CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2023	L$159.9597/US$1.00	L$162.1144/US$1.00

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

The NewDawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

French Version Inside

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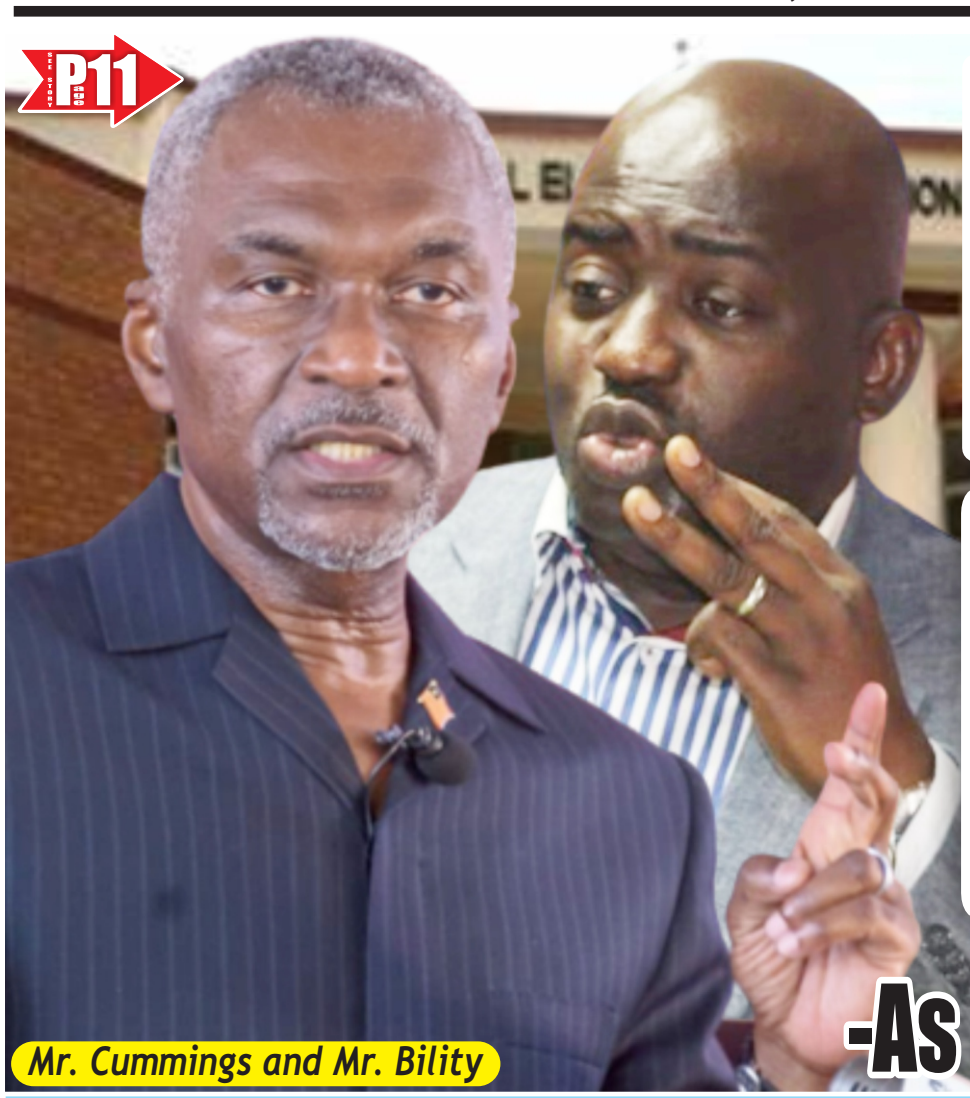
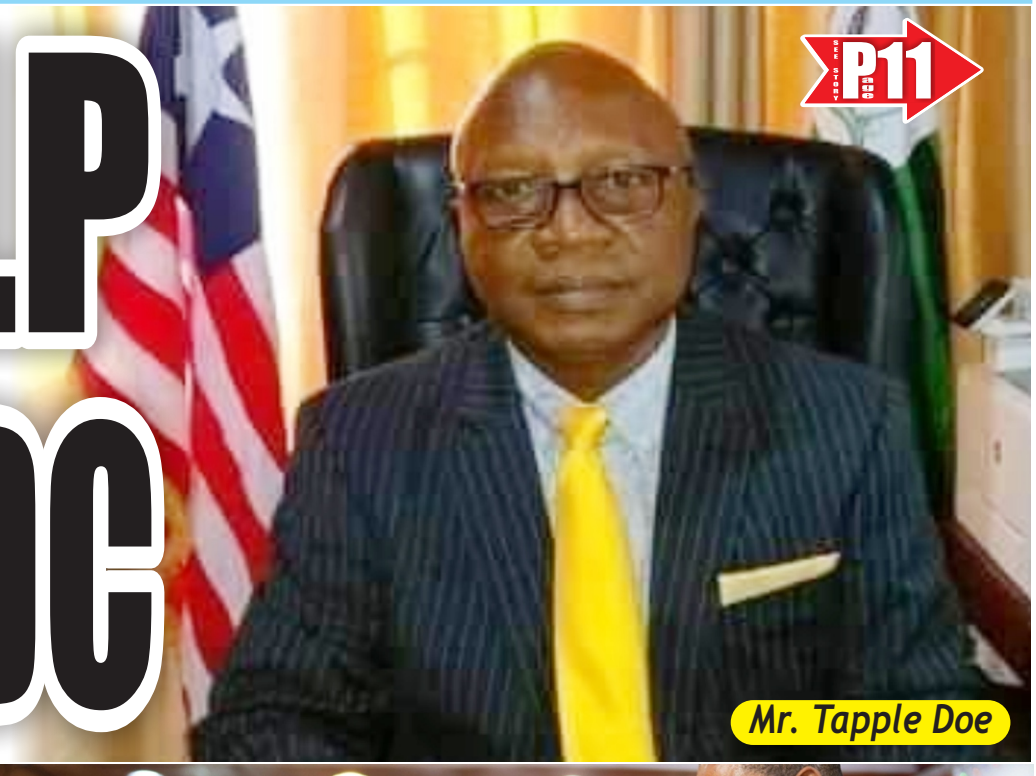


Mr. Cummings and Mr. Bility

NEC in hot waters

-As CPP drags electoral body to court

Crack in PLP support for CDC



Mr. Tapple Doe

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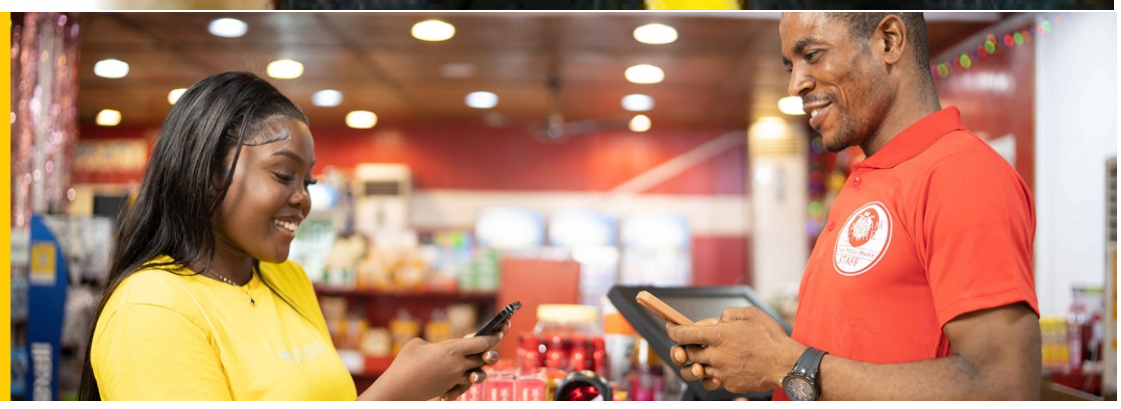

Continental News

Nigeriens Voice Optimism, Skepticism During Blinken Visit

NIAMEY, NIGER/WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken visited Niger with a pledge of humanitarian assistance for displaced people and support for the country's efforts to combat violent extremism.

Residents in the capital city of Niamey interviewed by VOA had mostly positive things to say about the first visit by a U.S. secretary of state.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, left, meets with Nigerien Foreign Minister Hassoumi Massoudou

"We see how today the American military forces, which are on Nigerien territory, are training the defense and security forces," a woman in Niamey told VOA's French to Africa Service. But she said cooperation should not be limited to security.

"There are several cooperation opportunities in the context of climate change. There is also clean water, there are many things," she said.

Blinken used the trip to announce $150 million in new humanitarian assistance to help meet needs in Western and Central Africa and the Sahel region created by instability.

Beyond immediate assistance to refugees and other vulnerable groups, the United States is committing to investing in the long-term stability of the region, Blinken said.

The U.S. will assist in making "Niger's law enforcement more effective in combating terrorism, strengthening border security, enhancing counternarcotics capacity, stemming trafficking, and helping to investigate, prosecute and ultimately reduce terrorism and violent extremism," Blinken said during a joint news conference with his Nigerien counterpart in Niamey.

The United States has military personnel stationed at two air force bases in the country and has supported the Nigerien armed forces with training, equipment donations, and support for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance to combat violent extremism.

Another Niamey resident interviewed by VOA said the military equipment donations have been helpful, but urged political leaders to be cautious.

"Our leaders would have to be very vigilant with regard to the clauses of the contracts signed with these powers because, in reality, they have no friends," he said.

"They only pursue their interests. Some may be greedier, pettier than others, but we have a duty to the youth, as a civil society to ask our leaders to be very clairvoyant."

Another person interviewed said she can see the impact of the U.S. involvement in the security situation. VOA

Police Fire Tear Gas at Mozambican Rapper's Memorial

MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE — Mozambique police fired tear gas and rubber bullets at protesters planning a march Saturday in memory of a rapper vocal in his criticism of the government, Human Rights Watch said.

The sudden death of Edson da Luz, known by his stage name Azagaia, has sparked rare anti-government demonstrations in the southern African country.

On Saturday, more than a thousand people were expected to take part in a memorial march in central Maputo, with rallies also planned in other cities.

But in the capital, a heavy police presence prevented the procession from taking place.

"They didn't allow people to gather," said Zenaida Machado, a senior researcher with HRW in Mozambique, pointing out that the rally had been authorized by city authorities. "Without any sign of violence from the protesters, they started throwing tear gas, and rubber bullets."

Social media footage showed anti-riot police with armored vehicles and dogs firing tear gas as they dispersed small groups of demonstrators.

"We came here to say thank you to rapper Azagaia for everything he has done for this country. Why are they attacking us?" activist Fatima Mimbire told AFP. "It was a peaceful march."

At least two people were injured after a tear gas grenade landed inside a house, said Quiteria Guirrengane, a rights activist who was among the organizers of the demonstration.

"Some young people who were in the march were arrested and we are currently trying to free them."

A police spokesperson did not answer calls from AFP seeking a comment. VOA

Protesters take part in a march supporting rapper Azagaia in Maputo, Mozambique

Central African Nations Vow to Reduce Imports to Spur Job Creation

YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON — Leaders of Central African states meeting Friday in Cameroon announced reductions and bans on some imports to encourage local production and create jobs.

The leaders from Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and the Republic of Congo say the ongoing economic slowdown is stifling development, increasing food and fuel prices, and making living conditions unbearable for a majority the region's 55 million people.

Daniel Ona Ondo, president of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, CEMAC, said conference attendees decided that Central African states will tackle the crisis by reducing or stopping imports of clothing, food, and manufactured goods, mostly from China, Russia, Ukraine, and the European Union.

A man carries a sack of imported wheat flour in the Hamar-Weyne market in Mogadishu, Somalia

Ondo said Central African states will produce goods and grow food locally to boost their economies following a severe recession triggered in 2015 when the international price of oil dipped below $50, forcing many oil exporting countries to scale back production.

He said in 2019, the COVID-19 pandemic triggered one of the largest global economic crises in the world, and in 2022, Russia's war in Ukraine provoked extreme price shocks and disruptions in the supply of food crops and oil in Central Africa.

Ondo said CEMAC, through its financial reforms program, is allocating about $5 million for projects, including import substitutions, over the next five years. He said the funds will be raised through contributions from member states and loans.

Before Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Central African states relied on Russia and Ukraine for 80 percent of their wheat imports and 60 percent of petroleum products. Russia's invasion caused disruptions in supply and price hikes, including a 40 percent spike in the cost of fuel.

CEMAC said most of the imported products could be grown locally.

Cameroon's President Paul Biya, outgoing chairperson of the CEMAC Conference of Heads of State, said solidarity is needed among CEMAC member states to put an end to several crises that are making living conditions difficult and causing despair among civilians.

Biya said CEMAC member states that are still reluctant to reduce imports should open their borders for the free movement of goods and people, which is necessary in speeding economic growth and development.

He also said CEMAC members want to establish resilient, stable and prosperous communities at home.

The leaders agreed to continue negotiations to merge the 11-member Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) with the six-member Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) in a move to boost trade and growth.

ECCAS consists of all CEMAC member states plus Angola, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Sao Tome and Principe. VOA

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EDITORIAL

A little too late Mr. President

PRESIDENT GEORGE Weah on Tuesday, March 14, issued Executive Order #117 consistent with amended Sections 5.2 and 10.2 of the 2014 Code of Conduct requiring appointed public officials seeking elective posts to resign at least one year before the pending election.

THE ACT provides that all officials appointed by the President including all cabinet ministers, deputy, and assistant cabinet ministers, ambassadors, ministers consuls, superintendents of counties, and other Government officials, both military and civilian, appointed by the President pursuant to Article 56(a) of the 1986 Constitution, and any managing director, deputy managing director, assistant managing director of corporation owned by the Government of Liberia, any commissioner, deputy and assistant commissioner of any commission established by the Legislature, and any official of the Government who negotiates and executes contracts, procure goods and services, and/or manages assets for and on behalf of the Government of Liberia, who desires to canvass or contest for an elective public office within the Government of Liberia shall resign his or her position one (1) year before the date on which the election for the post for which he/she intends to contest.

THE REASONS given by the framers which the President acknowledged in his Executive Order #117 is to dissociate the fiduciary duty of trust, integrity and loyalty owed by public officials to the people from their personal desires to contest elections at the expense of public resources.

MORE BESIDES, the intent of the framers of the Code of Conduct particularly the amended Sections 5.2 and 10.2 is to create a level playing field for all Liberians wishing to contest in a pending election.

HOWEVER, THE President's Executive Order has come less than six months before the pending general and presidential elections, more than six months beyond the resignation deadline provided by the amended 2014 code of conduct for appointed public officials seeking elective posts in a pending election.

ASKING APPOINTED public officials wanting to contest in the 2023 general and presidential elections which is less than six months away to resign by April 7, something that should have been done more than six months ago only questions the sincerity of the President in the implementation of the law. This could even open the President's order to legal challenges as was witnessed in 2017, though, this time, in a different fashion.

THE PRESIDENT and team could argue that the law which initially stated two years was amended and printed into Hand Bill on December 29, 2022, therefore, even if the President had made the pronouncement in January, it would still have not met the one-year deadline.

HOWEVER, BEING aware of an election and making the pronouncement in the first week of January would have been seen as a good fate because of the time the law was passed and printed into handbills and not less than six months before the election date.

WHAT IS not done well is just not done at all. The law says resign one year to election, not less than six months. This is too little too late Mr. President.

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan K. Browne

COMMENTARY

By Mariana Mazzucato, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Johan Rockström, and Tharman Shanmugaratnam

Confronting the Global Water Crisis

LONDON – The world's water crisis can no longer be ignored. Unless we manage water properly, we will neither tackle climate change nor meet most of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Last year's unprecedented floods, droughts, cyclonic storms, and heatwaves showed what is coming. But while such disasters garner plenty of attention, the underlying water crisis does not. Water-related challenges – whether there is too much or too little, or whether it is dirty and unsafe – are already fueling chronic food and health insecurity in entire regions. Every 80 seconds, a child under five dies from a disease caused by polluted water; and hundreds of millions more are growing up stunted and with diminished lifetime prospects.

Making matters worse, we have entered a vicious cycle in which the interaction of the water crisis, global warming, and the loss of biodiversity and natural capital exacerbates all three. Wetland erosion and lost soil moisture risk turning some of the planet's great carbon stores into new sources of greenhouse-gas emissions, with devastating consequences for the climate.

No country can rely on its own territory for more than half the rainfall it receives. Everyone's fresh water ultimately comes from precipitation, which depends on the presence of stable oceans, intact forests, and healthy ecosystems in other countries and regions. Yet the capacity of both land and ocean systems to generate water is being destabilized.

As co-chairs of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water, we are calling for collective action to overcome the water crisis. We must marshal a response that is bolder, more integrated across sectors, more networked at the national and global levels, and more equitable than previous efforts. Our work shows that this will require a new "economics of water," as well as a comprehensive strategy to address seven key points.

First, we must recognize the global water cycle as a common good, and manage it accordingly. Since everyone is ultimately connected through water, we must work together to break the vicious cycle and put water back on a sustainable trajectory. That will require a vision based on justice and equity for all communities everywhere.

Second, we must adopt a mission-driven approach encompassing all the key roles that water plays in human well-being. That means treating safe water for domestic use as a human right, and acting collectively to stabilize the global hydrological cycle by managing water use in industry. To ensure food security and resilient food supply chains, and to preserve biodiversity and natural carbon sinks, we will need a revolution in both green (rain-fed) and blue (irrigated) water management.

In addition to mobilizing diverse stakeholders, we will need to use innovation policies and industrial strategies to catalyze solutions to the water crisis. We should scale up investments in water through new public-private partnerships that are as ambitious as those that got us to the moon 50 years ago; but we must attach conditions to ensure that collectively created value is shared widely.

Third, we need to stop underpricing water. With proper pricing and targeted support for the poor, water would be used more efficiently in every sector, more equitably across every community, and more sustainably both locally and globally. But our decision-making also must account for water's non-economic value, to ensure that we are protecting the broader ecosystem on which the water cycle (and human societies) depend.

Fourth, we must phase out some $700 billion of annual agriculture and water subsidies – which often fuel excessive water consumption and other environmentally damaging practices – and reduce the leakages in today's water-delivery systems. Doing so would free up significant resources with which to incentivize water conservation and support the poor directly.

Fifth, we should establish Just Water Partnerships (JWPs) to ensure that low- and middle-income countries can invest in water access, resilience, and sustainability, in ways that contribute both to their national development goals and the global common good.

JWPs would help to bring together several financing streams, not only by re-channeling inefficient domestic subsidies toward better uses, but also by enabling multilateral development banks and development-finance institutions to leverage public finance and crowd in more private capital. The economic returns on these investments would vastly exceed their costs, especially if JWPs are designed to maximize synergies with initiatives to address climate change and achieve more inclusive growth.

Sixth, we should support more dynamic innovation to extend the reach of scarce water resources. Again, such investments will yield high returns. Going to the moon produced advances not only in aerospace but also in nutrition, electronics, communications, materials, and software. Likewise, focusing our attention on the water challenge means doing many things differently, which will lead to creative breakthroughs across many sectors.

For example, fortifying freshwater-storage systems will require us to reimagine how we manage wetlands and groundwater resources that have been dangerously depleted. Developing an urban circular (recycling-oriented) economy for water will create a new logic for treating industrial and urban wastewater. Adopting precision irrigation, drought-resilient rain-fed farming, and less water-intensive crops will move us toward more sustainable food systems and higher incomes for farmers. And water footprints in manufacturing can be reduced, including through the reuse of water in producing critical materials such as the lithium we need for widespread electrification.

Lastly, we must reshape multilateral governance for water. The current system is highly fragmented and inadequate to the challenge. One useful tool is trade policy. By incorporating water-conservation standards in trade agreements, we can encourage more sustainable practices and discourage wasteful water subsidies. We also must use multilateralism to develop skills and capacity globally, and to protect the farmers, women, indigenous peoples, and consumers who are at the frontlines of water conservation.

We still have a chance to convert the water crisis into a global opportunity for economy-wide progress and a new social contract with justice and equity at its center. Failing that, we will no longer have a safe Earth system.

Mariana Mazzucato, Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, is Chair of the World Health Organization's Council on the Economics of Health for All and a co-author (with Rosie Collington) of The Big Con: How the Consulting Industry Weakens Our Businesses, Infantilizes Our Governments, and Warps Our Economies (Penguin Press, 2023). Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, is a former finance minister and foreign minister of Nigeria and a former managing director of the World Bank. Johan Rockström is Director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Senior Minister in Singapore's cabinet, is Chair of the Group of Thirty.

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ON 2ND THOUGHTS

with Othello B. Garblah

Is Liberia turning into a gangster's paradise?

In his 1995 hit song "Gangster's Paradise", the late Coolio described a life full of uncertainties in an environment where gang activities or other criminal activities were common and glorified by locals.

The first verse of Coolio's lyrics: "As I walk through the valley of the shadow of death / I take a look at my life and realize there's nothin' left." The second verse which followed the chorus is even more graphic: I'm livin' life do or die, what can I say? I'm 23 now, but will I live to see 24? The way things is goin' I don't know."

Liberia seems not to be too far from this scenario. As the crime rate increases, many go to bed fearing that they will wake up the next day. The fear of attacks from armed robbers is high because not even your neighbors would come to your rescue before the police who are logistically challenged.

The wave of crimes has increased amidst the breakdown of cultural and moral values leaving the larger population vulnerable.

Back in the days, of prewar Liberia, each one would look out for the other-that was the value that held communities together. A shout of rogue, rogue in a house meant calling the community as a whole to your rescue—the case of Cllr. Gloria Musu Scott is an example of many.

Thieves were very discrete in their stealing in prewar Liberia not as is done in the broad day nowadays, most time getting away with impunity.

The country is also witnessing an increase in violence and thuggery not just against public officials, particularly those close to power but also against vulnerable members of our society-Interestingly most of these acts of violence take place in public glare.

Broad day robbery and attack on ordinary citizens by drug addicts commonly referred to here as "Zogoes" has become a regular daily feature here and no one dare intervene to rescue the victim.

All of these summed up the breakdown in social and cultural norms. What is more concerning now is that this gangsterism and thuggeries have permeated our schools and shamefully at the country's highest institution of learning.

Nearly a week ago, there was an attack on Mr. Alloysius Howe, a Special aid to Finance and Development Minister Samuel Tweah by some members of the University of Liberia campus-based Student Unification Party (SUP).

Howe was injured in the process and his vehicle was damaged. There was no condemnation from members of the opposition bloc. In fact, his attack was cheered in some quarters.

This was not the first attack on a public official: Former Minister of State Nathaniel F. McGill was attacked and forced off the UL main campus while on official duty by the same SUP members.

As if that was not enough, Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor was chased off campus, while launching a program at the same main campus on Capitol Hill.

Former Solicitor General Cllr, Saymah Cyrenus Cephus was also chased off campus, while visiting there weeks later. No punitive measure has been taken against these students and so they have made it a new normal.

On December 24, 2022, zogoes armed themselves with cutlasses and machetes and invaded the city's main market center where buyers and shoppers had gone to trade. Stores were shot as early as 3 pm on Christmas eve because of fear that these drug addicts who roam the streets would regroup and launch an attack after brave marketers foiled their first attack.

According to Urban Dictionary, a gangster paradise is a town where gang activity or other criminal activity is common and glorified by the locals.

When people celebrate the misery or misfortunes of others and justify that such attacks are necessary on individuals perceived to be corrupt or corrupt, it makes our county no different from a gangster paradise where crimes are committed with impunity.

Coolio would go on to say, "why are we so blind to see when the ones we hurt are you and me."

GUEST COMMENTARY

By Edward T. Farley, Former Deputy Chief of Protocol, Republic of Liberia.

The Law Must Direct Our Path

Liberia is on the brink of a constitutional crisis if it has not fallen into one already. On Friday, March 17, barely three days to the commencement of voters registration, the opposition Collaborating Political Parties (CPP), of Alexander Cummings, filed a petition before the Supreme Court asking the court to compel the NEC to adhere to the established preconditions of the Liberian Constitution for the conduct of voters registration. The CPP is, therefore, contending that the NEC is proceeding wrongly to conduct the voters registration without demarcating the constituencies into which a voter may be registered to vote.

With less than seven months to the elections, the clock to the October 10 Polls is ticking ominously. In a Statement released after filing their petition, the CPP said it "is not seeking the intervention of the court to delay the elections."

Already though, the repeated delays in the timely conduct of the National Housing and Population Census, and especially in announcing the final results, have many seriously concerned about the timely conduct of the 2023 Elections, as constitutionally directed. To date, only a preliminary result of the already delayed Census has been announced. Although there are public concerns around both the integrity and credibility of the conduct of the census, and there are widespread calls for rejection of its results by at least seven political parties, interestingly, the announced preliminary results informed of significant shifts and growth in the population. Important members of the international community have also endorsed the census.

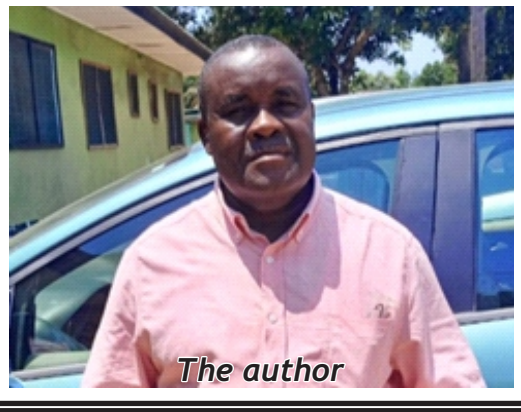
The Liberian Constitution is unambiguous on the ordering processes of the elections. Before an election, when a census determines growth and shifts in the population, the Legislature must immediately determine a new threshold for constituencies, and the NEC must demarcate the new constituencies before registering voters in those constituencies. With a few months to the elections, this constitutional sequencing and flow of activities now appear to be constitutionally distorted, at least this is the impression of the CPP.

The constitutional sequencing is contained in Article 80 under subsections c, d and e. In part, (c) provides that "every Liberian citizen shall have the right to be registered in a constituency, and to vote in public elections only in the constituency where registered…". According to (d), a constituency "shall have an approximately equal population of 20,000, or such number of citizens as the Legislature shall prescribe in keeping with population growth and movements as revealed by a national census; provided that the total number of electoral constituencies in the Republic shall not exceed one hundred." Finally, (e) stipulates that "immediately following a national census and before the next elections, the Elections Commission shall reapportion the constituencies in accordance with the new population figures so that every constituency shall have as close to the same population as possible; provided, however, that a constituency must be solely within a county."

At its recent opening, the Honorable Chief Justice spoke eloquently and persuasively about the commitment of the court to protecting its independence and ensuring public credibility. Less than a week later, perhaps the most critical matter of the upcoming elections has landed on the highest court's docket. This is a test for the court. Liberians are concerned and will be closely watching how the court deals with this matter.

It is often said that an outcome is as good as the process to achieve it. Across Africa and in many parts of the world, elections results are triggers for conflicts. Too often, it is not what actually happens on the day of voting that undermines the integrity and credibility of the elections, it is the integrity and credibility of the electoral processes leading up to the voting day that actually trigger the disagreements and raises the levels of tension to boiling points. This is why it is valuable to the elections that contenders are convinced that an honorable court will deal with challenges to electoral matters and processes in a timely manner especially when they call on questions of constitutionality.

Drawing the court's attention to the looming constitutional question is the right thing to do. Now the court must dutifully respond. It is always best to proceed the right way than to rush our nation onto a wrong path. The right way is the legal and constitutional way. Let the law continue to direct Liberia's path.



The author

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **SOLICITATION NO: VA-669-23-000005**

2. **ISSUANCE DATE: March 16, 2023**

3. **CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS: March 31, 2023, 11:59 PM Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia**

4. **POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

5. **POSITION TITLE: USAID Project Management Assistant (Health)**

6. **MARKET VALUE:** USD $27,502 – $44,008 FSN-09
In accordance with **AIDAR Appendix J** and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.

7. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.

8. **PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia.

9. **ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.

10. **SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access.

11. **STATEMENT OF DUTIES**

Basic Function of Position

The incumbent is a member of USAID/Liberia's Health Team. Working across the office, s/he effectively responds to technical reporting requirements, assists with project monitoring, and conducts analysis of health data and statistics, including budget information. This position reports directly to the Health Team Leader or his/her designate.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

Provides program and administrative support in the management of USAID/Liberia's Health activities: 80%

- Supports the Health Project Management Specialist and USDH Health Team Leader in developing and monitoring activities, which address health issues; attends project committee meetings and makes oral and written presentations concerning data related to project monitoring.
- Supports the Health Office in all administrative functions including meeting and motor pool reservations and maintaining adequate office supplies.
- Prepares, finalizes and circulates for approval the full range of project implementation documents, including: action memos, statements of work, government cost estimates and other required documents/reports as directed by the USDH Health Team Leader and/or Deputy Team Leader; makes recommendations to the Project Management Specialists on resolution of complex questions that are addressed during USAID; implementing partner (IP) and host-government reviews of such documents; negotiates clearance of these documents through the appropriate USAID, IP and/or government channels, often in the absence of instructions or precedents.
- In collaboration with the Project Management Specialists and the USDH Health Team Leader, conducts periodic assessments of health activities by making site visits, collecting relevant data, monitoring progress of results identified, analyzing and interpreting findings and summarizing these findings in follow-up reports for use by technical staff in meetings with USAID, IP and Host Government Officials; must use own judgment to affirm the validity of information obtained, and the effectiveness of project operations; makes unofficial reports to supervisor of status of activities.
- Researches host-country sources to collect relevant data, studies or reports (e.g., Ministry of Health, Liberian Institute for Statistics and Geo Information Service (LISGIS), international donors and other sources); summarizes findings and drafts relevant documents, which consolidate all the information obtained; provides views concerning related issues.
- Collects, collates prepares and presents, in report or memo form with spreadsheets and charts, relevant data, as needed for meetings with other Mission staff, IP, host-country representatives, or bilateral and international donors, on issues dealing with health including: HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, family planning and reproductive health and infectious diseases to promote policy dialogue and/or change.
- Serves as activity manager and/or COR/AOR for research and monitoring activities including but not limited to piloting bed net distribution through schools and the PEPFAR civil society oversight award.

Follows administrative procedures to ensure implementation of time-sensitive activities: 20%

- Assists senior program staff in setting up meetings with host government counterparts, and in negotiating the clearance of project documents through host government channels.
- Tracks documents from Implementing Partners such as Proposals, Annual Work Plans, Quarterly Reports and Annual Reports, as well as USAID internal documents.
- Assists with the development of required reports for internal USAID purposes (e.g. operational plan, briefers, taskers, talking points) by compiling data relevant to health activities, and reporting on progress in achieving results and objectives.
- Develops familiarity with and maintains skills at using current USG and USAID System such as GLAAS, FACTS, OP data entry and entry of PMP requirements; ensuring population and health data are entered correctly.
- In collaboration with other Mission staff, collates information on the Health Team's activities for inclusion in the Operational Plan and ensures that the final reports are submitted to the Program Office in a timely manner.
- Maintains database on the health sector at the national, regional, and county levels, by obtaining related information from -host country stakeholders, IP bilateral and international donors; contact host country sources and other organizations to obtain current statistics in these areas; updates databases and inputs data for the Health Team's procurement plan.

- **Supervision controls**: N/A

- **Supervisory Relationship:** The Health Program Management Assistant is directly supervised by the U.S. Direct Hire Health Team Leader or the Deputy Team Leader.

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS
The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

1. **Education:** Minimum of bachelors degree in public health, sociology/social sciences, economics, business, accounting, or health related field is required.

2. **Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of three years in progressively responsible positions in the following technical areas: public health, including malaria, HIV/AIDS, family planning, reproductive health, infectious disease, or related field is required.

3. **Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
4. **Language Proficiency:** Level IV, fluent written and oral proficiency in English is required.

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1. **Education:** Minimum of bachelors degree in public health, sociology/social sciences, economics, business, accounting, or health related field is required.

2. **Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of three years in progressively responsible positions in the following technical areas: public health, including malaria, HIV/AIDS, family planning, reproductive health, infectious disease, or related field is required.

3. **Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
4. **Language Proficiency:** Level IV, fluent written and oral proficiency in English is required.

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

The Evaluation Factors listed below will be the basis for evaluating and ranking applicants for the position. Applicants will be scored based on the documentation submitted within the application. Applicants must submit a supplemental document outlining their responses to the evaluation factor(s) in order to be considered.

1. Selection Process
After the closing date for receipt of applications, a committee will convene to review applications that meet the minimum requirements and evaluate them in accordance with the evaluation criteria. As part of the selection process, the most qualified candidates will be interviewed. Reference checks will be made only for applicants considered as finalists. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities.

2. Evaluation Factors
Those applicants who meet the minimum education and experience qualifications will be evaluated based on the content of their application as well as on the applicant's writing, presentation, and communication skills. Applicants should include their name and the announcement number at the top of each additional page. Failure to specifically address the Evaluation Factors will result in the applicant not receiving full credit for pertinent experience.

FACTOR #1: Please describe in 500 words or less why you think you woul d be the best candidate for this position and explain the skills that you will bring to the position.

FACTOR #2: Please describe in 300 words or less a complicated activity or project that you successfully executed. How did you do it? Why were you successful?

3. Basis of Rating
Applicants determined to be competitively ranked will also be evaluated on their interview performance and satisfactory professional reference checks. The Applicant Rating System is as follows:

Evaluation Factors	points
Factor #1	20 points
Factor #2	20 points
Interview Performance	60 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's fit for the position as described in the statement of duties.

Total Possible Points 100 points

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-23-000005 – USAID Project Management Assistant (Health)**

LiberiaHR@usaid.gov.

Applicants may submit an application prior to the closing date and time specified in Section I, item 3 mentioned above unless revised.

Qualified applicants must submit the following documents, or their applications will not be considered for this position:

1. A current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, not to exceed 3 pages.
2. A minimum of three (3) professional references, who are not family members or relatives, with working telephone and email contacts. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities. At least one reference provided should be a current or former supervisor.
3. A supplemental document with a written response to the Evaluation Factors.

Candidates who are applying for this position must fully meet the education requirement (graduated and degree and/or diploma already received) as specified. Candidates must also meet the full work experience requirement and demonstrate in their application that they are an eligible offeror as required in I.9 above. There is no exception to these requirements.

Short-listed candidates may be requested to provide educational documents such as transcripts for degrees, diplomas, certificates, and other pertinent documents as needed.

Any attachments provided via email must be compatible with Microsoft Word or PDF and not zipped. Note that attachments to email must not exceed 25 MB. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Agency retains the right to cancel or amend the solicitation and associated actions at any stage of the recruitment process.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

'Budget not impactful'

--CENTAL lament lack of political will power

By Lewis S. Teh

The Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL) says the National Budget for fiscal year 2022/2023 lacks the will power to impact the lives of citizens across the country.

"However, there are major issues, including corruption and abuse of power, that continue to make the national budget less impactful to citizens," CENTAL said Friday, 17 March 2023 in Sinkor.

The pro-transparency organization lamented that the will power is still not strong enough to make the national budget satisfactorily work for all, especially ordinary citizens and those living in remote parts of the country.

Mr Anderson Miamen

CENTAL Executive Director Mr Anderson Miamen told journalists of a perennial issue of underfunding of public integrity institutions.

He also decried discrepancies in allocations and actual expenditure, misapplication of budgeted resources, and huge disparities in allocations to cities.

The CENTAL chief considered it a 'zero budgeting', and undue prioritization of certain offices, especially those occupied by politicians, opposed to sectors and institutions with direct impacts on the lives of ordinary citizens.

Citing an example, Miamen explained that over the last few budget years, over 80,000 USD has been allotted for a Health Center in Gbondoi Town in Bong County.

However, he said the resources have not reached the people, neither are residents of the town aware if they had such resources in the national budget.

The funds he claimed, were allegedly diverted by Representative Marvin Cole of Bong County to the Kpayah Town Clinic in his district, a clear abuse of power and

CONT'D ON PAGE 10

WHO, MOH hold Community Health Workers Symposium

A delegation of seven hundred Community Health Workers from 46 countries is in Liberia to participate in the ongoing third edition of the Community Health Worker (CHW) symposium Monday, 20 March 2023.

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Health in partnership With the World Health Organization (WHO), African Center for Disease Control, USAID and Golden Touch Corporation (GTC), among others, has gathered the delegates at the EJS Ministerial Complex in Congo Town.

According to a press release, hosting the third International Community Health Workers Symposium is reward of Liberia's bid on 29 June 2020 to the Health System Global (HSG), Community Health Workers summit.

The symposium is held under the theme: "Advancing Community Health Worker Programs to Build Resilient and Equitable Health Systems that Accelerate Primary Health Care for Universal Health Coverage."

The symposium will begin Monday, 20 March and continue up to 24 March, 2023 with two days' pre-conference and three days' main event activities.

The symposium is held every two years with the intention to provide an opportunity for advocacy for the host country and other nations for investment into their Community Health Programs and the health system in general.

It also seeks to provide the needed technical assistance to some member states to expand

Community Health Programs on the continent.

The program is also expected to bring together high level diplomatic guests and government official as well as community health workers and developmental partners.

Monday and Tuesday are considered as pre-conference days where delegates will be presenting their posture and presentation from their various countries.

It is meant to enable Liberia and other countries to learn the best healthcare practices to see how the country can coordinate and collaborate with what other countries are doing.

Also, on Wednesday this week, former Liberian President Mrs. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Champion of the Community Health Workers, will be remarking at the program to provide recommendations and tactics to healthcare providers.

CONT'D ON PAGE 10

Acarous Gray Misbehaved!!

- Sen. Koung

Nimba County Senator Jeremiah Koung said District #8 Representative Moses Acarous Gray misbehaved by challenging everyone and going on the campus of the University of Liberia all in the name of going to have lunch at the student center.

Speaking in the Senate's Chambers a day after the bloody riot on the main campus of the state-run university, Sen. Koung said though the campus of the University of Liberia is in the District of Rep. Gray, he should have avoided the situation by going on the campus when the students have warned him not to go. "Even me here, when the students say I shouldn't go on the campuses of the University of Liberia until I die, I will not go there."

Sen. Jeremiah Koung

He said everyone pays taxes in Liberia, but only government officials are benefiting from the taxes by riding cars, living in comfortable homes and offices. Koung said one group of people can't be living the best life and the others are suffering and people expect them to be happy.

"We all have that power to walk on the campus of the university with men and those students will run away but as lawmakers, we need to act in accordance with our role and use our leadership ability. Gray should have listened to everyone that talked to him and the numerous calls on the radio that people begged him not to go there and say, 'God bless your, people talk to me that's why I will leave it but next time your misbehave I will come there.' He should have said this as a big bother and lawmaker, and nothing was going to happen to him. He was still going to win." Sen. Koung noted.

Also speaking in the Senate Chambers, Grandkru County Senator Numene T.H. Bartekwa disclosed that the President of the University of Liberia called both Pro Temp Albert Chie and Speaker Chambers to tell Rep. Gray not to go on the campus saying, that the students got nothing to lose, and it will look ugly on the part of the lawmaker.

According to Sen. Bartekwa, the District #8 lawmaker ignored the calls and pleas of both the Speaker and Pro Temp and still went ahead to cause chaos on the campus of the University of Liberia.

Maryland County Sen. James Biney adjudged Rep. Gray as being in the wrong for going on the University campus when the students and other people had told him not to go. He said the campuses are for the students and they have the right to tell people who to go there and not to go there.

Grand Bassa County Senator Nyonblee Kangar Lawrence said when Rep. Gray entered the University campus with men, the police were there standing and when rocks were thrown and people got wounded, the police stood by and did nothing to put the situation under control.

She recalled that it happened to her and Teila Urey in District #15, when people wasted gas around the house and wanted to burn Teila to death, up to now there has been nothing the police have done from the investigation.

She also said that it happened again in District #13 when they went running a campaign for Cornelia Kruah Togba and the campaign was disrupted by the violence she had to seek safety in a stranger's house, noting that up till now the police have not done anything about it. "What can we get from a CDC police. They will sit there and see violence and will not do anything about it."

Giving his own experience, Montserrado County Senator Abraham Darius Dillon said he has been banned from campus in 2021 by the Student Unification Party for a Facebook he made in 2014, before becoming a senator in 2020.

CONT'D ON PAGE 10

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Senate takes constituents' break

By Ethel A. Tweh

The Liberian Senate on Friday, 17 March 2023 closed for the first constituent break of its 6th session. The break runs from 17 March to the middle of May 2023.

Making a closing statement, Senate President Pro-Tempore Albert Chie said they debated the pension bill and finally passed it at the Senate and sent it to the House of Representatives.

He thanked the Executive, the Legislature, and the partners for the conduct of the 2022 Census. Chie said the census result projecting a population of 5.2 million people was a preliminary result.

He noted that the final results will be ready in May. Chie added that once the final results are given, the Legislature will comply with the mandate of the Constitution.

Meanwhile, he said the Senate has set up an ad-hoc committee to prepare the modalities and start the process for the setting of constituency threshold.

He indicated that during the session, the Senate had hearings with state securities about crimes in the country, like armed robbery, arms coming into the country, some unexplained deaths, and importation of drugs, among others.

"We advised the security to be proactive and to conclude reports on investigations in the country. These public hearings and meetings with security actors will continue upon our return," the Grand Kru lawmaker said.

"Our citizens are also admonished to desist from violence in the country as a way of seeking redress to their problems."

Lonestar Cell MTN launches financial service partnership with Doxx Bet

By Lincoln G. Peters

Giant mobile network company in Liberia, LoneStar Cell MTN has launched a mobile financial service partnership with betting company Doxx Bet Liberia.

The partnership is aimed at affording customers across the country unlimited access to betting platforms using MTN.

According to Mr. Konneh, it is the company's singular honor and ambition to ensure that everybody in Liberia has access to the best mobile financial services coupled with an

Manju stated that the partnership was essential, particularly for the many customers of Doxx bet as well as the over two million subscribers of LoneStar Cell

Manager of LoneStar Cell MTN Christopher Ssali said he was excited about the partnership. He mentioned that it emanated from several discussions with betting companies before the launch.

Mr. Ssali encouraged customers to download the application to enable their bet from the comfort of their homes and offices, among others.

National AIDS Commission of Liberia
Terms of Reference and Job Description

Monitoring and Evaluation Director

POSITON TITLE	Monitoring and Evaluation Director
DEPARTMENT	Strategic Information Management
RESPONSIBLE TO	Commissioner for Monitoring and Evaluation
JOB PURPOSE/SUMMARY	Manage the Department and ensure the monitoring and reporting of the interventions of institutions and sectors involved in the national response to HIV and AIDS. Ensure partners' implementation of, and compliance with, the National HIV and AIDS Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	• Coordinate the implementation of the National M&E Plan 2021-2025 • Produce quarterly updates of the national HIV response • Develop and implement annual work plan of the M&E mandate • Lead the conduct of all major HIV studies to include: NASA, Stigma Index, Size estimate etc. • Coordinate the implementation of all M&E related activities of the national HIV response • Propose and implement strategies, approaches, programs to strengthen data monitoring, data collection and reporting • Produce and disseminate reports from research conducted • Monitor the management indicators of the Commission • Coordinate and hold quarterly M&E TWG meetings of the national HIV response • Collaborate with NACP and conduct spectrum, ART cohort studies etc. • Liaise with all partner institutions for data and information on program implementation rate/status and performance where necessary • Any other duties required by the Commissioner for Monitoring and Evaluation • Manage the national HIV data repository • Collaborate with other mandates of the NAC such as decentralization to strengthen data collection and reporting at the county level • Participate in quarterly data verification with the NACP
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE	• Bachelor's Degree in any of the social or natural sciences, Economics, Public Health, or related area. A Master's Degree would be an advantage. • Minimum six (6) years of proven experience in a similar role with within government or non-governmental sector • Experience and training in Monitoring and Evaluation would be an advantage • Excellent public and private reputation
OTHER QUALITIES OR REQUIREMENTS	• Excellent interpersonal skills • Ability to manage a team • Excellent oral and written communication skills • Ability to make reasoned decisions based on the information available, procedures and regulations • Observant, analytical and takes particular attention to detail • Advanced working knowledge of MS Word, Excel and Power Point

How to apply:

All Interested individuals are asked to address their letters of application and CVs to the Office of the Executive Director, National AIDS Commission Old Labour Ministry Building UN Drive, Monrovia. Deadline for submission of application is March 31, 2023.

ALL APPLICATONS MUST BE DELIVERED IN HARD COPYS.

Français

Les directeurs exécutifs de la BAD en visite au Libéria

Six (6) administrateurs du Groupe de la Banque africaine de développement (BAD) devraient séjourner au Libéria du 20 au 24 mars 2023 dans le cadre d'une mission de consultation.

La mission de consultation fait partie du programme de travail annuel des

Administrateurs.

La délégation aura l'occasion d'échanger avec le gouvernement, les partenaires au développement et d'autres parties prenantes sur des questions de développement du pays et de la coopération de la Banque avec le Libéria.

Conformément à l'examen de la mission, la délégation rencontrera Son Excellence M. George M. Weah, président de la République du Libéria.

Ils doivent également s'entretenir avec les autorités des ministères des finances et de la planification du développement, des travaux publics, des mines et de l'énergie, de l'agriculture, du genre, de la jeunesse et des sports, du commerce et de l'agriculture.

La délégation rencontrera également les députés de l'Assemblée législative nationale, les autorités la Banque centrale du Libéria, de la Commission nationale des investissements, de l'Autorité fiscale du Libéria et de l'Autorité nationale des pêches et de l'aquaculture (NaFAA).

En outre, des réunions sont également prévues avec la Liberia Business Association, la Chambre de commerce du Liberia, les banques commerciales, les étudiants, le secteur informel, la société civile, les groupes de femmes et de jeunes et la Liberia Marketing Association.

La délégation rencontrera également des partenaires au développement, notamment des chefs de mission, des agences et des ambassadeurs.

Les priorités actuelles de la Banque pour le Libéria sont guidées par le Document de stratégie pays (DSP) couvrant la période 2019-2023. Le DSP est ancré sur deux domaines prioritaires de renforcement : (i) la diversification économique grâce à l'amélioration des infrastructures de transport et d'énergie ; et (ii) Amélioration de la gouvernance économique et renforcement du développement du secteur privé.

Le DSP s'inspire de la stratégie de développement du gouvernement, l'« Agenda en faveur des pauvres pour la prospérité et le développement (PAPD 2018-23) », qui a donné la priorité au développement des infrastructures et à la création d'emplois.

Le Libéria a joué un rôle

présidentielle et législatives : La NEC se dit prête

La Commission électorale nationale (NEC) est tout à fait prête pour les élections présidentielle et législatives du 10 octobre 2023, a indiqué Me Teplah Reeves.

S'exprimant devant le parlement le jeudi 16 mars 2023, la patronne intérim de la NEC a fait savoir que tout est en place pour l'organisation des prochaines élections présidentielles et législatives, en dépit, selon elle, de la lenteur du déblocage des fonds par le ministre des Finances, M. Samuel D. Tweah.

La Commission fait tout son possible conformément à la Constitution libérienne et à la loi électorale nationale pour organiser des élections libres, justes, transparentes et crédibles dans les délais prévus.

Me Teplah Reeves a révélé que les 10 millions de dollars promis par le ministre des Finances n'ont pas encore atterri sur le compte de la Commission.

Portant, le décaissement de l'argent était initialement prévu pour le 15 mars.

Me Reeves a toutefois exprimé l'optimisme quant au versement du montant total promis par le ministre Tweah avant le 17 mars 2023.

La NEC ne cesse de se plaindre du fait que M. Tweah retarde le décaissement des fonds indispensables à la première phase des activités relatives à l'organisation des élections de 2023.

Lors de sa comparution devant le Sénat, la présidente de la NEC, Mme Davidetta Browne-Lansanah, avait affirmé que le ministre Tweah avait promis de décaisser l'argent.

Éditorial

La justice que nous réclamons

Au beau matin du 23 février, les Libériens se sont réveillés avec la terrible nouvelle d'une attaque contre le domicile de l'ancienne juge en chef Gloria Musu Scott. Des inconnus ont pris d'assaut son domicile dans la nuit du 22 février et tué la jeune Charloe Musu, l'une de ses filles, une future diplômée de l'Institut Starz de Monrovia. D'autres personnes ont été également blessées. On ignore cependant à l'état actuel leurs conditions.

L'attaque est survenue après que Scott a signalé deux vagues précédentes d'attaques contre son domicile les 8 et 9 février respectivement. Des voisins ont affirmé avoir entendu des cris et appelé à l'intervention de la police, mais en vain.

L'ancien président de la Commission vérité et réconciliation Jérôme Verdier soupçonne, lui, le maire de la ville de Monrovia Jefferson Koijee et Varlee Telleh, bien qu'il n'ait pas encore fourni de preuves.

Cependant, Koijee et Telleh ont nié tout lien avec l'incident au domicile de l'ancien juge en chef lors de l'interrogatoire de la police la semaine dernière. Il y en a d'autres qui ont également été convoqués pour être interrogés, notamment des agents de sécurité privés et des travailleurs qui avaient travaillé dans l'enceinte pendant la journée à la même date de l'attaque.

Mme Scott et sa famille ont également été interrogées. Les enquêteurs se sont rendus sur les lieux du crime lundi.

Pendant ce temps, les manifestations pacifiques se multiplient. La coalition des groupes de femmes de la société civile demande justice pour les personnes décédées et des procès rapides des coupables qui n'ont pas encore été identifiés ou inculpés.

D'autre part, la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir, dont le secrétaire général national en la personne de M. Koijee est lié au vol à main armée et à l'attaque meurtrière, a également organisé des manifestations pacifiques, défilant avec des pancartes et des images du feu Charloe Musu, tout en réclamant justice.

La justice que nous exigeons est le processus ou le résultat de l'utilisation des lois pour juger et punir équitablement les crimes et les criminels. La justice ne compte pas sur le tribunal de l'opinion publique ou ces magouilles politiques pour rendre son verdict.

Ce à quoi nous assistons jusqu'à présent, c'est le procès de l'incident devant les tribunaux de l'opinion publique sur la base de théories du complot avant même que les suspects puissent être identifiés et inculpés, ce ne sont pas des procédures légales, ce sont des commérages. Et ces rumeurs et théories du complot ou ouï-dire ne font que saper la justice même que nous recherchons.

La justice que nous exigeons est un processus qui respecte la primauté du droit. Lorsque nous avons commencé à utiliser des théories du complot basées sur des ouï-dire, cela s'appelle des préjugés et cela met en danger les mérites et les démérites des résultats de l'enquête.

L'incident d'Angel Tokpa, dont les tuteurs ont été reconnus coupables par un tribunal de l'opinion publique témoin d'innombrables protestations avant même que l'affaire ne puisse être tranchée, est un exemple de la façon dont le tribunal de l'opinion publique n'a jamais gagné une affaire.

Pendant que nous demandons justice pour la mort de Charloe et d'autres qui l'ont précédée, nous ne pouvons qu'espérer une enquête juste et approfondie basée sur l'honnêteté et le professionnalisme, sans crainte ni faveur.

La justice n'ignore pas les faits et ne s'appuie pas sur ce que nous pensons ou ressentons, elle établit la vérité, récompense la victime et punit le coupable. Et c'est ce que nous recherchons.

Français

Les directeurs exécutifs

déterminant dans la création de la Banque africaine de développement et est également membre fondateur de la Banque en tant que porteur de vision lorsque feu le Dr Romeo A. Horton a élaboré la vision pour la création de la Banque. Ayant adhéré en 1964, la Banque reste l'un des principaux partenaires au développement du Libéria.

Le portefeuille actuel de la Banque au Libéria comprend 14 opérations en cours et récemment approuvées avec des engagements cumulés s'élevant à 376,96 millions de dollars, dominés par le transport routier et les infrastructures énergétiques.

Depuis le début des activités de développement au Libéria en 1968, l'aide de la Banque africaine de développement a contribué à répondre à certains des principaux facteurs de fragilité, notamment la faiblesse des institutions étatiques et du capital humain, l'insuffisance des services sociaux de base et des infrastructures, l'insécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle, la bonne gouvernance et la responsabilité, et la lenteur de la reprise économique.

À la BAD, le Libéria est administré au sein de la même circonscription que la Gambie, le Ghana, la Sierra Leone et le Soudan. Le collège est actuellement représenté au conseil d'administration de la BAD par le directeur exécutif, M. Rufus N. Darkortey du Libéria, qui fera partie de la mission.

L'Afrique, première concernée par la prolongation de l'accord russo-ukrainien sur les céréales

Des cargos portant des céréales attendent leur inspection sous l'accord trouvé sous l'égide de l'ONU et de la Turquie, entre la Russie et l'Ukraine, ici sur le Bosphore, à Istanbul, le 11 décembre 2022.

L'accord de juillet 2022 sur l'exportation des céréales ukrainiennes a été donc prolongé samedi 18 mars. En

revanche, Kiev et Moscou ne se sont pas entendus sur la durée de cette prolongation. L'Ukraine affirme qu'il est prolongé pour 120 jours mais la Russie estime que la durée n'excède pas 60 jours. Quoi qu'il en soit de sa durée, cet accord qui permet aux navires de quitter les ports ukrainiens en toute sécurité, est une bonne chose pour l'Afrique qui dépend des céréales russes et ukrainiennes.

Aux Nations unies, le soulagement est palpable, après le renouvellement de cet accord. Il faut savoir que les céréales ukrainiennes telles que le blé, maïs et tournesol sont essentielles au Programme alimentaire mondial (PAM), par exemple, qui achète principalement des grains ukrainiens pour les distribuer sous forme d'aide alimentaire.

C'est le cas pour la Somalie, l'Éthiopie ou encore le Soudan et le Kenya, des pays qui connaissent une sécheresse extrême et où la famine a fait sa réapparition.

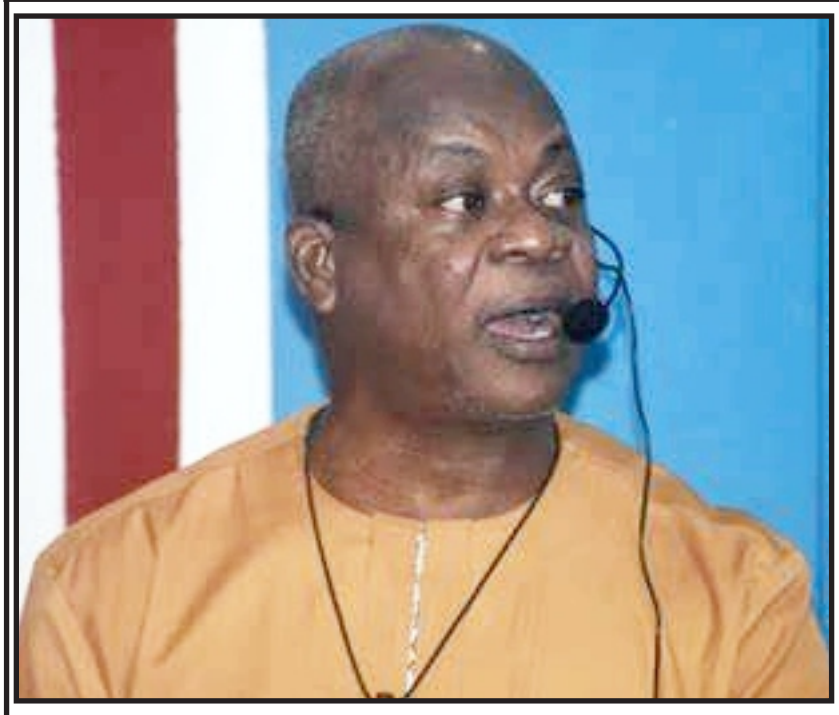
De façon générale, les céréales ukrainiennes partent en majorité dans les pays riches et dans les pays émergents mais la détente sur les prix qu'a permis l'accord de juillet et que pérennise sa prolongation se fait ressentir principalement en Afrique et dans les pays à bas revenus.

Rappelons que la guerre en Ukraine avait entraîné une hausse d'environ 30 % des prix des denrées sur le continent, selon l'ONU, avant que ces prix ne diminuent, après juillet 2022.

Ainsi, la prolongation est la garantie d'une stabilité des prix et, pour un pays comme l'Égypte qui dépend à 80 % du blé russe et du blé ukrainien, c'est une bonne nouvelle.

Notez enfin que cette initiative céréalière de la mer Noire a permis, depuis août dernier, à l'Ukraine d'exporter plus de dix-huit millions de tonnes de céréales.

Université du Libéria : toutes les activités syndicales estudiantines suspendues



L'administration de l'Université du Libéria (UL) a suspendu toutes les activités syndicales estudiantines avec effet immédiat, à la suite des récents affrontements sanglants entre étudiants et partisans du représentant du comté de Montserrado, Moses Acarus Gray.

C'est le président de l'Université du Libéria, le professeur Julius Julukon Sarwolo Nelson, qui a annoncé la suspension de toutes les activités syndicales estudiantines sur tous les campus de l'université du Libéria le jeudi soir 16 mars 2023 à Capitol Hill.

« À compter d'aujourd'hui, 16 mars 2023, toutes les activités syndicales estudiantines sont suspendues sur tous les campus de l'université jusqu'à nouvel ordre », a déclaré le président Nelson.

Il a expliqué que la suspension fait suite aux troubles violents innombrables qui sont survenus ces derniers temps sur les campus de l'Université du Libéria.

« Les étudiants sont tenus de se conformer strictement à la présente Déclaration. Les contrevenants seront sévèrement sanctionnés conformément au manuel de l'étudiant révisé de l'UL », a averti le Dr Nelson.

En conséquence, tout rassemblement syndical sur les campus de l'Université du Libéria pendant cette période de suspension est strictement interdit.

Le Dr Nelson a précisé que la suspension concerne les marches, les rassemblements à but syndical, le port de symboles et d'emblèmes représentant et promouvant des groupes syndicaux, les manifestations, entre autres.

Au nom de l'administration de l'UL, le Dr Nelson a condamné dans les termes les plus fermes les troubles violents qui ont éclaté sur le campus de l'UL à Capitol Hill le lundi 13 mars 2023.

Il a donc annoncé que l'administration a commandé une enquête indépendante immédiate pour situer les responsabilités des troubles qui ont conduit à la suspension des cours et à des blessures d'étudiants et d'autres personnes.

Il s'est constitué un comité dirigé par le professeur T. Debey Sayndee, directeur de l'Institut Kofi Annan pour la transformation des conflits (KAICT) à l'Université du Libéria.

L'administration de l'UL a assuré et engagé la protection et la sécurité totales de tous les étudiants/personnel/professeurs et utilisateurs des installations et services de l'Université.

"En attendant, nous rappelons aux étudiants de l'UL que le manuel révisé de l'étudiant de l'UL interdit strictement les bruits perturbateurs, la violence et le vandalisme sur tous ses campus", a ajouté le Dr Nelson.

La Côte d'Ivoire livre du matériel militaire au Burkina Faso pour lutter contre l'insécurité

La Côte d'Ivoire vient en aide au Burkina Faso dans la lutte contre l'insécurité. Un lot d'équipement militaire d'une valeur de plus de deux milliards de francs CFA a été remis aux autorités de Ouagadougou. Le matériel a été reçu il y a quelques jours, mais Ouagadougou n'a jusque-là fait aucune communication.

Composé d'une cinquantaine de véhicules pickup de type « azawad », 1 000 fusils d'assaut AK47 et 100 000 munitions, le matériel a été remis ces jours, dit une source officielle ivoirienne sans plus de précisions.

Il y a quelques mois, les autorités de Ouagadougou ont adressé une demande de soutien à la Côte d'Ivoire, explique notre source. Après analyse, le gouvernement ivoirien a décidé de soutenir son voisin par un don en matériel militaire. Selon plusieurs sources, ce don d'un montant de plus de deux milliards de francs CFA a été décidé il y a quelques semaines.

Pour les Ivoiriens, il s'agit d'aider les

Burkinabè à circonscrire la menace jihadiste sur place. Les deux pays partagent une frontière longue de 540 km. Sur le plan sécuritaire, les deux pays ont déjà mené plusieurs opérations conjointes de part et d'autre de leur frontière. Mais la menace reste toujours présente du côté ivoirien

Une source proche de l'état-major général des armées confirme le don au Burkina Faso. Mais aucune autorité politique ou militaire n'a communiqué sur ce soutien venu du voisin ivoirien.

Violence at the Liberian University Campus: An opposing opinion

By Dagbayonoh Kiah Nyanfore II

About a month ago, the Liberian University's Student Unification Party (SUP) chased out and threw stones at Aloysius Howe, a staff of Finance Minister Samuel Tweah, from the University's grounds. SUP had done the same to Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor and former Solicitor General Syrenius Cephus. The organization alleged that Howe and the officials were involved in corruption and should not visit the campus. Howe's vehicle was said to have been damaged, and he sustained some injuries. SUP vows to stop those whom it considers corrupt officials from visiting UL, University of Liberia.

Many concerned Liberians denounced SUP's recent action against Howe, saying that the University is a public ground and no one should be denied entrance. In an apparent defiance to SUP, Representative Acarous Gray of District 8 and member of the ruling Congress of Democratic Change party announced on his Facebook page

within hours of the violence against Howe to visit the campus to lunch with students on March 13. SUP responded against the announcement, promising confrontation. The organization also said it would invite Representative Yekeh Kolubah to the University. He is a member of the opposition Alternative National Congress party. He regularly criticizes the ruling party and President George Weah. Kolubah was a former rebel commander for Charles Taylor's NPFL group.

Interestingly, in 2001, the media and eyes witnesses reported that he, as operation director of the Liberian National Police, raided SUP on the LU campus during former President Taylor's rule. That invasion caused the death of two persons. Acarous Gray was a student at the University and is said to have been a SUP member.

Against the advice of some individuals, Representative Gray, with some supporters, marched to the University. This resulted in violence, though Mr. Gray left before Representative Kolubah arrived. Kolubah also came with his followers and criticized the president. Many people, including some legislators, blamed Gray, saying as a leader, he should have exercised tolerance and acted as a respectable lawmaker.

I support Gray's visitation. He is the congressional representative of the area where the University is located. Though he could have canceled the visit upon the advice, and that could have avoided the clash, he was right to have gone to the University. His action was deterrence to SUP's behavior. The organization has no right or power to stop anyone from visiting UL and determining who is corrupt. It is a student group. A silence to its behavior would give license to further unlawful acts. Next time SUP thinks of stopping anyone from coming to the University, it would consider an adverse action. People would more likely stop doing wrong if there is opposition or consequences.

I am also disappointed in individuals and entities that kept quiet about SUP's exercise but are now condemning Rep. Gray. Fairly, they could have also advised SUP not to engage Gray. This could have prevented the confrontation. But the problem is that many Liberian educated elites are alumni of LU and were Supees, members of SUP. Therefore, their loyalty to the party may have blinded them from seeing SUP wrong. Current LU's President, Dr. Julius Nelson, is reported to have been a member of SUP when he attended the institution. This condition gives SUP a feeling of control, entitlement, or ownership.

SUP's rival group at the University is the Progressive Student Alliance (PROSA), a party recently founded. Both organizations approach issues differently. However, they use Marxist Leninist revolutionary theory and jargon spoken by and learned from the 70s militants.

SUP is a powerful student political group that started in 1970. The 70s were years of Liberian progressivism, which resulted in the 1980 revolution. Influenced by the progressive forces, the military overthrew the settlers' True Whig Party regime. During the 70s, SUP with research advocated and debated based on issues, not personality or sentiments. SUP's establishment was in response to the Americo-Liberian student power domination at the University. Progressive professors, including Dr. Togba-Nah Tipoteh and Dr. Henry Fahbulleh, motivated its creation.

Its membership was predominantly of native students. SUP has benefitted from former students' support, scholarships, and a general tuition scheme. From student politics and advocacy, it has become an opposition agent to national politics.

To be continued

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'Budget not impactful'

misapplication of budgeted resources.

Miamen argued that this is a classic example of how policy makers use the national budget to their own advantage at the expense of others and the population, more broadly.

On funding to transparency sector, he added that CENTAL observes that the sector is expected to receive increased budgetary support, from $42,142,578 in 2022 to $55,404,476 in 2023.

According Miamen, CENTAL is pleased to formally launch a report containing analysis of budgets from 2016 up to the draft 2023 national budget.

"This is part of efforts to independently track and mainstream accountability and transparency in the national budget process so that it works for everyone and not a selected few individuals and groups," Miamen continued.

According to him, the report follows a careful review and analysis of the draft 2023 national budget, the budget process, as well as expenditures.

Additionally, he stated that it covers media tracking and monitoring visits to selected locations, Gbondoi Town in Bong County for example, to gather firsthand information from residents on budget performance and impacts.

The report, according to him, places a spotlight on efforts to make the budget process more transparent and inclusive.

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WHO, MOH hold

Other speakers from the United States, USAID, UNICEF among others, will be giving experience and knowledge on how they see community health workers and where they need to go.

On Thursday, there will be a delegate from the office of President George Manneh Weah who will make a remark on behalf of the government and the country.

On the same day, there will be an entertainment and filed tour to expose the international delegates to the country.

Finally, on Friday, Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor will officially launch Liberia's Community Health Workers Policy.

At the end of the Community Health Symposium, the Community Health Action Plan is expected to be launched here.

Speaking at a joint Press conference Sunday, 19 March 2023 at the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Ministerial Complex, Liberia's Health Minister Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah said she was excited to host for the first time, the Community Health Workers Symposium.

According to her, the Government of Liberia and it's partners are fully prepared and ready to kick-start the initiative Monday.

Dr. Jallah further stated that the conference has registered over 700 delegates both in and outside the country.

She pointed out that the delegates are from 46 countries, as well as high level officers from UN agencies, the Africa Center for Disease Control, developmental partners, community health champions, community health workers, and researcher from missions especially, USAID.

"We want to use this time and medium as a government to express our profound gratitude to all of our health partners, especially to Health System Global, USAID, the Global Fund, World Bank, the Susan Thompson Buffet Foundation, Last Mile Health, IRC, UNICEF, CHAL, Partner in Health and the Community Health Road Map for all your initial financial and technical support to this event," she said.

"We also would like to thank the Golden Touch Corporation (GTC) for working closely with us in planning this auspicious event," she concluded.

Also making a brief statement at the press briefing, Mariah Subah, Country Director, Last Mile Health, noted that her institution was very privileged to form part of the symposium.

She said it was important to stress on the importance of community health workers, considering what has happened in the country in term of the pandemic.

Making statement, Dr. Denis Muhoza, UNICEF/ West and Central Africa Regional Health Office Specialist, said he was excited to gather with hundreds of others to talk about community health program.

He acknowledged it as the pillar of the health system of Liberia, adding that community program is pivotal in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

For her part, Jessica Healey, USAID/ Liberia' Health Director said the team from Washington DC, USA was excited to join the conference in Monrovia. She said the gathering is about learning and sharing on how to build the global movement of community health workers.

Nazo Kureshy, Senior Community Health System Advisor, Bureau for Global Health, USAID as well as Dr Galina Abdu, UNICEF/ Liberia Health Specialist were part of the press briefing.***--Press release***

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Acarous Gray Misbehaved!!

His post then was about the shortage of rice on the Liberian market at the time and he blamed the Progressives, the root of SUP for the crisis.

According to him, since then he has avoided the campus despite invitations from other students' groups for fear that his presence there would cause chaos.

He said that booing in democracy is a sign of displeasure and cheering is a sign of acceptance. Dillion added that those same students booed at President Sirleaf before and she clapped for them, adding that she's a democratic leader. He said as leaders they should be open to criticism and not only praise.

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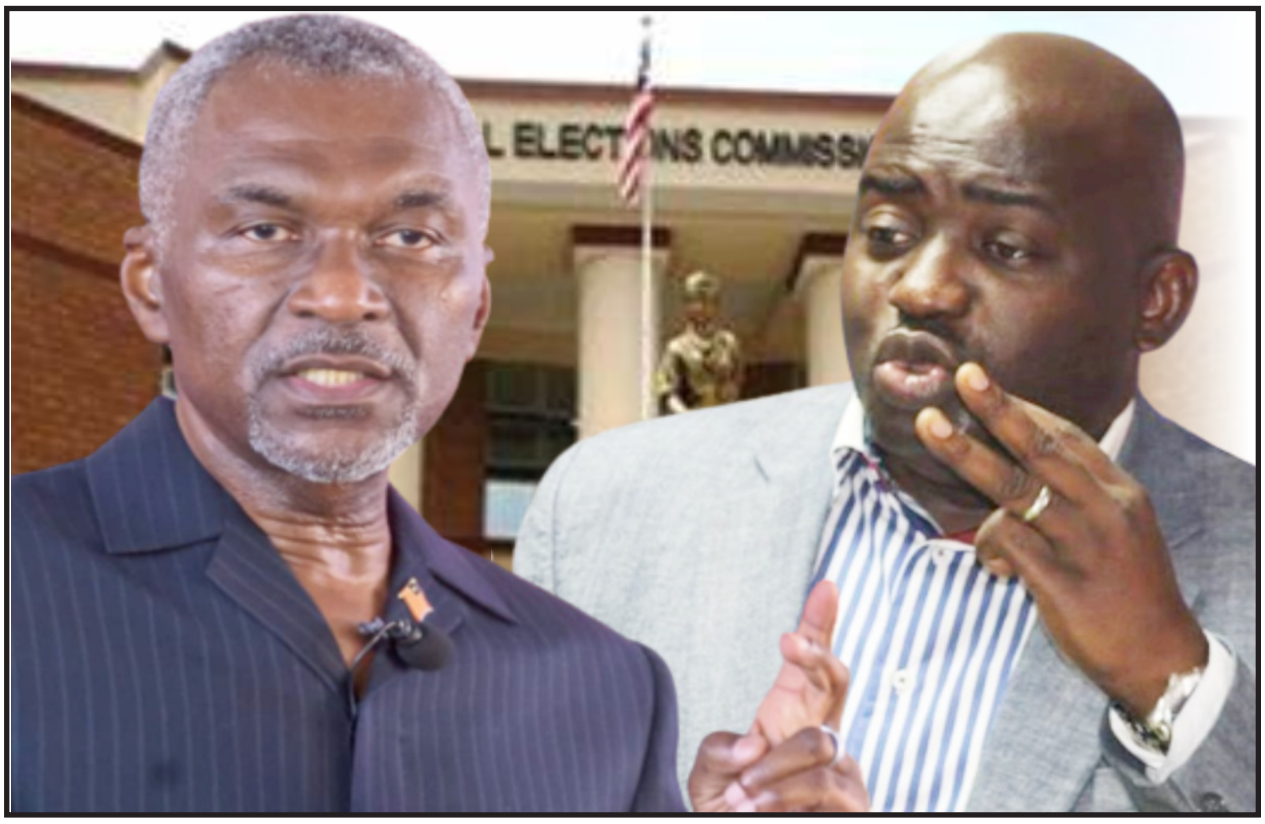
NEC in hot waters

The Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) says, its petition before the Supreme Court, which seeks the highest court intervention to compel the National Elections Commissions (NEC) to uphold the constitution is not intended to delay the 2023 general and presidential elections.

"The CPP is not seeking the intervention of the court to delay the elections. We know that Liberians cannot wait to end their sufferings by decisively voting out and bringing to a democratic end the multiple failures in leadership of the George Weah-led administration." The CPP said in a statement Friday.

CPP on Friday, March 17 filed a petition before the full bench of the Supreme Court ©, "every Liberian citizen shall have the right to be registered in a constituency, and to vote in public elections only in the constituency where registered…". According to (d) of the same Article, a constituency "shall have an approximately equal population of 20,000, or such number of citizens as the Legislature shall prescribe in keeping with population growth and movements as revealed by a national census; provided that the total number of electoral constituencies in the Republic shall not exceed one hundred." At (e), the Constitution provides that "immediately following a national census and before the next elections, the Elections Commission shall reapportion the constituencies in accordance with the new population figures so that every



seeking an intervention by the court to compel NEC to demarcate constituencies as required by the Liberian Constitution before proceeding with its planned voters' registration scheduled to start on March 20.

The Collaborating Parties' demand followed the announcement of the provisional 2022 National Housing and Population Census results which say Liberia's population increased by 1,772,013 compared to the 2008 census. The 2022 Census puts Liberia's population at 5.2 million (5,248,621), compared to 3,489,072 in 2008.

In keeping with Article 80 constituency shall have as close to the same population as possible; provided, however, that a constituency must be solely within a county."

The CPP explained that like many Liberians, it is concerned about the constitutionality of the action of the NEC to conduct Voters Registration, after the conduct of a Census, but without constitutionally demarcating constituencies into which a voter is to be registered.

The conduct of the census in itself was greeted with various public objections over the unconstitutional delays to conduct the census, and concerns about the integrity of the results.

The CPP pointed out saying, "although final results have not been announced, preliminary results, which were publicly announced, show changes in the growth and movements of the population. In some cases, the changes in population defy historical trends and represent massive and significant shifts in the growth and movements of the population."

It noted that with the observations above, it is the constitutional duty of NEC to proceed as the Constitution directs, and from which it has no authority to deviate.

The CPP believes that to do otherwise is to violate the Constitution and thereby risk the constitutional integrity of the upcoming elections.

The party said doing nothing and allowing the NEC to proceed unconstitutionally is harmful to the country and the Liberian people. All Liberians have the scars to show that when we allow ourselves to act outside the law, we invite consequences that undermine the peace, security, and stability of the nation.

CPP believes that it is absolutely important that Liberians are adequately represented in their government as the Constitution grants unto them the right to be.

It explained that this is only possible if constituencies are constitutionally demarcated, and voters are then registered into those constituencies in which they can vote for their leaders and representatives. We have a duty to ensure that we do the right things the right way and that the right way is in keeping with our laws.

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Crack in PLP support for CDC

By Naneka A. Hoffman

Some officials and partisans of the People's Liberation Party (PLP)-USA Chapter say PLP political leader Mr. Tapple Doe's decision for the party to join the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) is against the party's interest.

In a glaring crack of its support to the CDC, PLP-USA Chapter Secretary General Mr. Edwin Y. Bemah says Mr. Doe's decision is not in the best interest of the people they have been fighting to liberate from abject poverty and unimaginable hardship.

Speaking via an online platform over the weekend, Bemah argued that the decision is also against PLP's constitution and policy which the party's founding father the late Dr. Daniel E.. Cassell advocated for even up to his death.

Recently, the PLP formed part of six political parties that joined the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change to support incumbent President George Manneh Weah's second-term bid ahead of the 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

The other five political parties are the Union for Liberia Democrat (ULD), United People's Party (UPP), Redemption Democratic Congress (RDC), Change Democratic Action (CDA), and the Movement for Economic Empowerment (MOVEE).

PLP political leader Mr. Tapple Doe presented the six political parties' joint resolution to CDC Chairman Mulbah Morlu, describing the signing ceremony of the framework document as historical, and approval of President Weah's one-round victory.

But Bemah claimed explained that Mr. Doe, PLP National Chairman, and others acted on their own.

He insisted that he and others will resist the decision of taking the PLP to the ruling CDC because it is not in the best interest of the people.

He argued that the PLP has been fighting to liberate the people from abject poverty and unimaginable hardship under a regime that doesn't understand the value of human life.

He further said the late Dr. Nelson established the PLP and it was officially certificated as a full-fledged political party in Liberia by the National Elections Commission (NEC) on December 21, 2020.

Mr. Bemah believes that it would have been practical for the PLP to join forces with other parties with similar ideologies of rescuing Liberians from economic calamity.

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
Liberia Land Authority
96 Ashmun Street, Monrovia
Liberia, West Africa
Monrovia, Liberia

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

DEMARCATION SURVEYNOTICE

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT THE LIBERIA LAND AUTHORITY HAS DULY AUTHORIZED SURVNEYOR TOM W. NIMELY#097 TO REPRESENT THE LIBERIA LAND AUTHORITY IN AN INVESTIGATIVE SURVEY BETWEEN **CECELIA IRENE BLACKSTON, THE KING WALTER ESTATE**AND **OTHER ADJOINING PARTIES.**

THOSE WITH CLAIM TO THE DISPUTED LAND ARE AS FOLLOWS;

- CECELIA IRENE BLACKSTON WITH CLAIM TO SEVENTY-ONE (71) ACRES OF LAND AND NO MORE.
- THE KING WALTER ESTATE WITH CLAIM TO ONE HUNDRED (100) ACRES OF LAND AND NO MORE.

THIS SURVEY TAKES PLACE **ON SATURDAY MARCH 25, 2023 AT 11:00 AM.**

THE LAND IN QUESTION IS LYING AND SITUATED WITHIN **BEN TOWN, LOWER MARGIBI COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIEBRIA.**

ALL ADJACENT PARTIES AND THOSE CONCERNED ARE ASKED TO BE PRESENT WITH THEIR DEEDS, DOCUMENTS, DIAGRAMS AND TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE ON THE DATE AND TIME OF THE SURVEY TO VERIFY THEIR CLAIMS. LET THIS SURVEY NOTICE CLAIM THE ATTENTION OF THE BELOW LISTED AND ALL CONCERNED;

- ✓ MR. BORBOR SAYWAY AND ADMINISTRATORS
- ✓ MADAM WEEDOR MULBAH
- ✓ MA GLADYS / KULLIE
- ✓ JACKSON B. WESSEH
- ✓ MADAM MARY DORAH
- ✓ JAMES KANAKOUR
- ✓ DARLINGTON WALTERS
- ✓ OFFICE OF THE MARGIBI COUNTY LAND ADMINISTRATOR
- ✓ OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR OF MARSHALL
- ✓ THE LIBERIA NATIONAL POLICE AND
- ✓ ALL THOSE CONCERNED

SIGNED: _____
Mr. Paul A. Tolbert
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR / LAND DISPUTE RESOLUTION DIVISION
LIBERIA LAND AUTHORITY / 0776041484

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House adjourns for First Quarter

By Bridgett Milton

The House of Representatives has adjourned for its first quarter of the 6th Session of the 54th Legislature to return in May 2023.

The First Quarter of the 54th Legislature ran from January 16, 2023, to 17 March 2023.

Making his closing remarks Friday, 17 March 2023, House Speaker Bhofal Chambers disclosed that the total number of sessions held was 26.

He said the number of sittings was 38, 12 appearances,13 Bills introduced, and six Bills in Committee Room.

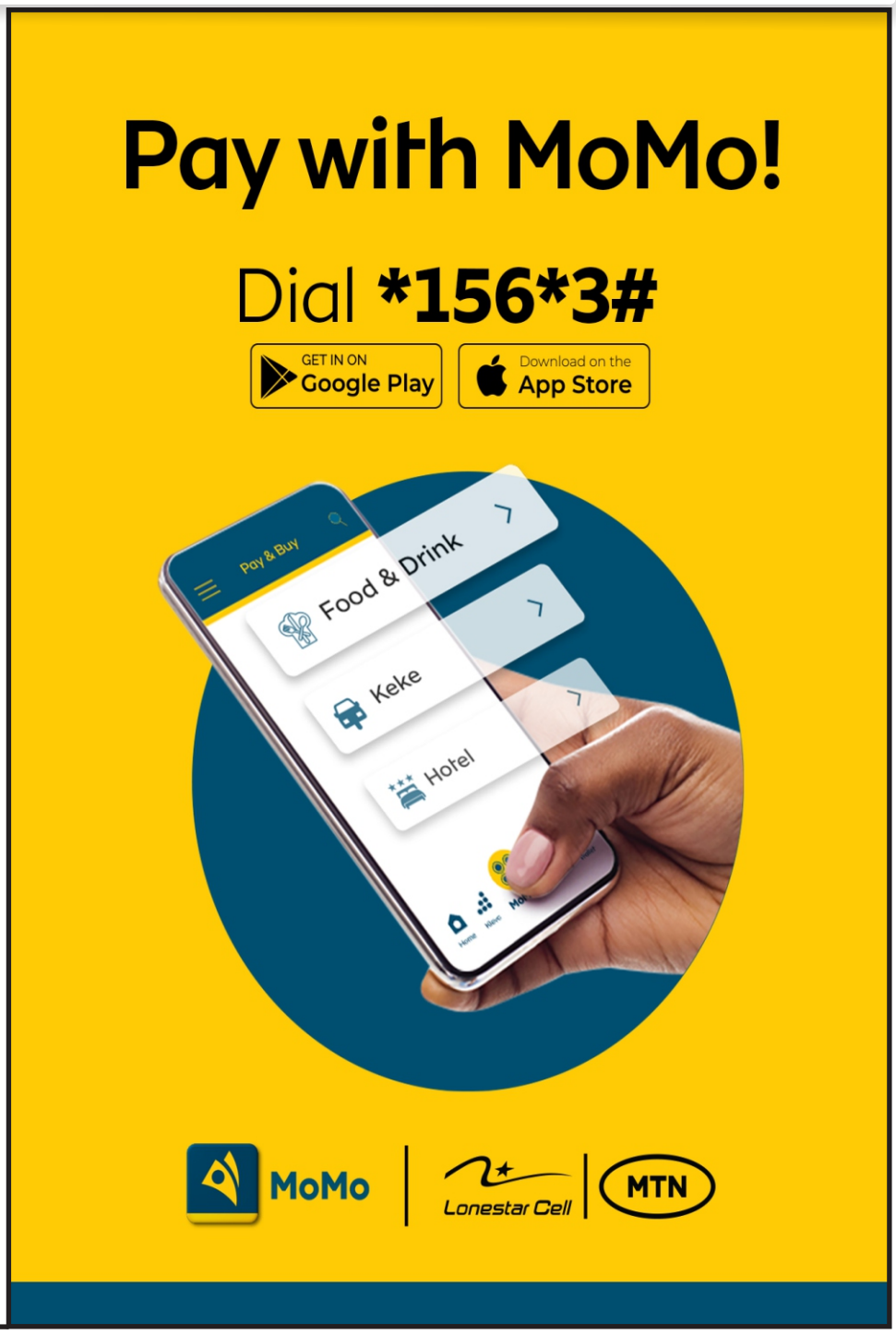
According to Speaker Chambers, the total number of Bills passed was 7 and the number of Executive Bills passed was 7.

At the same time, Mr. Chambers used the occasion to call on his fellow legislators to put the interest of the Liberian people first.

He called on lawmakers to remain constructive as they have always been, adding that history will defend them for being a true voice of the people through positive representation, effective oversight, and functional lawmaking.

Speaker Chambers added that the break is in fulfillment of the new blueprint for the Legislature, which provides that its break will now kick off from the third Friday of March to the second Friday of May each year.

Capitol Building



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