, January 20, at the D. Tweh Football Field in New Kru Town,

worrisome. Meanwhile, she disclosed four forty (40-feet) containers of SOLAS recommended Life-jackets are to be distributed to fishermen with "One life-jacket to one fisherman."

Also speaking, the Liberia Artisanal Fishermen Association (LAFA) head Mr. Jerry N. Blamo, said the jackets are very much important to fishermen in Liberia, adding that over the years they have been wishing to see a reduction in the number deaths at sea.

UP catalogues Weah's failures

By Lincoln G. Peters

The opposition Unity Party through its National Youth Congress has catalogued 27 alleged failed promises of the Weah administration since its inception in 2018. Speaking Wednesday, January 18, at the Center for the Exchange of Intellectual Opinion (CEIO) in Monrovia, the Chairperson of the National Youth Congress, Melvin Togar Cephas, said the UP deems it necessary to remind President George Weah and his officials about their blatant failures,

to remind you about the status of some failed promises you made to the Liberian People since 2018: 22 UAE Investors, 4 Israeli companies, 7 soccer stadiums across the country, 2,000 Housing Units in West Point, empower 250,000 Out-of-School Youths, Free Loan for Market Women, US\$50 Million Medical Laboratory, and Free Medical Care for citizens above 70 years", Mr. Cephas alleged. Mr. Cephas points to cut in civil servants' salaries instead of increment, the Lift ONE MILLION LIBERIANS out of poverty thru creation of ONE MILLION JOBS, Coastal Highway and Bali Island as



intentional dishonesties, and abortive promises to the Liberian people. The Congress urged Liberians to go to the ballot in October to vote President Weah and his band of thieves and failing machines out of power. "Mr. President, as you will be giving your final state of the Republic address to the Legislature, as mandated by Article 58 of the 1986 constitution of Liberia, we are here to remind you of the many promises made in the course of your one-term presidency", he said, while addressing a forum at CEIO. He recalled that in 2018, while delivering his inaugural speech President Weah promised Liberians that they will not be spectators in their own economy. But, he noted that today, Liberians are not only spectators in their own economy but professional Liberians have been reduced to baggers in their own economy because of the harsh economic conditions they face under the CDC-led government. "Mr. President, we also wish

some failed promises of the President. He further named Mineral Resource Swap Deal, Clar Weah Hair Factory, SIX THOUSAND Nigerian Teacher, US\$420.8M EBOMAF Loan, US\$536.4M ETON Loan, 100 Housing Units in Nimba County, Lone Star Airway as failed promises. "100 Housing Units in Bong County, the failed US\$25 Million MOP-UP exercise, Special Prosecutor for RAPE, National Sex Offender Registry are all failed promises. We will continue to highlight more of the failed/abandoned promises." Cephas narrated that in 2018 when President Weah took on the mantle of authority, he promised to continue the fight against corruption but notes that today, the country under the Weah administration is witnessing stealing of public funds at monumental proportion. "For example, we have witnessed the alleged stealing of over US\$ 24.8 Million from the National Road Fund, the National Census Fund by Francis Wreh, Lawrence George, and Wilmot F. Smith Jr. as indicted by the LACC's June 2022 report.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

CPP Standard Bearer, ECOWAS envoy hold talks

Nkrumah focused on the integrity of the General and Presidential elections slated outcome of the October 10, 2023, general and presidential elections. The CPP Standard Bearer views on ensuring that the October 10, 2023, elections are free, fair and transparent. Ambassador Nkrumah



October 10, 2023. Mr. Cummings expressed concerns about the capacity of the National Elections Commission (NEC) to effectively implement the biometric process, the time constraints, and its reversed electoral timetable. He said added to the concerns are the protracted delays and uncertainty that characterized the just ended National Population and Housing Census, which he said is critical to the said while he believes, the transition to the biometric system, is necessary, huge public concerns about the NEC's capacity, and inadequate funding to the electoral process are causes for great apprehensions. Responding, Ambassador Josephine Nkrumah thanked the CPP Standard Bearer for the visit and said the exchanges are part of ongoing consultations and discussions with Political leaders and other Liberians to seek their

EPS boss pledges to meet public expectations

By Lewis S. Teh The Director of the Executive Protection Service (EPS) Trokon Roberts, has promised to transform the EPS to meet the expectations and aims of the Liberian people as the country gears up for presidential and legislative elections in October. "Today I want to assure the public that the EPS under my watch, we will meet the expectations and the aims of the Liberian people particularly, during these critical times", Director Roberts vowed. He made promised while being certificated by as the best male security expert of 2022 by Global News Network (GNN), an online outlet in Monrovia during its 10th annual award ceremony for both public and private officials, who are contributing to the growth and development of Liberia. According to the EPS boss, being in law enforcement is challenging because one is required to respecting human rights, administering rule of law and justice, among others. He said the job is not difficult, but complicated in that in the midst of politicking, working "My office is open to the public; to control 800 plus individuals isn't an easy thing, but our intentions are good with respect to the rule of law; everyone is equal and we will treat everyone right. I'm not a just comer; I am a professional security personnel. I spent fifteen years with the United Nations working in difficult environment, and I respect the rule of law, diversity; I will listen to your calls and will administer justice accordingly."



GVL introduces new CEO

MONROVIA- Golden Veroleum (Liberia) Inc. (GVL) has announced the appointment of Mr. Johanes Handojo as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) here, replacing Mr. Ferdy Surya Handojo who will be stepping down end of January 2023. According to GVL, Mr. Johanes Handojo has proven experience in Agribusiness Industry, such as oil palm plantation and livestock industry, with over 35 years in the industry. Speaking after his appointment as CEO, Mr. Johanes Handojo says GVL envisions to become the best, fully-integrated, Africa and global agribusiness and consumer product company in Liberia. lives of its employees, its project communities and the Liberian economy. I am here to join the Liberian team leading the organization with the vision to move GVL forward and greater in operation and development. I will work with them and spend more time to stay on operational sites, to build a strong and professional team of Liberians that would move GVL forward. This Country has so much to benefit from oil palm but [it] can happen if Liberians protect GVL's operation and engage the company constructively", Mr. Handojo underscores. The release notes that GVL has developed about 19,000 hectares of palm plantation in both Sinoe and Grand Kru Counties and constructed two operating mills (one mill in Sinoe County and another Joint Venture mill in



He says GVL has an opportunity to become a great oil palm plantation company, by working effectively and efficiently and creating value for its stakeholders in Africa and globally. According to him, these will be made possible if all teams work together while every personnel endeavor to upgrade their skill and knowledge. The GVL CEO called on Liberians both employees and others working in GVL to take ownership of the Company. He says GVL operations can be measured by its core values of integrity, positive attitude, commitment, continuous improvement, innovation and loyalty, adding that he will uphold such values. "I strongly believe if Liberians treat GVL as their own, the Company will flourish and it will continue to improve the Maryland County) besides a bulking station in Sinoe County where the company presently operates. In 2010, the company started exploring opportunities to operate in Liberia with the goal of working with the Government of Liberia to improve standard of life its citizens through provision of jobs, community development, education and health care delivery. The release continues that bearing in mind such commitment, GVL is making hope a reality in Southeast Liberia with the employment of both skilled and under skilled workers. Up-to-date, Golden Veroleum (Liberia) Inc. is happy to be a user of the Samuel Alfred Russ Port in Greenville, Sinoe County, and the major private sector employer in the Southeast with about three thousand Liberians currently in its employ. Press Release

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Français

Qu'est-ce que PYJ reproche au Président Weah, son allié ?

L'actuel sénateur du comté de Nimba, Prince Yomie Johnson, affectueusement appelé PYJ, a récemment retrouvé de la voix pour devenir un critique amer du régime en place.



Le sénateur ne fait que tempêter et hurler ces derniers temps, crachant du venin sur le président George Weah et sa Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC), menaçant à longueur de journée de les larguer au cours des élections générales de 2023.

Et comme si les menaces à elles seules ne suffisaient pas, PYJ a dit, dans un message qu'il a adressé à ces supporters la semaine dernière à Nimba, que : « Peu importe le montant que vous

dollars américains pour les distribuer aux différents bureaux locaux dans le cadre du programme, avant la visite du président.

Des gens auraient été transportés du comté voisin de Bong pour gonfler à la foule.

Cependant, il s'est avéré que le président Weah lui-même n'a pas fait le déplacement. Il aurait été représenté par Jefferson Koijee, maire de la ville de Monrovia, et nouveau secrétaire général de la Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique (CDC).

Pourquoi PYJ est-il si en colère contre Weah ?

PYJ accuse le président Weah de n'avoir jamais tenu sa promesse de nommer des citoyens de Nimba à des postes clés du gouvernement dans le cadre d'un accord qu'ils auraient signé pour son soutien au second tour de la présidentielle en 2017. Il considère le président Weah comme un traître et ne veut rien avoir à faire avec lui à moins qu'il se conforme à ses exigences.

Ce n'est pas tout. Le

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Au Mali, l'imam Dicko et ses partisans visés par des tirs de lacrymogènes

Revenant d'Arabie saoudite où il a été désigné membre de la Ligue islamique mondiale, le très influent et très politique imam Dicko est rentré samedi 14 janvier au Mali où il a été accueilli par des centaines de ses partisans. Mais sur la route du retour de l'aéroport, les forces de l'ordre ont dispersé le cortège à coups de gaz lacrymogènes.

Sur les images diffusées par les partisans de l'imam Dicko, on entend les tirs de lacrymogènes et on voit les nuages de fumée. Il est environ 15h. Le cortège vient de quitter l'aéroport et chemine vers le domicile de l'imam, encadré par les forces de l'ordre.

« Moi, j'étais juste derrière l'imam, dans ma voiture. Il y a des gaz qui ont frappé la voiture de l'imam, des gaz sont même entrés dans la voiture. Nous sommes sûrs que ça vient des forces de l'ordre. Il y avait des véhicules du GMS [Groupement mobile de sécurité, unité de la police malienne, NDLR]. La Garde nationale était là aussi. Ils étaient assez nombreux », témoigne Youssouf Diawara, coordinateur général de la

CMAS (Coordination des mouvements, associations et sympathisants de l'imam Mahmoud Dicko).

Aucun blessé n'est à déplorer. Des contacts avaient pourtant été établis entre les forces de l'ordre et l'équipe de Mahmoud Dicko, selon Youssouf Diawara, de la CMAS, qui assure ne pas comprendre : « C'est vraiment étonnant de leur part. Il n'y avait pas de débordement, on n'occupait qu'une seule voie et l'autre voie circulait très bien. On avait mis en place, nous aussi, notre dispositif de sécurité. Nos militants se sont vraiment comportés d'une manière qu'on félicite. Malgré les jets de gaz lacrymogène, ils n'ont pas réagi et se sont dispersés pour aller chez

l'imam après. »

Détérioration des relations entre l'imam Mahmoud Dicko et les autorités

Depuis deux ans, les relations entre l'imam Mahmoud Dicko et les autorités issues du coup d'État militaire d'août 2020 n'ont cessé de se dégrader. « Dirigeants arrogants », sommés « d'écouter le peuple » pour ne pas « commettre les erreurs du passé » : l'ancien chef du Haut Conseil islamique du Mali, en pointe lors des manifestations qui avaient précédé le renversement de l'ex-président IBK, a eu ces derniers mois des paroles très critiques contre le régime en place.



Éditorial

Présidentielle 2023 : C'est le moment de réfléchir au choix qu'on fera

Les Libériens se sont rendus au second tour de l'élection présidentielle en 2018 et ont élu le président actuel George Manneh Weah et sa Coalition pour le changement démocratique dont le slogan de campagne fut :

“Changer pour espérer”, aux dépens de l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai, candidat du Parti de l'unité. Il y a maintenant de cela près de 6 ans. Ce fut en réalité la volonté de la majorité des électeurs dominés par les jeunes, qui se voyaient en M. Weah.

Six ans plus tard, les jeunes se livrent à la toxicomanie et d'autres activités déviantes dans des ghettos qui surgissent dans tous les quartiers dans le pays. Sous ce régime, le Libéria est entré dans l'histoire avec l'importation ou la contrebande de cocaïne d'une valeur de 100 millions de dollars. Aujourd'hui, les jeunes consommés par des substances dangereuses sont qualifiés de « jeunes à risque ».

Ce qui est encore plus regrettable et décevant, c'est que les institutions de sécurité de l'État telles que l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue, y compris les gardes-frontières de l'immigration, facilitent et escortent directement les personnes faisant passer des contrebandes à travers nos frontières, tandis que le gouvernement ne fait que parler sans réellement joindre l'acte à la parole.

Il y a six ans, on a promis aux Libériens qu'ils ne seraient plus les spectateurs de leur propre économie. Aujourd'hui, la réalité est totalement différente. Les Libériens sont loin des activités économiques. Au contraire, les étrangers dictent ce qui se passe dans l'économie, et ils ont le contrôle total.

Même le ministère du Commerce et de l'Industrie n'a pas son mot à dire sur ce qui se passe dans l'économie, les entrepreneurs libériens étant désavantagés.

Six ans après, le salaire du fonctionnaire a été considérablement réduit. Il n'a pratiquement plus rien à rapporter à sa famille, pourtant, d'autre part, les prix des denrées alimentaires et d'autres produits de base, dont le pétrole, s'enflamment du jour au lendemain.

Six ans après, beaucoup de parents peuvent à peine se permettre d'envoyer leurs enfants à l'école et de les y maintenir en raison de l'augmentation des frais de scolarité.

Le gouvernement se vante de la gratuité des frais de scolarité dans les universités publiques, mais les normes et la qualité ont considérablement baissé, car presque tous les mois les professeurs font la grève pour avoir leur salaire et les étudiants protestent contre la médiocrité de l'environnement d'apprentissage.

Certes, Le gouvernement s'est efforcé au cours des six dernières années de construire des routes et des logements dans plusieurs comtés, et aussi des hôpitaux et des marchés, mais l'état de l'économie et la mauvaise gouvernance entachés par la corruption généralisée dans le secteur public sont bien importants par rapport aux progrès réalisés.

Il est temps que les Libériens procèdent à une réflexion sobre et sérieuse tout en se posant la question de savoir si au cours des six années du règne Weah il y a eu une amélioration en ce qui concerne leurs conditions de vie, ou si leur vie a si rétrogradé qu'ils se retrouvent en deçà du seuil de la pauvreté.

Il est temps de réfléchir à ce que six années supplémentaires du régime du président Weah apporteront de bien pour changer la donne de manière significative. Nous parlons de l'amélioration des systèmes éducatif et sanitaire, de l'économie et de l'image du pays au-delà des frontières, étant donné que nos passeports diplomatiques continuent de choir aux mains des criminels, qui, pour des raisons qu'on ignore, menacent de citer des noms.

Les Libériens doivent parallèlement jeter un regard attentif sur ceux qui se présentent aux prochaines élections comme des alternatifs au sommet de l'État, afin de faire un meilleur choix, sinon ce pays risque d'aller de mal en pi, ce qui pourrait entraîner plus de difficultés avec des conséquences inimaginables.

Il est temps de se lever et de procéder à une réflexion dépourvue de passion pour éviter d'être à nouveau rongé par des discours politiques creux et des promesses intenables, car après les élections et l'annonce des résultats, l'euphorie s'évaporerait et chacun de nous ferait face aux conséquences du choix que nous aurons fait ensemble.

Français

Qu'est-ce que PYJ reproche

sénateur a également contribué au fonds de développement social de 7,5 millions de dollars d'Arcelor Mittal Liberia. Il dit que l'administration Weah n'a pas remis l'argent aux trois comtés de Bong, Bassa et Nimba au cours des six dernières années, mais a choisi de dépenser de l'argent pour des rassemblements pour sa candidature à sa réélection.

Mais il y a plus. Au fil des ans, les politiciens désireux de s'emparer du pouvoir de l'État ont considéré Nimba, le deuxième comté le plus peuplé du pays, comme un lieu de prédilection. C'est là que PYJ a acquis sa notoriété comme faiseur de roi.

Lors des élections de 2011 et de 2017 ont se sont respectivement soldées par la victoire de Mme Sirleaf pour son second mandat et du président Weah pour son premier mandat, le sénateur Johnson a joué un rôle crucial

en faisant en sorte que ses compatriotes votent pour eux.

Dans le cas du président Weah, le sénateur Johnson l'a accusé à maintes reprises de n'avoir pas tenu les promesses qu'il a faites à son peuple. Il a parfois dénoncé la nomination du Me Cooper Kruah au post de ministre des Postes et Télécommunications, car pour lui, c'est un portefeuille non lucratif. Il exige que plus de filles et de fils du Nimba soient nommés à des postes lucratifs au sein du gouvernement.

Mais c'est Prince Johnson, l'évangéliste controversé, l'homme qui dit une chose et en fait une autre. Il est possible qu'il y ait plus d'agenda caché sous la nouvelle posture. On n'est jamais sûr d'avoir bien lu entre les lignes quand il fait une déclaration et ses récentes déclarations publiques pourraient ne pas déroger à la règle.

Il existe cependant beaucoup de théories du complot à ce sujet. A noter que l'amertume de PYJ contre le régime de Weah a commencé à faire surface en public suite à la sanction américaine.

Burkina Faso: à Arbinda, la population choquée après un enlèvement de femmes d'une ampleur inédite

La population d'Arbinda, dans le nord du Burkina Faso, est toujours sous le choc, après l'enlèvement d'une cinquantaine de femmes, par des hommes armés, les jeudi 12 et vendredi 13 janvier. Deux groupes de femmes parties chercher de l'eau et cueillir des plantes ont été

choc et personne ne sort », confie à RFI ce matin, un représentant de la société civile d'Arbinda. La ville est traumatisée par cet enlèvement massif. Un habitant témoigne. Sa cousine a été enlevée et il a pu s'entretenir avec l'une des femmes qui a pu échapper aux ravisseurs.

Dans un communiqué publié ce matin, le gouverneur de la région du Sahel assure que des



kidnappées. Quatre d'entre elles ont pu échapper à leurs ravisseurs et regagner la ville pour donner l'alerte. C'est la première fois qu'Arbinda est confrontée à un tel phénomène. La commune est complètement confinée ce lundi 16 janvier.

« Tout le monde est sous le

recherches sont en cours. Les habitants eux, réfléchissent à organiser à l'avenir, des escortes de VDP, les volontaires pour la défense de la patrie, afin de protéger les femmes en dehors de la ville. Car Arbinda étant sous blocus, ses habitants ne peuvent se priver des cueillettes à l'extérieur, pour se nourrir.

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COMMENTAIRE

par Jayati Ghosh

Le Forum de Davos pour quoi faire ?

NEW DELHI - Le Forum économique mondial qui se tient chaque année à Davos en Suisse a toujours été problématique. Mais depuis quelques années, cette réunion annuelle de riches et puissants se transforme de plus en plus en exhibition futile. A quoi servent tous ces jets privés, ces hôtels de luxe et ces coupes de champagne, si cela ne conduit à rien de plus qu'à s'affliger de l'état du monde et à de vagues promesses pour faire face aux nombreux défis mondiaux ?

En préalable à la réunion de cette année qui a lieu actuellement, le Forum mondial a élaboré une fois de plus un programme ambitieux, avec pour thème central "La coopération dans un monde fragmenté". Les organisateurs reconnaissent que le "monde se trouve aujourd'hui à un point d'inflexion crucial" et que le "simple nombre des crises en cours appel à une action collective audacieuse".

Les nombreux dirigeants politiques et grands patrons qui participent à ces rencontres sont en effet en mesure de prendre des mesures concrètes en faveur de la coopération et du changement. C'est pourquoi, avec 29 autres membres de la Commission de l'économie transformationnelle du Club de Rome, j'ai signé une lettre ouverte appelant les participants du Forum à se joindre à nous pour réclamer une augmentation des impôts des plus riches.

Cette demande est motivée par le besoin urgent d'atténuer les pires effets du changement climatique et de prévenir l'instabilité sociale. L'année dernière, la Commission de l'économie transformationnelle a publié un livre Earth for All [La Terre pour tous], qui propose un plan d'action pour éliminer la pauvreté, réduire les inégalités, donner plus de pouvoir aux femmes, transformer les systèmes alimentaires et revoir la production d'énergie en basculant vers les énergies renouvelables.

Réaliser ces transformations fondamentales exige une augmentation massive des dépenses publiques qui passe par une hausse de l'impôt sur les sociétés et sur les contribuables les plus fortunés. Les banques centrales et les banques de développement peuvent contribuer à l'effort financier nécessaire, mais cela ne suffira pas. Soutenir la transition écologique, assurer les protections sociales et le bien-être de tous, et garantir les investissements du secteur privé suppose d'augmenter les recettes fiscales.

A travers le monde, la plupart des systèmes fiscaux sont obsolètes et régressifs. De ce fait, ils ne peuvent ni fournir les recettes nécessaires, ni veiller à ce que les riches paient leur juste part. De même, les lois ne reconnaissent pas les innombrables manières dont les sociétés et les particuliers fortunés peuvent échapper à l'impôt et elles ne prennent pas en compte la façon dont la mondialisation financière permet aux entreprises de transférer leurs bénéfices et leurs actifs vers les pays à faible fiscalité. Au

lieu de s'attaquer à ces failles juridiques, les Etats s'appuient beaucoup trop sur la fiscalité indirecte, comme la TVA qui frappe de manière disproportionnée les pauvres. Au cours des dernières décennies, ces inégalités systémiques ont entraîné un déclin massif de la richesse publique et une énorme concentration de la richesse privée. Elles ont également contribué à l'explosion des inégalités, comme le montre le dernier Rapport sur les inégalités dans le monde.

Il n'est cependant pas trop tard pour changer de cap. Dans notre lettre aux participants de Davos, nous proposons plusieurs mesures pour remédier à l'effondrement des systèmes fiscaux et assurer un avenir durable en taxant la richesse, les revenus et les bénéfices des entreprises, ainsi que les émissions excessives de gaz à effet de serre et l'exploitation de la biosphère par les personnes les plus riches. Voici ces mesures en quelques mots :

- Demander aux Etats de développer et partager leurs registres nationaux des actifs. Ils pourront alors taxer plus facilement les personnes extrêmement riches, même si elles cachent leur fortune dans des paradis fiscaux.
- Imposer les revenus du capital pour rendre les systèmes fiscaux plus progressifs.

- Appliquer un taux minimum mondial d'imposition des sociétés de 25 % (ce qui est proche de la moyenne mondiale) et une imposition unitaire basée sur les ventes, l'emploi et les actifs des multinationales. Cela affaiblirait les incitations des entreprises à déplacer leurs bénéfices vers les pays à faible fiscalité.

- Taxer les bénéfices exceptionnels dans tous les secteurs, en particulier ceux réalisés en période de pénurie et de spéculation. Cela aurait un effet redistributif.
- Taxer les émissions de carbone et la consommation de la biosphère liées à des activités de luxe et supprimer progressivement toutes les incitations fiscales liées à l'utilisation des combustibles fossiles.

Ces propositions de bon sens n'ont rien de nouveau. Les sondages montrent que l'opinion publique est très majoritairement favorable à une augmentation des impôts pour les riches et qu'il en est de même pour toute une partie de ces derniers. Ainsi l'année dernière une centaine de millionnaires et de milliardaires ont signé une lettre appelant à "une taxe modérée sur la richesse" sur les 1% des Américains les plus riches. Ils y soulignent que les inégalités extrêmes peuvent générer instabilité politique et violence. D'autres ont fait des appels du même genre.

Mais un changement significatif suppose une volonté politique. Aussi le temps est-il venu pour les participants et les organisateurs du Forum de Davos, des personnes très influentes, de justifier leur coûteuse réunion et leur festival de richesse. Ils doivent mettre tout leur poids au service d'une fiscalité plus équitable.

Traduit de l'anglais par Patrice Horovitz

Jayati Ghosh est professeur d'économie à l'université du Massachusetts à Amherst et membre du Conseil consultatif de haut niveau de l'ONU sur un multilatéralisme efficace.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

A Nation Lagging Behind The Comity Of Nations Needs A Physically And Mentally Fit President

- A Response to Martin Kollie’s “Doing The Right Thing Means Looking Beyond Subjectivity - A Rejoinder To Nobel Peace Laureate Leymah Gbowee - Part 1”

I am taken aback by the preponderance of attacks and insults from partisans and supporters of the Unity Party and the former VP Boakai against Nobel Laureate Leymah Gbowee for her passionate plea made requesting the former VP to call it a day in his political pursuit of the Liberian presidency. In her lamentation on social media that she has used on several occasions to inspire young women, and push for accountability in Liberia, among others, Madame Gbowee writes, “I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU ALL TO KINDLY ALLOW UNCLE JOE BOAKAI TO RETIRE FROM POLITICS AND FOCUS ON HIS HEALTH. HE DESERVES TO SPEND HIS GOLDEN YEARS INTERACTING WITH HIS GRANDKIDS, ENJOYING FAMILY TIME.”

One can understand the dissatisfaction Madame Gbowee’s candid request triggered among diehard supporters of the former vice president - a man they consider a viable alternative to the failed Weah experiment. However, the uncharacteristic display of continuous discourteousness against a respectable Liberian lady for simply speaking her mind is un-Liberian by all stretch of the imagination, and such attitude should be repudiated by all and sundry. Vulgarities and utter disregard for womanhood, something CDCians displayed many times against former President Sirleaf, is among the moral decadence we need to find alternatives to in order to improve the moral standard of our country.

Hence, it beats logic that the Unity Party has not found the courage to immediately demand her partisans and supporters desist from trying to stifle free speech and dissent in our politics with incivility. As I stated earlier, one can respectfully agree or disagree with everything Madam Gbowee has said about VP Boakai retiring from politics. She and VP Boakai may disagree politically, but also remember her relationship with Mr. Boakai is that of a father-daughter one; therefore, insulting her only makes you look uncivilized. I, too, must thank Martin for having the courage in recognizing this immorality and speaking against it.

Adrian Pierce Rogers, an American Southern Baptist pastor and conservative author, stated, “It is better to be divided by truth than to be united in error.” He further explained, “It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals than falsehood that comforts and then kills. It is better to be hated for telling the truth than to be loved for telling a lie. It is better to stand alone with the truth than to be wrong with a multitude. It is better to ultimately succeed with the truth than to temporarily succeed with a lie.” The acceptance of these truths is a moral and patriotic duty for all Liberians to rise beyond their parochial view of the politics of the day. It also behooves us to speak the truth to Martin and others with being considerate of the former VP’s health or making any disparaging comment against whatever conditions he may be battling. It

would be foolhardy for anyone to make denigrating comments about the former VP during this period. Additionally, it is universal knowledge that sickness can affect anyone, regardless of how rich, poor, young, or old one may be. You cannot hate your fellow citizen and wish him evil in the same vein of politics. This is the highest demonstration of cruelty and heartlessness by anyone!

In Martin’s rejoinder to Madame Gbowee, he attempts to unscientifically downplay the effects any form of physical health issues would have on the performance of a president - especially in Liberia where everything has taken a downward spiral since the inception of Weah’s regime - where he draws a juxtaposition between President Weah’s physical health and his poor performance as president. He writes, “It is assumed/perceived that

healthy citizens in a country? I hope Martin can find an answer to this and other questions contained in this response.

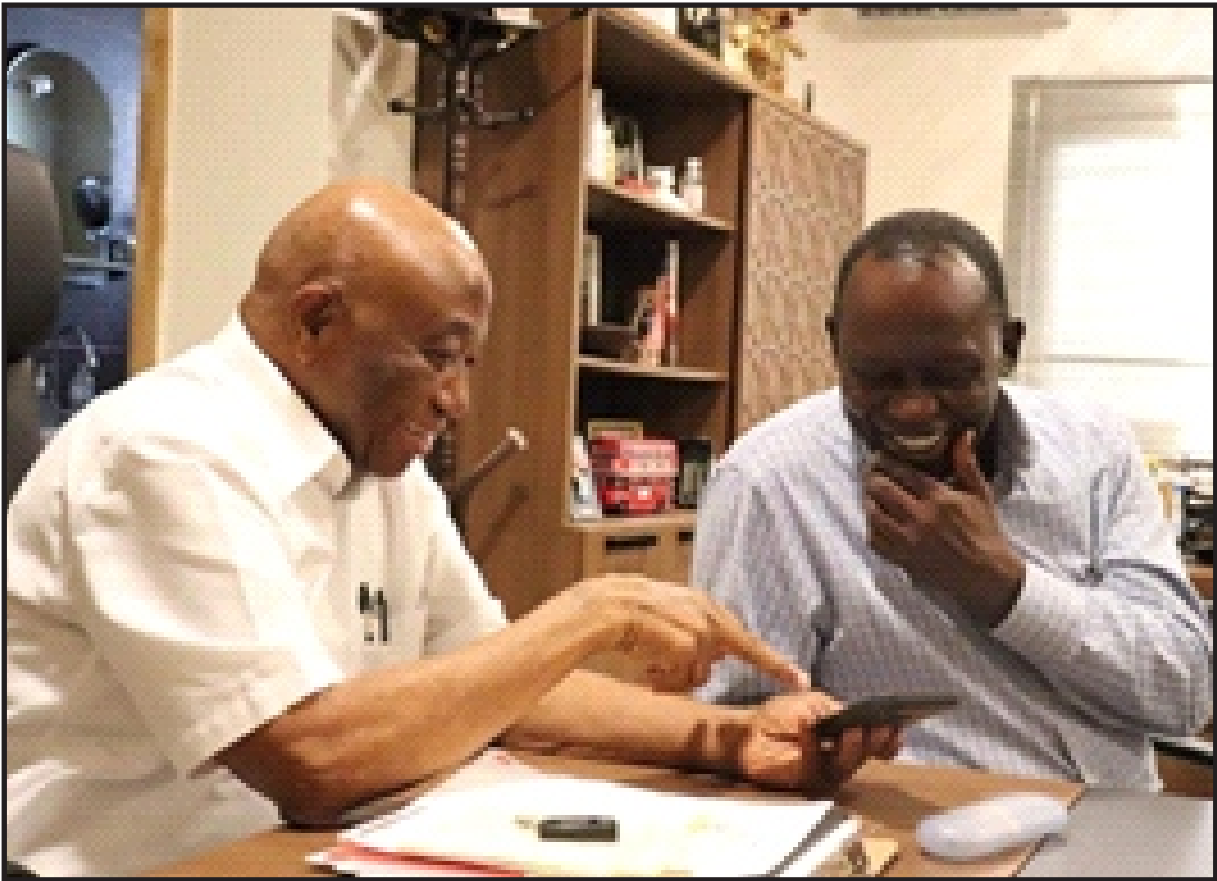
Let’s take Punch, a Nigerian news entity, December 4, 2022, publication, headlines, Buhari spends 225 days on medical trips, and visits 40 countries, as a case study.

The news agency reported that “The President, Major General Muhammadu Buhari (ret’d.), has spent at least 225 days away from the country on medical trips since assuming office in 2015, Sunday PUNCH investigation has uncovered.” Martin, kindly take into consideration that the Nigerian President was 73 years old when he was inaugurated as President of Nigeria in 2015. Are you assuming that Mr. Buhari’s health did not take a toll on him and hampered his performance as President of Nigeria? We could go deeper into the impact poor health has had on Mr. Buhari’s presidency; however, it cost the Nigerian government a fortune to sponsor all the president’s medical trips, pay for his treatment, etc. Is Liberia in the position to take care of a sick and absentee president, Martin? Click the link for full access to the publication: <https://punchng.com/buhari-spends-225-days-on-medical-trips-visits-40-countries/>

When President Weah recently spent 48 days out of Liberia gallivanting and merrymaking, Liberians from many quarters frowned at him for his prolonged stay out of the country. The costs attached to his long time out of Liberia predominantly on nonprofitable adventures are incomprehensible for a nation whining from a terrible economy. Think about the daily subsistence allowance (DSA) and incidental; and hotel bills for the delegation, security, foreign services, etc. Is the Liberian state capable of taking care of an ailing president in this terrible economy, Martin?

One can reasonably assume Martin knows a thing or two about Mr. Boakai’s medical condition because Martin is a Unity Party and VP Boakai propagandist. Therefore, Martin’s inference that physical fitness and healthiness are irrelevant to a president’s ability to perform the duties and responsibilities of the office is an admittance without stating that JNB is physically exhausted or physically unfit to serve as president. Martin labors to a great extent to dissuade the reading public from rejecting Mr. Boakai because, according to Martin’s admittance, VP Boakai is not physically fit and healthy, but the former VP is mentally fit. Martin must be adjudged guilty of the charges he levied against Madam Gbowee if he fails to provide a shred of credible medical evidence that shows that Mr. Boakai is mentally fit but physically unfit.

Let me close by asking Martin a simple question. How can a physically unfit person meet the demands of campaigning along the terrible roads in Liberia to convince Liberians that he is fit to run the affairs of a struggling country?
Mulbah Kesselly.



President George Weah is “healthier” or “physically fit” than VP emeritus Joseph Boakai. How has his “fitness” or “physical strength” increased public sector performance in the best interest of Liberia? I would not attempt to answer Martin’s question because President Weah’s failure has precipitated pandemonium among some Liberians in the opposition community to pick someone or anyone, regardless of his/her role and leadership history to replace the soccer icon. However, Martin’s inference is that because President Weah is presumably “physically fit” and “healthier” than VP Boakai and is doing a terrible job as president, we should equally assume that physical fitness or healthiness of a president is irrelevant to his/her performance which is wholly flawed and should not be given space to dwell.

As a member of the Liberian opposition community, I agree that President Weah has failed miserably; therefore, there is an urgent need to have him replaced by another Liberian. Notwithstanding, downplaying the significance of physical fitness to the role of president is akin to President Weah’s claim that “if book and education could build a nation, Liberia would be the most developed country in the world.” How can one be successful as president in Liberia if he/she is incapacitated to leave from one place to another? This is heresy at best! President Weah is “physically fit” and “healthier” than VP Boakai, but is Weah the best among all the physically fit and healthy Liberians to become president? How can one physically fit and healthy man’s incompetence and poor leadership generally reflect on all physically fit and

We will kick Weah out

By Lewis S. Teh

The standard bearer of the Unity Party former Vice President Joseph N. Boakai has appeared in public for the first time, following reports of his illness and subsequent recovery, vowing to defeat President Weah at the poll in October to redeem Liberia.

"All the hardship that you young people are facing today, aren't they supposed to help you, but don't give up no matter what, we will kick Weah out and redeem Liberia", the 80-year-old presidential hopeful vows.

Ambassador Boakai made the vow on Thursday, January 19, 2023 at the UP headquarters on Broad Street, Monrovia when a group under the banner disenchanted CDCians endorsed his candidacy.

Accepting the endorsement statements from leaders of the disenchanted CDCians, Amb. Boakai thanked the group and partisans for showing up,

this administration leaves office, Liberians will have no country, and in the end, they wonder why they have to be on earth.

"And you are dealing with people who are selfish; they don't care; they're mosquito even if you dry, they will find space to eat", he adds.

According to him, the situation is worrisome, saying "we are in a very serious situation and you the young people, this is no joke; your lives have wasted; they are heartless people.

"And so, when we say rescue, this is what God has brought us to do; this is a mission that we are on, whether you insult or do whatever, we will make sure to free this country."

He encourages Liberians not to lose hope, saying "don't allow these people to take you down; let's continue to believe in our country; what is happening is to show you that there's still a future for you."

The former Vice

give a person power, but only truth can keep him there.

Amb. Boakai laments that young people yearn for change, but today, they fall prey to selfish, greedy people, who believe that only their families, and children matter.

"Today I want to say to all of the young people here that the God that we serve will satisfy all our needs, according to his riches in glory; let nobody make you afraid; you are doing what is right, for all the years you haven't done it, they can't do it for you", adds.

Earlier, the chairman of the disenchanted CDCians, Lawrence Buway Tarter, said their decision to endorse Amb. Boakai is as a result of the CDC-led government's failure to address the hardship being faced by vast majority of the citizens, who elected it to power.

"Today, we have come to officially join the Unity Party because we think Ambassador Boakai is the rightful man that can redeem Liberia from this failed CDC government",

LEC reports energy shortage

-calls for load shedding to meet customers' demand

The Management of the Liberian Electricity Corporation (LEC) says it is experiencing shortage of energy supply to the public thus, it has reverted to instituting

Hydropower Plant has declined due to low water levels.

"In addition to the 27MW supply by CL energy, LEC can generate up to 18.5 MW from mount coffee depending on the water inflow and



limited load shedding to meet customers' demand.

A press release from the corporation reveals that energy consumption in the country has increased significantly, thus imparting the supply of available energy on the market.

The release notes that the network peak load on the market had increased from an average load of 55 MW to as high as 73.2 MW during evening hours.

Management says LEC contracted 27MW from CL Energy of La cote d'Ivoire to help compensate for the energy supply deficit, which represents the maximum allocation available to each CLSG country.

The release continues that as a result of the increase in energy demand, LEC has exceeded its allocation for CL energy hence, the company has informed Liberia that it cannot provide additional energy at this time because of the limited energy supply.

At the same time, management reveals that energy supply from the Mount Coffee

has additionally instills a thermal generation capacity of 28MW."

"Therefore, LEC will meet a demand of about approximately 50 MW this dry season, compared to the 14 MW supply during the dry season." The release adds.

It notes that the corporation suspects that load shedding will be limited in scope and duration until the return of dry seasons in June 2023. LEC had asked its customers to conserve energy and turn off appliances when not in used, especially during evening hours when consumption is extremely high.

"Energy conservative by the customer will reduce the energy demand and the level of load shedding. The load shedding schedule will be managed hourly and daily in response to a peak in energy consumption."

Meanwhile, the Management of LEC assures its customers that an additional supply of electricity is planned for the next dry season to address the perennial problems of energy supply deficits in the dry season. **Press release**



stressing that enough is enough, it was time to take the country back.

"As I was sitting, I was looking at the birth circle from age one to five; you learn how to crawl and walk, from six to eighteen, you want to graduate from high school; from nineteen to twenty-two, you want to get out of college, but unfortunately, this is not the case with the present President and government we have today."

He laments that young people have lost six good years that they could use to improve their lives and that those responsible for their current plight (inferring to the Weah Administration) still want to reduce it to additional six more years, but this must not be allowed to happen.

According to the former Vice President, By the time

President, who checked-in last week at ELWA Hospital in Paynesville after reportedly suffering minor fever, notes that most of the people who are dying is due to depression, people going to bed thinking how will they feed their children, how can they pay their rent, amid the current economic hardship in the country.

"Aren't they supposed to free you from these hardships, but no matter what they do, we will kick them out and redeem this country."

He continues that young people who followed or supported the ruling establishment in coming to power, wanted change in their lives, but unfortunately, they couldn't get it, noting that as he always told people, lies can

Chairman Tarter declares.

According to him, since the inception of the Weah-led government, nothing tangible has been done in Liberia for which they should seek another six years.

"We are excited to realize our previous mistake that led us to supporting Weah and his government. But like the Bible says, only a wise man changes and today, we will remain with Ambassador Boakai for the redemption of Liberia" he pledges.

The endorsement program brought together scores of UP partisans, including the political leader of the opposition Liberty Party, Senator Nyonblee Kangar Lawrence, has expressed willingness to serve as Amb. Boakai's running mate in October, if requested. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Government launches passport

Starts from back page

Weah's Manifesto to have things in the best interest of all Liberians.

Meanwhile, the Minister, is also Dean of the Liberian Cabinet, further disclosed that government is expected to launch additional 20 application centers on February 23, but did not say where.

He added that the Government of Liberia currently has eight passport application "location centers" across the world, including the Embassy of Liberia in Accra, Ghana, Nigeria, China, London, Belgium, Washington, DC, United States of America, Counsel General in New- York, and Honorary Counsel General in Minnesota, respectively.

Kameyah added in the absence of travel documents, the life of every Liberian will not be complete.

The Liberian government has been linked to sales of Liberian Diplomatic Passports to individuals with dubious characters, including foreigners. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) in the U.S. is currently investigation a Liberian, who was arrested last year in America with diplomatic passport. Suspect has made concession to name accomplices at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Monrovia. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Government launches passport decentralization project

By Kruah Thompson

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has launched additional six passport application centers in the diaspora for Liberians residing abroad.

ease constrains Liberians outside the country face in obtaining Liberian passport.

He named Chicago and Los Angeles in the United States of America, South Africa, India, Austria and Nairobi, Kenya as countries in which centers

acquire passport.

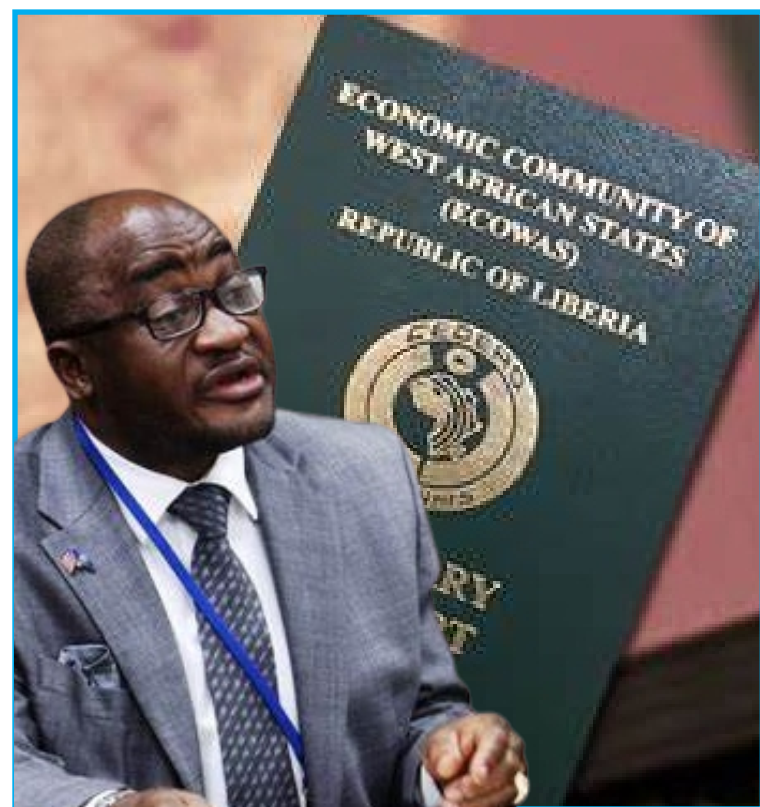
Minister Kameyah also disclosed that government has received several calls from individuals outside Liberia, recommending opening of additional passport centers across the world.

He said those in the diaspora will be required to pay US\$160 for passport, noting US\$100 of the amount will remain with the counseling office, while the balance Sixty United States Dollars will be sent to government account.

The Foreign Minister revealed that the passport application centers are being opened under a contracting frame called VFS Global, under its arrangement with Buck Press, an outsourcing and technology services specialist company that works with several government and diplomatic missions worldwide.

Kameyah, noted that VFS Global will also under its arrangement with Buck Press use the company Licensed software to only capture biometric of applicants and forward all documentations to Monrovia for processing of passports.

According to him, the initiative is also part of the ministry's intention to carry out such reform as part of President George



Making the disclosure Thursday at the MICAT regular press briefing in Monrovia, Foreign Minister Dee Maxwell Kameyah, said the initiative is intended to

have been launched, adding that it is in connection to providing efficacy and expenditure services to Liberians in the diaspora wanting to

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