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| CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR | | |
| DATE | BUYING | SELLING |
| FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023 | L\$156.0510/US\$1.00 | L\$158.2383US\$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.

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More first-time voters favor Weah

Pres. Weah

P11

Jonah Zarbah

Weah

Jabbe Ebrassa

Richmond Johnny

Satta Manobah

Eugene Teah

P11

Liberian authorities at the burning of cocaine valued US\$37 million Wednesday, February 8th.

Unnamed Kenyan linked to US\$37m cocaine

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UN Appeals for \$2.6 Billion to Ease Hunger Crisis in Somalia

The U.N. is appealing for \$2.6 billion this year to assist 7.6 million of the most vulnerable Somalis who are facing acute hunger and possible famine

the U.N. resident and humanitarian coordinator for Somalia, told reporters in a video briefing.

The country, along with other parts of the Horn of Africa, is in the throes of historic drought

are in Baidoa and Burhakaba districts and among the displaced populations in the Baidoa town of Bay Region and in Mogadishu. In addition, several areas and population groups in central and southern Somalia are at risk of famine.

Abdelmoula said the distinction between a declared famine and what millions of Somalis are already experiencing is "truly meaningless," as children are already starving.

In 2011, after three failed rainy seasons, Somalia went through a famine that killed 250,000 people – half of them children. Now it is in its fifth failed rainy season and the forecast for the upcoming one is not promising.

"Don't listen to those who tell you that this is the worst drought in 40 years," Abdelmoula said. "This is the worst drought in Somalia's recorded history, period."He urged donors to step up, noting that after the 2011 famine the international community said "never again."

"If we truly want to honor that promise, there is no time to lose," he said. "Every delay in assistance is a matter of life or death for families in need."VOA



Maryan Madey, who fled the drought-stricken Lower Shabelle region

from conflict, high food prices, and unprecedented drought.

"Famine is a strong possibility from April to June this year, and of course beyond, if humanitarian assistance is not sustained, and if the April to June rains underperform as currently forecast," Adam Abdelmoula,

after five consecutive failed rainy seasons.Abdelmoula said nearly 6.4 million people are currently facing high levels of food insecurity and that is expected to rise to 8.3 million between April and June, including 727,000 of them who are expected to experience catastrophic hunger levels.The U.N. says those at highest risk

Eritrea to Cooperate with Other Countries to Promote Regional Stability

The presidents of Kenya and Eritrea have wrapped up two days of talks by agreeing to remove visa requirements for their citizens as part of improving relations.

Kenya's William Ruto and his Eritrean counterpart, Isaias Afwerki, also agreed to promote regional peace and stability even as Eritrea faces questions over alleged rights abuses in Ethiopia.

Afwerki said Eritrea would rejoin the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, or IGAD, an East African trade bloc."This is an obligation in the name of the people of the Horn region," he said. "We have to assume responsibility and revitalize IGAD so that we can have a functional, real organization for the region is critical. Without that mechanism, ideas and goodwill will not be productive. We will have to create an institution that is functional and result-oriented so that we can say we have changed the face of the region."

Eritrea suspended its IGAD membership in 2007 following

a disagreement with Ethiopia over the presence of Ethiopian troops in Somalia. In 2018, Eritrea and Ethiopia reestablished diplomatic relations and agreed to end years of hostility.Eritrea's President Isaias Afwerki addresses a news conference during his visit at State House in Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 9, 2023.

Eritrea's President Isaias Afwerki addresses a news conference during his visit at State House in Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 9, 2023.



Eritrea's President Isaias Afwerki, left, shakes hands with Kenya's President William Ruto after speaking to the media at State House in Nairobi

Wanted protester's French escape outrages Algeria

Amira Bouraoui, a key leader of 2019 mass protests that brought down Algeria's president, has escaped to France, sparking a diplomatic row.A doctor by training, the journalist and activist was banned from leaving Algeria pending an appeal trial but was not in detention.

The holder of a French passport, she allegedly illegally went to Tunisia and then on to France with diplomatic help.

Algeria has recalled its ambassador to Paris over the affair.

The Algerian foreign ministry accused French diplomats and other

tried to take a flight and faced an extradition hearing where a judge freed her.Later she was able to board a plane to France, where it reported she wanted to go to visit her son.

Neither the French nor Tunisian governments have commented on the matter.

Algeria gained independence from France in 1962 after a bloody seven-year war, which ended more than a century of a colonial rule.

Relations had partly improved because France is looking for new suppliers of gas as European countries are boycotting Russia.

Bouraoui was one of the key leaders of the anti-government Hirak movement, which led to long-time leader Abdelaziz Bouteflika resigning in 2019.



Amira Bouraoui is a vocal critic of the government

personnel of participating "in the illegal and secret evacuation of an Algerian national".It said the incident was unacceptable and caused great damage to relations between Algeria and France, which had been warming recently after decades of animosity.Bouraoui had been sentenced in 2021 to two years in jail for "offending Islam" and insulting the president, but was appealing against the ruling. She had spent 11 days in jail when the case was first in court.

Earlier this week, she was arrested in Tunisia when she

Her father Mohamed Saleh Bouraoui was a well-known cardiologist and former high-ranking army officer, who once headed a military hospital in the capital, Algiers.

After Mr Bouteflika's departure, protests continued against the military elite, which critics believe wields a lot of power in the North African nation.

In the last few years, the Algerian authorities have further clamped down on freedom of expression, blocking websites and detaining journalists.The radio station on which Bouraoui used to host a weekly show, Radio M, was banned last year.BBC

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EDITORIAL

Milking U.S. Government funds in Margibi

THE PEOPLE OF Margibi county risk being delisted from a U.S. Government-funded health program due to corruption. This is despite the designation of three senior officials of the Weah administration by the United States last year for ongoing public corruption.

A STATEMENT ISSUED on Monday by the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia says the USAID Mission to Liberia will decide whether to retain Margibi as part of a USAID’s government-to-government agreement, pending transparent investigation and associated actions to hold accountable anyone involved in the misuse of any U.S. government funds.

THE STATEMENT FOLLOWED news report on an audio recording in which Margibi County Health Officer Dr. Augustine Nyankun Fannieh and other senior staff are heard discussing fraudulent billings and collection of kickbacks from vendors under the USAID-sponsored Fixed Amount Reimbursement Agreement (FARA) Program for the Margibi health system, totaling US\$ 801,693.00.

THE PROGRAM, ACCORDING to report, supports cost of implementing components of the Essential Package of Health Services for family planning, maternal and child health, and malaria prevention and treatment in 24 health facilities in the county.

THOUGH THE MINISTRY of Health has taken prompt action, recalling the county health authorities linked to the leaked audio for investigation, but the U.S. Embassy near this capital says it has a special responsibility to ensure that money provided by American taxpayers for the benefit of the people of Liberia, including the people of Margibi, is used for its intended purpose.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE and regrettable that the people of an entire county would suffer because of the dishonesty and greed of few officials, who see both national and foreign monies as opportunities to line their pockets at the detriment of their fellow citizens. Dr. Augustine Nyankun Fannieh and other senior staff heard discussing fraudulent billings and collection of kickbacks from vendors under the USAID-sponsored FARA Program are a serious disgrace to the people of Liberia, who need all support from foreign friends to improve their health conditions.

THE INDIVIDUALS REPORTEDLY involved are no different from merchants of death, as their actions do not only undermine the health system of Liberia, but outrightly threaten the lives of thousands of citizens in Margibi, who are direct beneficiaries of the program. We recall vividly how the Ministry of Health misapplied millions of dollars in 2022 under the Global Fund for Liberia’s Malaria Program and lied that some of the funds were spent on media advertisements, including radio jingles that it could not provide receipts for.

WE WHEN CONDUCT our public services with such dishonesty and gross disregard for foreign partners who donate their taxpayers’ money to help us salvage our woes, we do not just undermine ourselves, but leave a very bad footprint for the coming generation.

COMMENTARY

By Jan Egeland

Educating the World's Children of Conflict

OSLO - It was scorching hot when I arrived at a cramped classroom in the world’s largest refugee camp, in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. But the children I came to meet, a graduating primary school class of Rohingya students, did not mind the heat. Instead, the smiling youngsters proudly told me that they had learned to read and write in Burmese and in English. And then they came over with hand-written letters, all of which contained variations of this one message: “You must help us get an education beyond primary school - we want to be teachers, doctors, and engineers.”

Unfortunately, even the most motivated and talented children in Bangladesh are not guaranteed secondary education. Nor are the children in Myanmar, Colombia, Mali, Somalia, and other conflict zones. Simply put, we lack the resources to meet these children’s needs. All too often, their dreams of getting an education and serving their communities remain just that - dreams.

While there are countless barriers preventing children from having access to the educational opportunities they so badly need, the biggest and most heartbreaking is insufficient funding. Somehow, there is always enough money for World Cups and Super Bowls, Lamborghinis for new billionaires, and numerous regional arms races, but not enough to help children become teachers and nurses.

On a recent visit to Niger, which has the world’s youngest population, I met more displaced children full of dreams. Too many have been forced to drop out of school to support their family or to work, which they see as their only option.

And then there is the rampant violence that permeates the fabric of young lives across Central and West Africa, home to a quarter of the world’s 244 million out-of-school children. Attacks on schools have spiked in eight countries in the region over the past five years, with the number of schools closed due to violent incidents increasing to more than 12,400 during the 2021-22 school year. Across the region, armed groups and soldiers regularly attack and kidnap students and teachers, particularly girls.

While the number of countries endorsing the Safe Schools Declaration has steadily grown over the years, its implementation has slowed. To deliver quality education for all children, the 116 countries that have signed the Declaration must meet their commitments to protect students, teachers, and schools from attacks.

In addition to protecting schools, educators and policymakers must address the deep trauma that violent attacks inflict on children. A study by the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) found that almost two-thirds of children in conflict-affected areas in Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali were unable to concentrate, and 90% had difficulties controlling their emotions. Children who have been affected by violence tend to isolate themselves and fall into patterns of aggression and other antisocial behavior,

often causing them to drop out of school.

To help children recover from their traumatic experiences, the NRC provides psychosocial support as part of its education programs in West and Central Africa. We cooperate closely with parents, caregivers, teachers, and counselors to ensure that students are being supported far beyond their time in our classrooms.

While the value of this work is undeniable, it is also chronically underfunded, leaving children without access to education and teachers unable to provide quality learning. In 2022, the average funding for education in this deeply neglected region covered only 18.7% of the minimum requirements; in the Central Sahel region, only 14% of the most basic needs have been met. In the Central African Republic, where 1.5 million children currently need education support, poorly trained parents now make up 81% of the teaching force.

With so many years of learning lost to conflict and displacement, there is an urgent need to enable out-of-school children to return to formal education. For example, in the Central African Republic, the NRC, together with Education Cannot Wait and the European Commission, provides accelerated catch-up programs to children who have dropped out, to help them get back on track and regain a sense of well-being.

Fostering cooperation among policymakers, multilateral agencies, and civil society will be critical. To this end, the first Education Cannot Wait High-Level Financing Conference will convene later this month in Geneva. The conference, co-organized by Education Cannot Wait and the Swiss government, seeks to mobilize resources for critical education programs over the next four years. To provide children in conflict zones with the best chance to succeed, policymakers and educators should embrace three key principles.

First, the donor community must provide flexible long-term funding for education in emergencies. Establishing reliable channels for development funding is crucial for reaching out-of-school children in conflict zones.

Second, we must place the safety and well-being of children, young people, and teachers at the heart of all education-related decisions. By supporting the creation of safe learning environments, we can ensure that every child feels accepted and protected.

Lastly, governments and multilateral institutions must increase access to non-formal education programs for millions of displaced children and adolescents. This represents the best path for out-of-school students to return to formal education.

These are not impossible goals. While they require meaningful and sustained collective efforts, they offer the best hope for millions of schoolchildren looking up to us to help them realize their dreams.

OP-ED

By Anita Zaidi

A Blueprint from India for Women's Economic Empowerment

SEATTLE - As we embark on a new year, I have been reflecting on “resolutions,” and more specifically, what it takes for an individual or a society to be resolute in a world of endless challenges and obstacles. Throughout my career, I have seen many examples of triumph against the odds - extraordinary accomplishments that often begin with a small group of individuals seeking to solve a problem. In the best cases, local communities, government, and the private sector align and invest in programs and policies that create more opportunities for these groups to flourish.

The extraordinary success of women's self-help groups in India represents one of the best-case outcomes. Established by women determined to build a brighter future for themselves and their families, these groups have thrived thanks to innovative financial and infrastructure support from the Indian government. With over 80 million women participating in 7.5 million such groups, India is fostering the world's largest community development program, which is now a key component of the country's economy.

Women, especially in rural areas, face gender-based barriers to participating fully in their communities and building a livelihood: Many, unable to open a bank account or access credit, are dependent on informal loans from relatives, friends, or money lenders. Moreover, traditional family structures and social norms may constrain women from engaging in activities necessary to start or expand a small business.

Self-help groups were first formed in the mid-1980s to address these barriers by providing access to savings and credit so that women could earn a livelihood and lift themselves and their families out of poverty. The results speak for themselves: women's self-help groups have contributed to India's extraordinarily sharp reduction in poverty, from 55.1% to 16.4% (415 million people), over the last 15 years.

Initially, new groups were dependent on members, though often impoverished, pooling what little money they had to get started. The Indian government stepped in to alleviate this hardship by providing unsecured loans without the need for a formal, registered business entity. Importantly, these loans are offered at a very competitive interest rate of 12%, which drops to 7% if a group repays its loans within 30 days of the due date. With this support, the average self-help group was able to borrow around ₹200,000 (\$2,500) each, and in 2021 the limit for collateral-free loans was increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000.

Over the past decade, more than \$60 billion has been made available to self-help groups in India and, cumulatively, women in these groups have saved an estimated \$6 billion. Access to low-interest loans continues to help an increasing number of women create sustainable sources of income, accumulate assets and savings, and build financial security. And individual group members are building more than their financial skills; they are also raising their self-confidence and influence within the community.

For example, a self-help group in Chak Singar Barari village in Bihar state was able to structure their enterprise so that each member is sent home with ₹3,000-4,000 per month. And each woman has her own story: Sunila Devi enrolled her children in private schools, Chitrekhya Devi is working toward a bachelor's degree, and Pushpa Devi has started her own ambitious business renting mobile sound systems, which allows her to employ others.

Now multiply those stories by millions, and you can begin to grasp the full effects of these groups. As each woman contributes more to the household income, she gains more say in household decisions. And collectively, they show what is possible when one of the most essential challenges to gender equality - increasing women's economic power - is addressed.

Ultimately, we know that increasing a woman's economic power bolsters her personal agency and empowers her to play a greater role in her family and in her community. India's government-supported self-help groups demonstrate the transformative effects of policy initiatives that are designed to meet the needs of marginalized women. The task now is to replicate this success.

The goals should be clear: In this case, to make credit accessible and affordable, build women's financial skills and credit history, and strengthen their financial security. And the various players must be resolute in their support. The closer you look at the details of the self-help groups in India, the more you see the dedication it took from all stakeholders - across economic sectors, states, and organized interest groups - to bring together the people, resources, and tools needed to succeed at this scale. Government agencies at both the federal and state levels were involved, along with banks and other financial institutions, researchers, and an extensive network of non-government and voluntary organization partners working at the grassroots level in communities across India.

This formula of determination, collaboration, and political will can be applied to other stubborn barriers to gender equality. One of the more persistent challenges I hear from women, most recently during a visit to Dakar, Senegal, is that entrepreneurs also need business development services, skills-building, and access to markets and value chains. India's program shows that this is feasible: Currently about 20% of self-help group members have these additional supports, and efforts are underway to promote women-owned cooperatives and businesses.

Everyone deserves the chance to live a healthy and productive life. My resolution for this year is to remain inspired by the determined efforts of individuals and by our collective capacity - as India's self-help groups' remarkable success have demonstrated - to innovate as we strive for a healthier, happier, more equitable world.

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OPINION

By Daniel Gros

The Transatlantic Subsidies Race We Need

BRUSSELS - The US Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) has America's trading partners in a tizzy. The legislation is not only gargantuan, dedicating some \$369 billion to climate and clean-energy programs; it also has a “buy American” component, delivering cash benefits only to buyers of North American automakers and subsidies to renewable-energy producers that satisfy domestic-content rules. Many countries, particularly in Europe, are now weighing the possibility of implementing their own green industrial policies. This is the wrong response.

The IRA's subsidies for American-made products are undoubtedly contentious, particularly among leading US trading partners such as Japan, South Korea, and the European Union. US President Joe Biden is now in damage-control mode, as he attempts both to reassure partners and to find ways to soften the impact on allies by bending the IRA's buy-American provisions.

European policymakers are unconvinced. They fear that, unless they introduce subsidies of their own, the IRA will effectively guarantee US leadership in green industries. But the logic underpinning this conclusion is dubious, at best.

True, some European firms have threatened to leave for the US if they do not receive similar subsidies at home. But European producers of, say, wind turbines are unlikely to stop producing in Europe just because they expect business to boom in the US.

“Buy American” does not mean 100% American. To secure the 10% domestic-content “bonus” - which the IRA offers on top of generous subsidies that do not depend on meeting the threshold - a company, such as a wind farm, must use only American steel, but only 40% US-manufactured components. In other words, even with the added incentive to use American-made components, the US government expects that firms will rely mostly on imports.

Moreover, according to trade lawyers, “US-made” components could consist largely of imported sub-components, rendering the domestic-content provisions even less stringent in practice. So, while the IRA does give firms an incentive to produce certain components in the US, there will still be plenty of demand for European products, not only in the US, but also, increasingly, in Europe.

In any case, the IRA is hardly an exemplar of good industrial policy. On the contrary, some of its key provisions encourage waste. In fact, Europe has already rejected the use of inefficient and costly fixed-rate renewable-energy subsidies - which account for \$250 billion of the IRA's total funding. Instead, most European countries use auctions to find out what subsidy rate is needed to spur emissions reductions. Some are also employing “contracts for difference,” under which the government pays investors the difference between the market price and a guaranteed minimum.

Another questionable feature of the IRA is the investment tax credit, which subsidizes 30% of the cost of a renewable-power plant (or 40%, if the domestic-content rules are fulfilled). This is not economically efficient, as the subsidy is not linked to the amount of power that is ultimately produced. There is also a kind of moral-hazard risk: with investors covering only 60-70% of the total cost, they might not put as much effort into reducing costs, or just increase their profits. And waste in the construction of renewable plants would also lead to more emissions, especially if more energy-intensive goods like steel or concrete are used.

Finally, the IRA does little to spur green technological progress. Any project that produces zero-emissions electric power qualifies for IRA support. This means that wind farms and photovoltaic installations - for which costs continue to fall - are likely to be key recipients of IRA subsidies. But while these technologies will be vital to reaching near-term emissions-reduction goals - say, for 2030 or 2035 - a net-zero future will require new technological and engineering breakthroughs.

That is what governments should be subsidizing. Rather than offering inefficient subsidies to existing technologies, governments should be funding research and development for new ones. Yet, for the EU, this presents a formidable challenge.

As it stands, most R&D spending in Europe occurs at the country - not EU - level, with funds being directed largely toward national universities and research labs. Moreover, EU budget allocations are decided every seven years, and can be changed only by unanimous agreement. As a result, it would be practically impossible for the EU to allocate more funding to R&D until 2027.

But European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has an alternative proposal: transform the EU's temporary pandemic borrowing program, NextGenerationEU, into a permanent resource. Unfortunately, this scheme has little chance of being implemented, so she has also proposed loosening EU rules on state aid, in order to give member states more leeway to field national subsidies - an inferior option.

The poorly conceived, though much-vaunted, European Chips Act follows much the same pattern, giving EU member states more room for national subsidies, without providing much in the way of additional R&D funding. The US CHIPS and Science Act, which allocates \$13 billion to the development of the R&D workforce, is a much better model, both than the European version and the IRA.

The EU should not enter a subsidy race with the US, certainly not based on the IRA model. A “green-tech” race - in which both sides support R&D for new green technologies - is a much better approach. The question is whether Europe has the political will and vision needed to get into competition shape.

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DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

The death is announced of Madam Mabintu Kailondo in her 84 years.

This sad event occurred on February 4, 2023 in Blama, Small Bo Kenema District, Republic of Sierra Lone, after a period of illness.

Funeral and wake keeping will take place on February 17, 2023 in Blama Town. And burial will take place on February 18, 2023.

Mabintu is survived by her children: Cllr. George B. Kailondo, Sr. of Kailondo’s Group of Companies in the Republic of Liberia, Joyce Jonah Kailondo, James Kailondo, Lydia Kailondo, Naomi Kailondo, John Kailondo and Benjamin A. Kailondo, Sr.

Grand Children: George B. Kailondo, Jr., Georgian Kailondo, Chatall Kailondo, Geortrice Kailondo, Stephen Kailondo Bennell Bintu Kailondo and Benjamin A. Kailondo, Jr., all of Liberia and the United State of America respectively.

Meanwhile, this announcement was brought in by Cllr. George B. Kailondo, Sr., son of the deceased on behalf of the family.

The Late


Mother Mabintu Kailondo



Republic of Liberia

NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

TUBMAN BOULEVARD, 9th & 10th STREETS, SINKOR – P.O. BOX 2044
 MONROVIA, LIBERIA
 Email: info@necliberia.org



INVITATION FOR BID

The Government of Liberia through the National Elections Commission (NEC) intends to apportion funds toward the cost of procu ring the below listed contract packages as indicated in the table.

| NO. | CODE | DESCRIPTION | Quantity | Bid Submission Date and Time | Bid Opening Date, Time & Place |
|-----|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|--|--|
| 1. | IFB No. NEC/VRPLE/ NCB/006/2022 | Scratch Card | 2,420 Pcs | Friday, February 24, 2023, at 12:00 pm | Friday, @ 12:00 pm February 24, 2023, in the Conference Room |
| 2. | IFB No. NEC/VRPLE/ NCB/008/2022 | Security Equipment and Accessories | Assorted | Friday February 24, 2023, at 2:00 pm | Friday, @ 2:00 pm February 24, 2023, in the Conference Room |

The NEC now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the above listed. The bidding for the above will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure specified in the PPC Act and is open to all eligible bidders. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the address below from 9:30am to 4:30pm, Monday to Friday:

THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
Ground Floor, Room 73
National Elections Commission
9th / 10th Streets Sinkor
1000 MONROVIA 10, LIBERIA
MOBILE NUMBER: +231-777-540-212
Email: jkerkulah@necliberia.org

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested Bidders through payment of a nonrefundable fee of Fifty United States Dollars (U.S. \$50.00) for each set.

Qualifications requirements include but not limited to the follow:

- ❖ CURRENT BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE
- ❖ CURRENT TAX CLEARANCE
- ❖ PAST PERFORMANCE HISTORY WITH AT LEAST THREE (3) REFERENCES
- ❖ AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY AT ALL TIME
- ❖ CAPACITY TO DO AT LEAST (30) T HIRTY DAYS P RE-FINANCE OF SUPPLY

Submissions must be clearly marked, signed, and sealed in an envelope, including other requested information.

Bids must be submitted at the NEC Procurement Unit located at the Ground Floor of the main NEC building on the date and time indicated above. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidder’s representatives or those who cho ose to attend as per the information in the table above.

The National Elections Commission reserves the right to reject or accept any bid submitted and to annul the process at any time without incurring any liability and without assigning any reason thereof.

Signed: National Elections Commission

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Senator Moye predicts trouble if...

By Lewis S Teh
 Bong County Senator and Chair of the Senate Committee on Education and Public Administration, Prince Moye predicts trouble if Liberians go to the poll in October and re-elect President George



Sen.Prince Moye

Weah for a second term. "Fellow citizens, we're heading for complete trouble if care is not taken especially, some of you who will be going to the poll", he alarms.Senator Moye made the prediction on Saturday, February 4th at the refurbished Unity Party national headquarters on Broad Street in Central Monrovia, while delivering the keynote address at the

first graduation exercises of over 200 women, who completed six weeks intensive skill training in various disciplines."As a senior member of the legislature since 2012, we have never ratified a genuine concession that will bring benefits in

Western Cluster concession, noting that the concessionaires are taxi-driving all over the place, as they only interested in getting the concession and then go to hustle on it with no trace of their whereabouts.

Senator Moye laments that University graduates are hanging around without jobs, while young Liberians are eager to leave the country in search of greener pastures in foreign countries, adding that some of them are being duped because of lack opportunities at home."Just within five years, Liberia is now a major transit point for drugs", he laments, and wonders that Liberia that does not a market how come cocaine valued US\$100 million arrived at the Freeport of Monrovia and offloaded to warehouses in Topoe Village, Gardnerville, along the Japanese Freeway.The senator frowns that in less than five years, Liberian Diplomatic Passports are being sold all over the world to criminals, noting "We who are diplomats when traveling, we are being scrutinized more than the ordinary people, all because criminals and fake people are in possession of our passports."

"Our country is degenerating and I know the

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

Woman suffers husband's torture in River Gee

By Patrick N. Mensah, River Gee County

Police in River Gee County are investigating a 30-year-old man for allegedly spilling pepper on his fiancée's private part and inflicting wounds on her body for long stay outside of the home.

Suspect Patrick Karpheh allegedly committed the act during an intensive argument between the couple on February 6, at 8:00 PM in their community.

The victim, Blessing Teah, tearfully narrates that she was at work at an entertainment center called Lady "P" Bar & Restaurant in Fish Town, River Gee when boss lady called a general staff meeting at around7:45 pm, when she received a phone call from her boyfriend, demanding her to come home.

She says her boss lady peacefully told Patrick that after the meeting, his fiancée will come home, but suspect angrily offed the

phone. Blessing continues that upon her arrival at home, the man, who is the father of three children, allegedly rushed at her and dragged her into the room before spilling pepper



Victim Blessing Teah displays her wounds

into her private part and injuring her on both her back and leg with a sharp object.

She says neighbors from the community came to her rescue and took her away.

Some community residents speaking to this paper say the gruesome attack Suspect

Patrick Karpheh has drawn their attention especially, among women, including Superintendent Philip Q. Nyenuh, who has called on the Liberia National Police to conduct speedy investigation

into the matter.

Suspect Karpheh denied pepper spraying his fiancée's private part but admitted beating her severely and pleads for mercy, while Victim Blessing Teah is in hospital, receiving medication. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Moniba vows corruption-free Liberia

—If elected president

By Emmanuel Wise Jipoh
 Liberian presidential hopeful Dr. Clarence Moniba has promised a corruption-free Liberia if he is elected president this year.

"In our first 100 days, we will rapidly tackle corruption, and we will ensure that before you take office as appointees of government, you must first declare your assets," Dr. Moniba said Tuesday, 7 February 2023

The 43-year-old joins several politicians seeking the presidency in the 10 October 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

They will be battling incumbent President George Manneh Weah who is seeking a second six-year term.

that his administration will ensure that every single government will declare assets, and their bank account before being appointed.

On education, Dr. Moniba said his government will enforce an Executive Order that will allow all secondary students to acquire vocational and technical education before graduating from high school.

"What we will do in our First 100 days clearly defines exactly what we have in our agenda for the Liberian people that will benefit them," said Dr. Moniba."We will secure the funding and ensure an executive order that will be instituted in every high school, that students have at least two years of technical and vocational knowledge before graduating," Dr.



Dr. Clarence Moniba

Dr. Moniba is expected to run for the presidency as the political leader of the Liberian National Union (LINU) party.

Dr. Moniba told a local radio station in Monrovia that he will rapidly tackle corruption, insecurity, the economy, and agriculture.

He also vowed to tackle education, and healthcare as part of his first 100 days of deliverables to the Liberian people.

Dr. Moniba is the son of former Liberian Vice President Dr. Harry F. Moniba who served in the late President Samuel Kanyon Doe's regime.In former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's regime, Dr. Clarence Moniba served as Liberia's Minister of State Without Portfolio, and Board Chair of Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC).

To aid the anti-corruption fight, Dr. Moniba elaborated

Moniba said.

For agriculture, the presidential hopeful said he will ensure that every county contributes to the development and food security of Liberia.To achieve this, he said every county will immediately start studies to know what it can grow and harvest.

He believes that this will enable every county to contribute to food security as a pathway to ending starvation among Liberians.

Commenting on the healthcare sector of the country, Dr. Moniba promised to revamp the John F. Kennedy Medical Hospital in Monrovia and the Tapeta Hospital in Nimba County.

To achieve this goal, he promised to seek US\$150 million from international partners that will be spent to properly renovate the two hospitals.He said staff will be trained, and he will ensure that the two hospitals become the best in the West African region.

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AFL has bigger task at hand

-Lawmaker discusses 2023 elections
By Lincoln G. Peters

Lofa Senator Steve Zargo says the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) has a bigger task at hand to ensure that the October 2023 presidential and legislative elections go on smoothly and peacefully.



“The biggest tasks that you have currently is to ensure that this election is conducted peacefully and smoothly,” Zargo said during an AFL-organized symposium as part of activities leading to the February 11, 2023 Armed Forces Day celebration.

The Senate Committee chair on Defense, Security and Intelligence and

Veteran Affairs explained that the army won’t fold its arms when the first line institutions are overwhelmed.

“You will be required to get engaged, but are you ready and prepared?” Senator Zargo questioned the military.

“When those first line of institutions are overwhelmed and the military are called upon, will you fold your arms? Of course not,” he said. The opposition senator stated that it’s now time that all Liberians work to ensure that the country’s hard-earned peace and democracy are preserve. Senator Zargo noted that collectively Liberians fought and together they should maintain the peace.

“Why fighting for this democracy, we engaged our international partners. We are a member of the regional bloc ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States),” he said.

Zargo reminded the audience at the symposium that international partners spent their time and resources investing in Liberia’s democracy. He said they will not sit back, fold their hands and feel good to see Liberians reverse the peace.

“We have to all work to ensure that we maintain this peace,” he urged.

According to him, the President is the chairman and chief architect of Liberia’s national security policy.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

School gives clarity over missing student

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan

The principal of the John Flomo Bakalu High School in Gbarnga, Bong County has reacted to speculations that the institution is involved with the alleged disappearance of its 12th grade student Emmanuel Slobber.

The speculation stemmed from a recent misinformation about a student of the twelve grade class going missing from the school campus on Monday, 6 February 2023.

The principal Mr. Josiah Kollie explained after school, student Emmanuel Slobber left his home for Piata in lower Bong on Monday, 6 February 2023. He said Slobber left his home without the knowledge of his guardians. According to Mr. Kollie, this triggered fears and accusations that Slobber went missing while on campus.

According to information, student Slobber returned on Tuesday, 7 February 2023. It is

reported that he had gone to install DSTV for a customer in Piata. Speaking with reporters Tuesday, Mr. Kollie clarified that the school is not involved with such scary and gruesome activity, calling on parents and the public not to panic.

“We are Christians and will never engage in ritualistic acts. So wherever the

He described the accusation as misleading and a statement from the belle of the devil.

He urged parents to do follow-ups and verify information they hear about the school before taking it to the public.

According to him, the action of student Slobber’s



information is coming from that we are in [ritualistic] business, we want to categorically deny such fake information,” he continued.

parent has totally embarrassed the institution.

The matter is being investigated by the Bong County Police Detachment.

Pres. Weah is my biological son

-ailing Professor Jones Dopoe reveals

By Naneka A. Hoffman

Liberian folk musician and retired Professor of English, Jones B. Dopoe, is battling old age and sickness that have left him partially losing his speech and memory, and confined in a wheelchair.

The NEW DAWN recently visited the residence of a daughter of Prof. Dopoe, Miss Benetta Dopoe, in Duazon community along the Roberts International Airport (RIA) highway outside Monrovia and spoke with the Professor himself, who disclosed that the President of Liberia, George Manneh Weah, is his biological son.

He said President Weah knows

properly take care of their father except her brothers and sisters who have been helping her in the process. Meanwhile, Miss Benetta is appealing to government, philanthropists and humanitarian organizations to come to the rescue of Prof. Dopoe, noting that her father impacted so many people educationally, but regrets that he did not educate her.

She adds that they now live by the grace of God despite her father being a well-known personality narrating that she was very little but still remembers how people knew him. Benetta expresses sorrow in seeing her father losing his memory sometimes for two weeks



him to be his (Mr. Weah’s) father, but couldn’t explain why the President is not paying him any attention even prior to, and after he assumed the Presidency.

But the conversation ended abruptly after Professor Dopoe lost his memory and could not recall anything, including his speech.

However, Benetta Dopoe narrates that her father has about 26 children by many women, and was residing with one of her stepmothers in Mount Barclay but because of lack of care, she went for him.

According to her, Prof. Dopoe had never told the children that President Weah is one of their siblings, adding that she’s shock hearing it now while he is on sickbed. Benetta reveals that her father fell sick since 2021 and they haven’t taken him to hospital because of lack of money, but her junior sister, Joyce Dopoe, who works at a government-run hospital in Bensonville, has been providing home medication.

She says there is no support to

without help coming from anywhere despite serving the society for many years, impacting lives.

She notes that since her father fell sick, no official of government or politician has paid him a visit including the University of Liberia where he lastly worked as a lecturer or to call and check on his health condition.

Besides the University of Liberia this paper gathered that Professor Dopoe also lectured at Cuttington University in Gbarnga, Bong County Central Liberia.

Apart from his academic career Mr. Dopoe is a famous Liberian folk musician, who plied his trade both in Liberia and in neighboring Sierra Leone, where he played with the late king of palm wine guitar music Sooliman Ernest Rogers, aka, ‘S.E. Rogie’ that produced the song “My Lovely Elizabeth.” In Liberia, some of his efforts include the famous “Sweet, Sweet Cassava Leave” and “Mama I want to go to school, I tired selling plastic bag”, among others

Editing by Jonathan Browne

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La ville natale de PYJ soutient le président Weah

Les citoyens de Buu Yao, district électoral n° 5, domicile du sénateur Prince Yormie Johnson, ont rejoint un grand nombre de Nimbaiens le samedi 4 février lors du

du président Weah est basée sur le bilan positif de ce régime, dont la construction actuelle de routes dans diverses localités du comté.

Selon le révérend Gbah, les citoyens du district souffraient depuis très longtemps d'accidents de voiture fréquents en raison du

Le surintendant Gbah a révélé que les habitants de Buu Yao se sont récemment rencontrés et ont convenu à l'unanimité de la réélection du président Weah, notant qu'ils ne seraient pas ingrats envers le président dont l'administration les a soulagés.

La décision du peuple de Buu Yao de soutenir la réélection de Weah est un coup de poignard dans le dos du sénateur Prince Y. Johnson, qui a récemment retiré son soutien au président pour non-respect des promesses de campagne faites au peuple de Nimba.

PYJ a appelé les Nimbaiens à ne pas soutenir la réélection du président Weah car bien qu'ils aient voté pour le gouvernement CDC, ils n'ont pas bénéficié d'emplois comme promis.

Selon le sénateur Nimba, dont le Mouvement pour la démocratie et la reconstruction (MDR) a massivement fait campagne pour M. Weah à Nimba lors des élections de 2017, l'administration Weah a causé des souffrances indicibles aux Libériens. Il n'a pas amélioré leurs conditions de vie. À cela il faut ajouter l'insécurité qui a conduit à des morts mystérieuses à travers le pays.

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rassemblement d'un million de citoyens de la coalition au pouvoir qui s'est tenu à Sanniquellie, pour soutenir le président George Weah pour un second mandat.

S'exprimant ce week-end à Sanniquellie, dans le comté de Nimba, le surintendant statutaire du district de Zoe-Geh, le révérend Zephaniah D. Gban, a déclaré que la décision des habitants de Buu Yao de soutenir la réélection

mauvais état de route.

Selon lui, le gouvernement du CDC a apporté un grand soulagement aux citoyens souffrants en reliant le district aux autres parties du pays par de bonnes routes.

Le surintendant statutaire de Zoe-Geh a fait cette déclaration à Sanniquellie après avoir voyagé avec d'autres citoyens du district à Sanniquellie pour soutenir la candidature du président Weah pour un deuxième mandat.

À Bamako, la Russie réaffirme son alliance avec le Mali et voit plus grand au Sahel

La visite d'amitié et de travail au Mali du ministre russe des Affaires étrangères, Sergueï Lavrov, s'est terminée mardi 7 février. Au cours de son séjour de moins de 24 heures, outre une séance de travail avec son homologue malien Abdoulaye Diop, le chef de la diplomatie russe a été reçu par le chef de la junte malienne, le colonel Assimi Goïta. Il a promis l'aide de son pays au Mali et aux pays du Sahel face aux jihadistes.

Comme cadeau-souvenir de sa visite au Mali, le ministre russe des Affaires étrangères, Sergueï Lavrov, a reçu des mains de son homologue malien, Abdoulaye Diop, un magnifique sabre. Peut-être un clin d'œil au nouveau partenaire russe choisi au détriment de la France : « Sabre » est le nom de baptême des forces spéciales françaises qui ont été obligées de plier bagages dans une partie du Sahel.

Au cours d'une conférence de presse à Bamako, le chef de la diplomatie russe a vanté

à plusieurs reprises la nouvelle alliance annoncée entre son pays et le Mali, dans le cadre de la lutte contre le jihadisme. Il a promis au Mali la poursuite du soutien militaire.

Depuis bientôt deux ans, Moscou a livré à Bamako d'importants matériels militaires et dépêché sur place des centaines d'hommes. Ceux-ci sont des instructeurs selon la version officielle, mais ils sont considérés par plusieurs pays occidentaux comme des mercenaires de Wagner, un groupe de sécurité

privé.

Dans la région, la Russie voit plus grand. Elle entend aider également d'autres pays du Sahel et même au-delà, dans le cadre de la lutte contre le terrorisme et l'insécurité, a affirmé Sergueï Lavrov. Il n'a pas donné plus de détails, mais la nouvelle politique africaine de son pays sera dévoilée lors du prochain sommet Russie-Afrique, qui se tiendra en juillet 2023 à Saint-Petersbourg.



Éditorial

Exploitation des fonds du gouvernement américain à Margibi

Les habitants du comté de Margibi risquent d'être radiés d'un programme de santé financé par le gouvernement américain en raison de la corruption, ceci malgré la désignation de trois hauts responsables de l'administration Weah par les États-Unis l'année dernière pour corruption publique continue.

Un communiqué publié lundi par l'ambassade des États-Unis à Monrovia indique que la mission de l'USAID au Libéria décidera de conserver Margibi ou non dans le cadre de l'accord de gouvernement à gouvernement de l'USAID, au terme d'une enquête transparente. Il s'agit de situer les responsabilités dans l'utilisation abusive des fonds du gouvernement américain.

La déclaration a été rendue publique après qu'un enregistrement audio a fait fuite. Dans l'enregistrement en question, le Dr Augustine Nyankun, un agent de santé du comté de Margibi, Fannieh, et d'autres cadres supérieurs discutaient de facturations frauduleuses et de collecte de pots-de-vin auprès des fournisseurs dans le cadre du programme d'accord de remboursement à montant fixe (FARA) parrainé par l'USAID pour le Système de santé de Margibi, à hauteur de 801 693 \$ US.

Le programme, selon le rapport, prend en charge le coût de la mise en œuvre des composantes de l'ensemble essentiel de services de santé pour la planification familiale, la santé maternelle et infantile et la prévention et le traitement du paludisme dans 24 centres de santé du comté.

Bien que le ministère de la Santé ait pris des mesures rapides, rappelant les autorités sanitaires du comté liées à la fuite audio pour enquête, l'ambassade des États-Unis a dit avoir la responsabilité particulière de faire en sorte que l'argent des contribuables américains mis à disposition au profit du peuple du Libéria, y compris les habitants de Margibi, soit utilisé à bon escient.

Il est malheureux et regrettable que les habitants de tout un comté souffrent de la malhonnêteté et de la cupidité de quelques fonctionnaires, qui voient dans l'argent national et étranger une occasion de se remplir les poches au détriment de leurs concitoyens.

Le Dr Augustine Nyankun Fannieh et d'autres cadres supérieurs ont été entendu parler de facturations frauduleuses et de la collecte de pots-de-vin auprès de fournisseurs dans le cadre du programme FARA parrainé par l'USAID. C'est une honte pour le peuple libérien, qui a besoin de tout le soutien d'amis étrangers pour améliorer son état de santé.

Les individus qui sont impliqués ne sont pas différents des marchands de la mort, car leurs actions non seulement sapent le système de santé du Libéria, mais menacent carrément la vie de milliers de citoyens de Margibi, qui sont les bénéficiaires directs du programme.

Nous nous souvenons clairement comment le ministère de la Santé a détourné des millions de dollars en 2022 dans le cadre du programme du Fonds mondial pour le paludisme au Libéria et a menti en disant qu'une partie des fonds avait été dépensée pour des publicités dans les médias, y compris des jingles radio pour lesquels il ne pouvait pas fournir de reçus.

Lorsque nous menons nos services publics avec une telle malhonnêteté et un mépris flagrant pour les partenaires étrangers qui donnent l'argent de leurs contribuables pour nous aider à sauver nos malheurs, nous ne nous minons pas seulement, mais laissons une très mauvaise empreinte pour la génération à venir.

Français

La ville natale de PYJ soutient

La cérémonie de soutien à Sanniquellie a réuni des milliers de Nimbaïens, y compris d'anciens généraux, qui ont déclaré aux journalistes qu'ils ne se laisseraient pas bernier par un individu, qui ne cherche que son propre intérêt.

L'ex-général Peter G. Paye, les représentants Joseph Nyan Sonwaybi du district électoral n° 3, Prince Tokpah du district n° 2 et Johnson Gwaikolo du district n° 9, se sont respectivement joints à la foule pour s'engager à soutenir le

président Weah pour lui permettre de poursuivre ses programmes de développement. à travers le pays.

Selon eux, les Libériens bénéficient actuellement de divers travaux de construction de routes, et de la paix et l'unité.

Recevant l'approbation à Nimba, le secrétaire général du CDC, Jefferson Kojee, a remercié les Nimbaïens d'avoir toujours soutenu le président Weah.

Kojee a ensuite exhorté les habitants de Nimba à continuer de soutenir l'administration Weah, car le gouvernement continuera à soutenir le comté.

À la Une : l'idylle entre le Mali et la Russie...

Le ministre russe des Affaires étrangères Sergueï Lavrov et son homologue malien Abdoulaye Diop donnent une conférence de presse à la suite de leurs entretiens à Bamako, le 7 février 2023.

Les relations entre Bamako et Moscou n'ont jamais été aussi étroites. Dès son arrivée dans la capitale malienne dans la nuit de lundi à mardi, le ministre russe des Affaires étrangères, Sergueï Lavrov, a

été à l'origine de la libération de l'Afrique du joug colonial ». »

En effet, « renforcer la coopération bilatérale et lutter contre les approches coloniales, tels ont été les leitmotivs de cette visite », insiste le journal en ligne malien Malikilé.

Commentaire de Jeune Afrique : « Sergueï Lavrov était en terrain conquis. Et en a profité pour asséner quelques remarques acerbes à ses adversaires occidentaux, dont il a raillé les « approches néocoloniales » en Afrique. Depuis Bamako, nouvelle



été fait commandeur de l'Ordre national du Mali, rapporte Maliweb, pour ses « décisions fortes et courageuses qui ont permis au Mali de continuer d'exister en tant que pays uni, indépendant et souverain. »

Le chef de la diplomatie russe a indiqué que Moscou continuerait « d'apporter son soutien aux pays du Sahel pour qu'ils puissent vaincre le terrorisme, relate encore Maliweb. (...) Soulignant qu'en matière de coopération avec les pays africains, « Moscou n'avait rien à cacher et n'avait pas à avoir honte », Sergueï Lavrov a lancé des piques aux détracteurs du rapprochement entre la Russie et les pays africains, déclarant que « La Russie a

place forte pour Moscou sur le continent, Sergueï Lavrov a aussi tenté de vendre la coopération russe aux pays africains - en particulier à ceux du Sahel et du golfe de Guinée qui sont exposés à la menace djihadiste. »

Et Wagner ?

Lors de la conférence de presse commune de Sergueï Lavrov et de son homologue malien, Abdoulaye Diop, aucune question qui fâche de la part de la presse locale... C'est que pointe Le Monde Afrique : « ni les journalistes de la presse gouvernementale malienne ni ceux de RT France (la chaîne d'information russe) n'ont interrogé les deux ministres sur le statut des troupes russes débarquées au Mali, selon des sources françaises et américaines, depuis décembre 2021.

Le Représentant Résident de la CEDEAO en Guinée a rendu une visite de courtoisie au Ministre de l'Administration du Territoire et de la Décentralisation.



Le Représentant Résident de la CEDEAO en Guinée, S.E Louis Blaise AKA-BROU a rendu une visite de courtoisie aujourd'hui 7 janvier 2023, au Ministre de l'Administration du Territoire et de la Décentralisation, Monsieur Mory Condé dans son cabinet.

La rencontre s'est déroulée en présence du Ministre de la défense nationale, le Général Aboubacar Sidiki Camara dit Idi Amin.

Les échanges ont porté sur l'évolution de la situation politique en Guinée notamment l'état d'avancement de la mise en œuvre du chronogramme de la Transition.

Le Ministre de l'Administration du Territoire et de la Décentralisation, acteur majeur de la mise en œuvre du chronogramme de la Transition a réaffirmé l'engagement et la disponibilité du Gouvernement à conduire une Transition apaisée et réussie.

Le Ministre de la défense nationale quant à lui, a fait un appel aux Autorités compétentes de la CEDEAO de soutenir la Guinée dans la recherche des moyens techniques et financiers pour l'exécution des différentes étapes de la Transition.

Pour sa part, le Représentant Résident de la CEDEAO en Guinée, après avoir annoncé l'arrivée d'une délégation de la CEDEAO en Guinée dans les jours à venir, a rassuré les Autorités guinéennes par les biais des deux ministres la disponibilité de la CEDEAO à accompagner la Guinée tout au long de la Transition.

La CEDEAO se mobilise pour améliorer la mise en œuvre du Traité sur le commerce des armes (TCA).

La Commission de la CEDEAO et les responsables des commissions nationales (COMNAT) de lutte contre les armes légère et petits calibres (ALPC) des états membres de la CEDEAO, se sont réunis du 30 janvier au 2 février, lors d'un atelier régional pour l'établissement d'une liste de contrôle nationale pour la mise en œuvre du Traité sur le commerce des armes dans les États membres de la CEDEAO, à Lomé, la capitale de la République Togolaise.

Cet atelier de haut niveau visait principalement à établir une liste nationale harmonisée de contrôle pour la mise en œuvre effective du Traité sur le commerce des armes entre les États membres de la CEDEAO.

Outre les représentants gouvernementaux, cet atelier a été marqué par la participation de diverses organisations partenaires de la CEDEAO telles que l'UNIDIR, l'UNREC, Expertise France, Saferworld, Halo Trust et la GIZ qui ont partagé leur expérience dans le domaine du contrôle des ALPC.

Au cours de la cérémonie d'ouverture, le Dr Jiaming Miao, le directeur adjoint de l'UNREC a félicité la Commission de la CEDEAO et les Commissions nationales des armes légères des États membres de la CEDEAO pour leurs interventions soutenues, dans la promotion du désarmement et de la maîtrise des armements dans la région, malgré les nombreuses contraintes opérationnelles qu'elles face et a exprimé l'assurance que l'UNREC

continuera d'aider la région de la CEDEAO à remplir ses obligations en vertu du TCA et de la Convention de la CEDEAO.


Le Directeur du secrétariat du TCA (en anglais ATT secretary), M. Dladla Dumisani, dans ses déclarations, a souligné que le secrétariat reste engagé à soutenir les deux priorités fondamentales du TCA, à savoir l'universalisation du Traité et la mise en œuvre effective des obligations du Traité au niveau national.

Dans son allocution, le Commissaire aux Affaires Politiques, Paix et Sécurité de la Commission de la CEDEAO, Amb. Abdel-Fatau Musah, représenté à la cérémonie par le Dr Sani Adamu, Chargé de programme, Désarmement et Maîtrise des armements a remercié le Gouvernement togolais pour son accueil chaleureux. Il a souligné que la Commission de la CEDEAO travaille assidûment pour s'assurer que les meilleures pratiques et normes mondiales sont en place dans nos États membres pour le contrôle et la



gestion des armements.


Le Vice-Président de la COMNAT de la République Togolaise, M. Inoussa Bouraima, avant de déclarer la cérémonie ouverte a souligné que le TCA est en effet un instrument essentiel qui fournit un mécanisme transparent pour régler le transfert d'armes conventionnelles et prévenir leur trafic illicite et leur détournement.



Republic of Liberia

NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (PSA).

30 January 2023

The National Elections Commission of Liberia is seeking applications from qualified and interested Liberians to work as Biometric Voter Registration staff for the 20 March – 11 May 2023 voter registration exercise. The categories of applicants are:

1. Voter Registration Supervisors

2. Voter Registrars

3. Computer Technicians

4. Clerks

All applicants must be Liberian citizens currently residing within Liberia, 18 years and above for all of the categories; must be computer literate; must have experience working with digital devices such as cameras, smart phones, tablets, etc.

Applicants must have a university degree, or be a college graduate or a trained professional, depending on the category of position.

Additionally, applicants must have proper identification such as a previous voter ID card or other genuine identification cards.

Applicants must also have an active **Mobile Money/Orange Money number** fully registered in his/her name. A second party number will not be allowed.

Application must be done online at **jobs.necliberia.org**.


Applicants can access the application link (**jobs.necliberia.org**) on the National Elections Commission’s Website - **www.necliberia.org** or visit the NEC Liberia Facebook page.

Qualified females are encouraged to apply.

Online applications start on January 30, 2023 and end on February 6, 2023.

NOTE: Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for further screening.

Signed: _____
Director of Human Resource/NEC.



Change of Name

I am changing my name from Mekie Swen to Mekie R.T. Gbeisay, beginning 10th of February A.D. 2023 that all documents signed by the petitioner herein prior to this decree remain valid.

More first-time voters

Start from page 11

because has constructed roads, and his government pays the West African Senior School Certificate Exam (WASSCE) fees for students.

George Grant, an 18-year-old man from Clara Town pledged his vote for President Weah for constructing roads. He said President Weah also plans to construct a football field in Clara Town.

Few of the first-time voters pledging their votes for Amb. Boakai include an 18-year-old girl, Satta Manobah from Clara Town. She said she will vote for Baokai because he is free from corruption.

Another supporter of Mr. Boakai is Jabbie Ebrassa, a 19-year-old boy from Clara Town. Ebrassa said he will vote Amb. Boakai

because he didn’t see the change he wanted in the Weah administration.

Additionally, Mohammed Talawaley, an 18-year-old boy from Vai Community said he will vote for Amb. Boakai because the CDC-led government is not giving support to the youth.

AFL has bigger task at hand

Start from page 7

He added that the President is advised by the national security council, therefore, he believes that it’s their responsibility to make sure they maintain the peace.

At the same time, Senator Zargo disclosed that Liberia has repeatedly failed to comply with the United Nations projection to beef up the military capacity to about five thousand men and women.

According to him, when the projection was made to be at five thousand plus men and women, the study was not only conducted by the internal stakeholders. The Lofa Senator said international partners including the Americans, Nigerians, Ghanaians and Sierra Leoneans formed part of the process. “The projection was made for us to be at five thousand plus men and women. Are we there yet? Of course no. We are not. Why are we not there? It’s our challenge,” he lamented.

“We are responsible for any action that may have caused us not to be there. How do we foster stakeholders’ engagement for a sustainable democracy when the first thing we should have done as we agreed we have not?”

He said this is a serious challenge and

it needs to be looked at.

Giving a welcome remark at the program, the Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) of the Armed Forces of Liberia Brigadier General Geraldine Janet George extolled the audience for participating and honoring the AFL’s invitation.

“I believe that your presence here today is very important because we all represent stakeholders to forester peace when it comes to our country,” she said.

She urged that the necessary question be asked and that key attention be given to ensure that Liberia’s democracy is maintained and protected. The Armed Forces of Liberia on Tuesday held its 66th Armed Force Day symposium. Several international and local stakeholders, and members of the security sector graced the program.

The symposium was held under the topic: “Fostering Effective Stakeholders’ Engagement for Sustainable Democracy.”

It was climaxed with a panelist discussion on the democracy and maintenance of Liberia’s peace and *stability*

Promising footballer killed

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killing clearly violates Article (1) of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which states that “Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her life.” it also violates the right to fair trial enshrined in Article 14 of the ICCPR.

Family sources, who spoke to the New Dawn via social media said the late Victor Sabu Yenglee, wasn't known as armed robber prior to his murder. “We all came on the scene and we got there when brother Sabu was still breathing, but it was very difficult for me to identify him. I only recognized the person as my brother when I heard him saying - gentlemen, my name is Sabu Yenglee and I'm from Gor-gartuo. It's my first time doing this thing. I was around when he made the statement. We were the people that even took him to the hospital.” Felton Lehwoan said.

The deceased lastly played for Wonta

United Football Club in the Liberia Football Association (LFA) Nimba County Sub-Committee Third Division League. He previously played for Selehwon United, Karn United and was hugely linked with a big move to several topflight clubs in the Orange-LFA National first division League.

The death of Victor Sabu Yenglee brings to five, the number persons who have reportedly been killed in mob violence.

Weeks ago, another man was mobbed to death in Sanniquillie City and Yekepa respectively, in alleged armed robberies. The victim in Yekepa was killed and his motorbike stolen.

Several residents of Ganta, who spoke to the NEW DAWN, describe the death of Victor Yenglee as unbelievable, for a young man who just returned to the county with a victory to have been involved in such practice. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Unnamed Kenyan linked

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Djibril, and Lebanese Issam Makki, were held in detention as part of an investigation.

According to the LDEA, the latest cocaine consignment was stashed in a frozen food warehouse at the Freeport of Monrovia that belongs to TRH Trading Corporation, was stocked in 11 cartoons weighing approximately 197 kilograms, valued at US\$37,884,479.00.

Last week’s arrest and the October 2022 discovery bring to nearly US\$140 million, the worth of narcotic substances that have been easily transited thru Liberia under the Weah

administration in just three months.

Liberians are yet to see full prosecution of cartels trading these substances and their illegal entry here, without a proper check.

Questions are in the air about security at the nation’s main port, given frequent discovery of drugs and arms there.

In January, huge cache of assorted arms, including automatic rifles entered the country through the Freeport of Monrovia in a forty-foot container before it was subsequently confiscated by the Police.

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More first-time voters favor Weah

By Naneka A. Hoffman

Majority of potential first-time voters interviewed by this paper say they will vote incumbent President George Manneh Weah in support of his second term bid. Some of the reasons they have cited include road projects undertaken by the Weah-led administration, payment of WAEC fees especially for public school students, and efforts toward electricity. This paper carried out a

also seeking the nation's highest office. But a persistent political divide among opposition leaders appears to drive potential first-time voters toward Mr. Weah. A few of the potential first-time voters interviewed said they will vote for Amb. Boakai. Some political observers think the trend Liberian politics is taking, mainly among young people, may be frustration among those whose hopes have been dashed by

completed road projects that began during former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's regime. Losine V. Kamara, also an 18-year-old boy from Bye-Pass Community in Monrovia explained that he will vote for President Weah. Kamara stated that President Weah has a good legacy, adding that the incumbent reduced school fees and built roads. Ms. Lydia Tommy, an 18-year-old girl from the King Gray Community in Paynesville pledged to vote for President Weah because of ongoing development in the country under his regime. She praised President Weah for bringing electricity and water to the country. For his part, 18-year-old Jonah Zariah from the King Gray Community vowed to vote for President Weah he has the country at heart and he cares for his people. Zariah, President Weah has carried out some developments such as roads, electricity, and the construction of playground for children.

Also speaking, Eugene Teah, an 18-year-old boy from King Gray said he will be voting for President Weah because President Weah carried out road development in some of the counties. According to him, President Weah is helping young people with their education. Additionally, 18-year-old Ben Kardor from Vai Town Community on Bushrod Island said he will vote for President Weah in appreciation of his road projects and development in the health sector. Jebbeh Burphy, an 18-year-old student, explained that she will vote for President Weah

another rescue mission in 2005 which brought in Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf as President, who subsequently brought hope to Liberia, and for the country to be recognized around the world." According to him, the former Unity Party-led government brought in so many investors and that some from the opposition termed those concessions that were ratified as bogus, but that the CDC-led government has been in power for five years with no straight concessions for citizens to see. "NGOs were rushing in here, helping our people in different aspects of life; we had business people all trooping into our air space, coming to do business, but today, after nearly six years, we are yet to see these things happening", Moyer notes.

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Unnamed Kenyan linked to US\$37m cocaine

-says LDEA

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

The Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA) through its director general, Michael Zeyhou, is linking an unidentified Kenya national to the shipment of cocaine valued US\$37 million to Liberia. The drugs were confiscated at the Freeport of Monrovia in what's said to be the second largest drug bust here in recent history. The latest catch occurred on Monday, January 30, 2023 by officers of the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA) after tipoff by a whistleblower. On Wednesday, February 8, 2023, the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA), the National Security Agency (NSA) and its collaborating partners witnessed the burning of the drugs at the military barracks, the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia. LDEA director Zehyou said, no arrest has been made from the record second largest cocaine

traced, and lauded TRH Corporation and partners for their cooperation in the latest confiscation. He stressed that the LDEA will continue to remain robust in the fight against drugs trafficking and other narcotic substances, while noting that the Agency has always been in the vanguard to curtail importation of illicit substances here. Zehyou described the confiscation of the US\$37 million consignment as a clear manifestation and milestone achievement in the history of Liberia, while emphasizing that the Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency has made significant efforts in the past few months towards curtailing drugs and other narcotics. Liberia's Justice Minister and Attorney General, Cllr. Frank Musa Dean, warned traffickers invading Liberian territories to desist, threatening that the Government of Liberia will take severe punishment on anyone caught. Minister Dean stressed that the burning of the drugs by the LDEA clearly demonstrates



confiscated in the country's history, but swiftly noted that an unknown Kenyan syndicate is allegedly behind the latest smuggling of drugs to Liberia, as number belonging to that East African country was traced during arrest, after a tipoff from its partner TRH Trading Corporation that, according to him, alerted the Agency which led to the confiscation of the drugs. Zehyou told reporters covering the burning of the drugs at the Barclay Training Center that TRH Trading Corporation, the largest importer of Frozen Food in Liberia is the whistleblower. He explained that brokers of the corporation assigned at the Freeport of Monrovia informed management that an unknown caller with number originating from Kenya, had requested that they had goods kept in the Storage of the TRH Trading Corporation and wanted it removed. He said investigation is ongoing as the purported Kenyan number has been

government's commitment to the fight against contraband. "We are working around the clock. We cannot say all we are doing but we want to alert those who will think Liberia is either a final destination or a transit point to rethink or think twice. We are building our capacity and we want to assure them that they will be caught and punished by government," the Attorney General emphasized. According to him, Liberia is making progress, stating that the government is succeeding in the fight against drug trafficking, while assuring the public that government along with partners will incapacitate drug traffickers as a means of safeguarding the citizenry. Meanwhile, Cllr. Dean has announced February 15, 2023 as date set to commence trial of suspects arrested from the US\$100 million cocaine busted in October 2022. Guinea-Bissau national, Malam Conte, Brazilian Gustavo Henrique, Portuguese Adulai

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random sampling of young people's views Thursday, 9 February 2023 to establish who might be their preferred presidential candidate for the 2023 elections. Mr. Weah and his Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) will be seeking a second six-year term this October in the presidential and legislative elections. Several opposition leaders including former Liberian Vice President Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai and ex-Coca Cola Executive-turned politician Mr. Alexander B. Cummings are

opposition leaders' persistent internal fight. To ascertain first-time voters' views, this paper visited Clara Town, Vai Town, Bye-Pass in Monrovia, and King Gray in Paynesville. In an interview, 18-year-old Robert Kuoh, a resident of Clara Town Community on the Bushrod Island said he will vote for President Weah because the incumbent has brought changes. According to Kuoh, President Weah changed the Monrovia Consolidated School System (MCSS) school uniforms, and he also

Senator Moyer predicts trouble if...

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Unity Party has always been on a rescue mission for Liberia and our Standard Bearer, Ambassador Joseph N. Boakai, will rescue Liberia." He says the government of President Weah talks about economic growth, but there is not development, and that Liberians are hungry all over the place so one does not need a rocket scientist to tell how tough things are in the country. Moyer, a member of the opposition Unity Party, notes that Liberia has had two separate democratic governments in recent times, adding that the first elected democratic government saw the world coming to Liberia in recognition of the country and its people, but today, it is totally a different story, as despite having another

elected democratic government, the entire world is turning its back on Liberia. Turning to the graduates, he says today is a great day in the country where civil servants are being denied salaries on a regular basis, but money was diverted to petition a failed government, adding "and you have defiled that order to attend this program, for this, I want to say thank you." He recalls that when Liberia was going through turmoil, including rigging of the 1985 elections that led citizens running in bushes to return with civil war in 1989, it was the UP that led a rescue mission for Liberia.

When the Accra Peace Accord was delayed, countries got involved and it was the same Unity Party that led

-in alleged armed robbery

According to report, Sabu Yenglee was identified as one of three accomplices that forcibly entered the home Mr. Kerkula with a single-barrel gun after an unidentified local forex

'Mob justice' is a form of extrajudicial punishment or retribution in which a person suspected of wrongdoing is humiliated, beaten, and in many cases killed by angry mob. Said

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Two of the accomplices absconded the scene, snatching away a bag of money belonging to the

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