

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
<https://thenewdawnliberia.com>

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

WE NOW DELIVER DAILY COPIES
of **The New Dawn**
TRULY INDEPENDENT
AT YOUR DOORSTEPS
0886484201 / 0777007529
WE WILL DELIVER YOUR DAILY COPY
From **MONDAY TO FRIDAY**
Don't worry, you can pay for your subscription at the end of the month.
Hurry and book now!

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023	LS160.2565/US\$1.00	LS162.1846US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
French Version Inside

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
ANDROID APP ON Google Play
QPR CODE: 797005
Down Load New Dawn Android App

VOL. 13 NO. 040 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023 PRICE LD\$40.00



Dr. Benedict B. Kolee

Charloe Musu's autopsy out



Charloe Musu

-Police cite excessive bleeding from multiple stabbing



Rep. Julie F. Wiah

Fake clinic, town funded



Min. Wilhelmina Jallah



Madam Conteh



Momo J. Dunor

-In national budget for Lofa

Pay with MoMo!
Dial ***156*3#**
GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store
MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN





Continental News

South Africans Stay Home to Protest Lack of Jobs, Electricity

Many South Africans stayed home from work Monday after the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) party called for a nationwide shutdown to protest frequent power cuts and high unemployment.

Johannesburg and Pretoria, some observers questioned whether the protest was a success because it was held on a day many would have taken off anyway, ahead of a Tuesday public holiday.

Piers Pigou, an analyst at the

young, fragile democracy. The largest of the protests occurred in Pretoria, where about 1,000 EFF members gathered. They marched near the presidential guest house, where they were blocked by police before dispersing later. Gift Bogopane, a 42-year-old father of three, attended the protest. "We have a lot of complaints, but now the main complaint is the electricity and unemployment, and I don't know if I must say this, but for the president to step aside to give others a chance," he said.

The police said the majority of arrests occurred in Gauteng province, followed by the Northern Cape, with people arrested for a number of offenses, including public violence, intimidation and theft. Ahead of the protests, law enforcement confiscated some 24,000 tires from various locations, saying the tires would have been used to block roads and start fires.

"Law enforcement deployments will continue to monitor the situation closely to ensure the safety and security of everyone in the country," said police spokesperson Athlenda Mathe. "Communities are encouraged to continue reporting any wrongdoing and suspicious activities to their nearest police station.



Supporters of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) hold placards as they march through the center in Cape Town on March 20

The highly anticipated demonstration ended Monday with small and isolated incidents of public violence and the arrest of at least 550 people across the country. The party's leader, Julius Malema, had called for businesses to close and people to stay home to protest record unemployment and ongoing power cuts. The party also called on President Cyril Ramaphosa to step down immediately. Although most businesses closed in

Institute for Security Studies, said public safety precautions also may have played a role.

"A significant deployment of security forces, the military out in certain areas, and visible policing accentuated it in a way we don't often see," Pigou said. "I think this set the parameters for a nation to just err on the side of caution, which is how I feel the day has played out." He said protesters mainly operated within the confines of the law during Monday's event, describing it as a success for a

Namibia Supreme Court Rules Against Same-Sex Couple in Citizenship Case

Gay rights activists in Namibia are decrying a Supreme Court decision that will effectively deny citizenship to a child born through surrogacy to a same-sex couple in South Africa. The case has ignited public debate in Namibia on what constitutes a family.

The ruling Monday by the Supreme Court of Namibia overturned a lower court decision that ordered the government to process a gay couple's citizenship application for their child.

The high court ruled last year that the minister of Home Affairs and Immigration must process the application

A full bench of Supreme Court judges agreed that Luhl and Delgado did not satisfy the requirements of the Citizenship Act in their application. The Supreme Court held that the minister was correct in not granting the minor child citizenship by descent.

Speaking to journalists outside the Supreme Court, the lawyer for the two men, Uno Katjipuka, said the judges relied on technicalities when ruling on the appeal and did not consider the merits of the case.

She said the couple would now have to go back to the Home Affairs Ministry to register the birth of the child as a Namibian and said in all likelihood the registration will not be accepted. The child was born in South Africa. "All they've done is



Members of Namibia's LGBTQ community wave rainbow flags during a Pride Parade in the capital Windhoek, July 29, 2017

within thirty days.

However, the Minister of Home Affairs at the time, Frans Kapofi, appealed the judgment. He argued that the couple — Phillip Luhl, a Namibian citizen, and Guillermo Delgado, a Mexican national — had not proven that they were the actual parents of the child by submitting DNA results. LGBTQ activist Linda Baumann told VOA the judgment of the Supreme Court is a major setback for Namibia's LGBTQ community. "The family and broadly us in the movement find it as ten steps back," she said. "We also know that homophobia, bi-phobia and trans-phobia will be experienced when the family goes back to Home Affairs because now you have to go back to the person you have challenged in the court. We also know the frustration of harassment could occur because that is a common practice that happens against us when we try and push or advance our rights in this country."

push the can or kick the can down the road to live, I don't know, to consider these things another day but in my opinion it's very unfortunate and not the sort of thing we expect to see from our Supreme Court," said Katjipuka. "This was the time to deal with the merits and they chose not to, for a second time they chose not to."

Kapofi, the former minister of Home Affairs, welcomed the judgment. He said the couple failed to prove that they were the fathers of the child by submitting DNA evidence to that effect.

Namibia's Supreme Court heard other cases this month involving homosexuality. In one, a South African citizen who married a Namibian man in South Africa is asking to be granted citizenship by domicile. In another, a Namibian man is asking for the repeal of the country's law, arguing that it is an invasion of privacy and discriminatory to people in homosexual relationships.

LGBTQ rights have divided public opinion in a country where the majority of the population identify as Christian and homosexuality is still regarded as taboo and abnormal. VOA

Putin says ties with Africa a priority to Moscow

Russian President Vladimir Putin has said he gives a "priority" to relations with African countries as he looks for international partners in the face of Western sanctions over the invasion of Ukraine.

"I want to emphasise that our country has always given and will continue to give priority to co-operation with African states," Mr Putin said on Monday at a conference on Russian-African relations in Moscow.

He said Russia will supply foods to needy countries in Africa free of charge if an agreement on Ukrainian grain exports is not renewed.

"We are ready to supply the whole volume sent during the past time to African countries particularly requiring it from Russia free of charge to these countries," he said, according to the Russian news agency Tass.

He said Russia will share its

technologies with African nations and continue helping them produce electricity.

Russia has been expanding its influence in Africa in recent years and Mr Putin said he believes the continent will continue increasing its authority and role in the "emerging multipolar world order".

The conference is being attended by more than 40 delegations from African countries, according to Kremlin's press service.

Mr Putin is scheduled to host African leaders in June for the Russia-Africa summit - the second of its kind. BBC



President Vladimir Putin

EDITORIAL

2023 electoral glitches: Why NEC is not the only culprit here

FEARS THAT LIBERIA is on the brink of a constitutional crisis, as the country prepares for its October 10 polls, are unimaginable. This is due in parts to several factors and NEC is not the only culprit here.

ELECTIONS, AS WE all know, are processes conducted within a time frame, a delay in executing one event would subsequently affect the proceeding one.

THEREFORE, THE CURRENT looming constitutional crisis cannot be attributed to NEC Commissioners' inability to perform the task ahead as required by law. The Legislative and the Executive Branches of government are equally liable.

ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 80 (c) of the Liberian Constitution, "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 constituency shall have as close to the same population as possible; provided, however, that a constituency must be solely within a county."

THE DELAYED CONDUCT of the National Housing and Population Census in 2018, taking place 4-years later, now referred to as the 2022 National Housing and Population Census was the beginning of the brink of the Constitutional crisis created by the Executive Branch of Government aided and abetted by the Legislative Branch, which has since 2018 used "Resolutions" to circumvent constitutional requirements.

HAD THE LEGISLATIVE Branch acted to uphold the Constitution by compelling the Executive to conduct the National Housing and Population Census as mandated by the Constitution and not a "Resolution" to circumvent such an important requirement, NEC would have worked in line with Article 80 (e); because one would expect that a responsible Legislature would have conducted its businesses responsibly.

BUT AS IF THAT has not been enough, funding for the election itself has also been lacking. Few days ago, NEC Chair informed Senators here that as at the 9th of March, 11 days to begin the Voters Registration process, the Commission was yet to receive an initial amount of US\$4 million from the Ministry of Finance to begin the 2023 elections process.

WHAT THIS MEANT was that whatever preparation that should have been made days earlier, had to be pushed ahead due to lack of funding.

THIS INCLUDES DEPLOYMENT of staff, equipment and logistics, payment for rented facilities, etc. These equipment would have been deployed ahead of time and tested days before the first citizen could show up to register. Venues negotiated for would have also been paid for to avoid the current embarrassment, where NEC staffs are being kicked off premises, and would not have reverted to changing registration centers moving some to nearby constituencies.

AGAIN, CREATING ANOTHER confusion ahead of voting day, when a person residing in say, District 3, but had registered in District 8, will be compelled to choose a Representative Candidate that has no responsibility toward his or her District. This is chaotic situation, that must be corrected not just by NEC but the Legislature and the Executive as well.

EACH OF THE two branches of government herein mentioned have played their respective role in creating this chaotic situation. They must now act responsibly to get the country out of this impending chaos - hopefully not by another "resolution."

COMMENTARY

By Josep Borrell

Honesty Can Advance the Middle East Peace Process

BRUSSELS - Too many people are dying every week in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories, and millions are living in fear and hopelessness. The world's response has been characterized by too many statements and too little action. That must change. We in the European Union and the wider international community need to do more. We know that people around the world expect us to work for peace, justice, and international law everywhere. But to act successfully, we first must be honest with each other and ourselves.

Being honest means acknowledging that extremism is rising on both sides. Indiscriminate attacks and violence are taking many Israeli lives. Violence on the part of Israeli settlers in the West Bank is increasingly threatening Palestinian lives and livelihoods - almost always with impunity. Moreover, Israeli military operations frequently cause civilian Palestinian deaths, often without effective accountability; illegal settlements are expanding on occupied land; and the delicate status quo concerning Holy Sites is eroding. While Israelis can rely on a strong state and army, Palestinians have no such recourse. This vast inequality in the ability to control one's destiny is visible at every roadside checkpoint. All these facts are obstacles to peace.

To be sure, different actors within Europe often react differently to events in the region. But this does not prevent the EU from acting. We have all been alarmed by recent developments, and we all share the same ultimate goal: to see a safe, secure, globally recognized state of Israel live in peace alongside a safe, secure, globally recognized state of Palestine. This solution would allow both sides to enjoy freedom, prosperity, and peaceful relations with their neighbors.

Our own interests are also at stake. We want peace because ending the conflict would be much better for international security. We want peace because we acknowledge the right of both Israel and Palestine to exist, and because we stand for the principle of international law everywhere. We want peace because we share ties with all peoples in the Holy Land, and because it would benefit regional stability and prosperity. And we want peace because terrorism is a threat everywhere.

But while the EU, the Palestinian Authority, and a sizable part of the Israeli public support the two-state solution, Hamas does not recognize Israel's right to exist, and the current Israeli government's coalition agreement denies the Palestinians' right to their own state. Indeed, the Israeli right increasingly denies that the occupation even exists.

Clearly, neither the Israeli nor the Palestinian side is ready for peace. On the Palestinian side, there is a lack of unity, as well as insufficient democratic legitimacy. All Palestinian factions will need to renounce terrorism and overcome their political divisions. On the Israeli side, the top priorities must be to stop settlement building and settler violence, and to offer to negotiate an independent Palestinian state.

In recent years, the international community has failed to pursue substantive peace efforts

between the parties. Our American friends have long tried to help bring the parties together, and the recent normalization agreements (the Abraham Accords) between Israel and some of its Arab neighbors did make an important contribution to regional stability. But they did not bring Israeli-Palestinian peace any closer. While the United States remains essential for the process, we can no longer leave most of the hard work to American diplomats. Rather, we need a genuinely collective effort that includes Arab states, Europe, the US, and others.

With this honest airing of the facts, what should we do next? Above all, we need more intensive international efforts to create a new peace dynamic. While we cannot force the parties to the negotiating table, we can prepare the way and help them get ready.

In 2013, the EU offered an "unprecedented package of security, economic, and political support" if the parties were to reach a peace agreement. With this in mind, I instructed EU Special Representative Sven Koopmans to work with the European Commission and EU member states to flesh out such a proposal. I also asked him to develop (together with our partners) concrete proposals for a comprehensive regional process to achieve peace both between Israel and Palestine and between Israel and all its Arab neighbors.

Then, in February, I met with Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan al-Saud, and Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit, who agreed to revive and build on the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative and add the European peace package to it. In this effort, we will be working closely with other Arab and international partners.

This process is about sketching out how Israel and Palestine will be integrated in the region if they make peace. We need to consider the kinds of security, political, and economic cooperation that peace would make possible, and how all parties can address common challenges relating to water, energy, infrastructure, and climate change.

This is a moment for exploring what we can all contribute to Israeli-Palestinian peace once it comes. Obviously, neither Europe's nor anyone else's contributions would be implemented unless there is an Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement, and we should not assume that our promises of support will be sufficient to bring about that outcome. Still, something is needed to stop the current downward cycle of violence, and we can play a crucial role in helping the parties to think through their options.

To be clear, I am not announcing a European peace initiative. At this stage, we are simply reaching out to others and considering how we can prepare for the day when Israelis and Palestinians are ready. We can bring that day closer by painting a clearer picture of what regional peace would look like. Honesty requires seeing that we cannot afford to wait any longer.

Josep Borrell, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, is Vice President of the European Commission for a Stronger Europe in the World.

OP-ED

By Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg

What the World Bank Can Do About Climate Change

NEW HAVEN - Few institutions have shown as much versatility and adaptability as the World Bank. Initially founded to address global capital-market imperfections after World War II, the institution's primary mission evolved over time to focus on fighting extreme poverty. But now that the World Bank is welcoming a new president this July, it should adapt again, this time to address climate change.

Poverty reduction, of course, should remain a high priority, considering that the COVID-19 pandemic has left many low-income countries in dire straits. But climate change has emerged as an equally important threat to these countries' futures - as well as to the entire planet. Poverty reduction therefore must go hand in hand with the goal of addressing climate change.

But grounding these efforts in evidence-based research is easier said than done. One often hears that low-income countries should focus on climate change because they have the most to lose from its consequences (natural disasters, soil degradation, water shortages, and so forth). That conclusion may be right; but the argument is flawed, because it is based on a spurious comparison.

Policy makers in poor countries do not care whether they have more to lose compared to richer countries. Rather, their focus is on weighing policies that promote growth but harm the environment against green policies that may imply slower or even no growth. To paraphrase what one such official once told me when I questioned the wisdom of his government's strategy to encourage oil and natural-gas extraction: "Who cares what the long-term trend is? We can do this for ten years, grow rich, and then move on to other activities while using the proceeds to clean up."

The wastefulness of this approach is self-evident, as are the large negative externalities it entails for the rest of the world. But the tradeoff for many low- and lower-middle income countries is real, especially when, like India and Indonesia, they are rich in coal deposits or, as in Nigeria, oil reserves. Giving up on growth in return for a cleaner, greener future is not something that many policy makers in such countries find acceptable.

Still, there is scope for considerable improvement, and the World Bank has the financial resources, credibility, and convening power to make a substantial contribution. To do so, it must ensure that decisions are based on the best available evidence, rather than on untested claims or first principles. Policy makers and advisers should study the experiences of countries that have successfully reduced greenhouse-gas emissions, as well as absorbing the emerging body of academic research focused on developing countries.

For example, the US experience shows that emissions reductions were the result of stricter environmental regulation, not the outsourcing of "dirty" production activities to developing countries (the so-called pollution-haven hypothesis). This implies that carbon border adjustment taxes - often justified on a notional "leakage" hypothesis - will do little to improve emissions in advanced economies. Worse, they may deal a severe blow to some low-income countries' exports. The lesson from the United States, then, is that a path to a greener planet should start with stricter environmental regulation.

Recent research by the Nobel laureate economist Esther Duflo and co-authors offers a second, related lesson, based on data from one of the biggest polluters in the world: India. Contrary to what many may think, India has some of the strictest environmental regulations in the world. What it lacks is the ability to enforce them. Weak state capacity - reflecting inadequate institutions, unreliable contract enforcement, or outright corruption - can nullify the effectiveness of environmental regulations.

Duflo's team shows how devising proper mechanisms to address these constraints can significantly improve emission outcomes. It is precisely here, in the design and implementation of policies to address institutional shortcomings, that the World Bank could add enormous value.

Another recent paper reports on a bold, decade-long effort by a team of researchers, in cooperation with the Indian state of Gujarat, to introduce India's first cap-and-trade program (it also happens to be the world's first market-based program to regulate particulate emissions). Remarkably, they find that the program functioned smoothly and produced significant emissions reductions as well as cost savings (relative to an alternative, command-and-control-based regulation).

Such results are extremely promising. Interventions to create "markets" for emissions have proven successful in the US and Europe. If such programs can take root in developing countries, a truly global solution to climate change will be within reach. Moreover, if just a couple of research teams can make so much progress, imagine what the World Bank could achieve with all its resources, expertise, and access to top policy makers.

Perhaps the most encouraging message from recent research is that interventions that meaningfully improve environmental outcomes in developing countries need not be excessively expensive. Another recent paper examines why India, with its generally warm climate and plentiful sunshine, has been slow to deploy solar panels. It turns out that local governments' inability credibly to commit to the contracts they sign with producers impedes investment. Once investments in a solar plant are made, state governments have a strong incentive to renegotiate. Because solar suppliers anticipate this, investment in green energy ultimately falls short of where it could be. Intermediation by the federal government could help, resulting in much higher solar adoption.

Such examples show that substantive progress toward decarbonization in low- and middle-income economies is feasible without bankrupting the country or halting growth. But success requires knowledge, perhaps even more so than money. Hitting poorer countries with punitive carbon taxes - which even advanced economies like the US have been reluctant to adopt - should be a non-starter. Encouraging the green-energy transition with policies tailored to the institutional constraints prevalent in low-income settings is much more promising.

The World Bank has always prided itself on being not just another "bank," but rather a "knowledge bank." As it develops its climate agenda, it must remain true to that credo by adhering to the lessons of rigorous research and evidence.

Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg, a former World Bank Group chief economist and editor-in-chief of the American Economic Review, is Professor of Economics at Yale University.

OPINION

By George Soros

Updating My Munich Predictions

LONDON - It is exactly one month ago that I gave a speech on the eve of the Munich Security Conference. Since then, so many remarkable things have happened - and have happened so fast - that it is worth comparing my predictions of a month ago with actual developments.

The biggest changes have occurred in the global climate system. By this, I mean actual climate events and climate scientists' understanding of those events. The main message I wanted to convey in Munich was that the global climate system is greatly dependent on what happens within the Arctic Circle. The Arctic Circle climate system used to be separate from the global climate system. Winds used to blow in a predictable counterclockwise direction; but, because of increased human interference, the separation between the Arctic climate system and the global climate system no longer prevails.

Indeed, cold air now leaks from the Arctic Circle and is replaced by warm air sucked up from outside. Consequently, the Arctic Circle has warmed up four times faster than the rest of the world over the last four decades, and the rate of warming is dangerously accelerating. Since my speech, temperatures in the Arctic Circle have soared over 20° Celsius above normal, setting records and intensifying concerns about the rate at which the Greenland ice sheet is melting.

Climate scientists' understanding of the warming process has also taken a big step forward. They have been able to prove that the release of methane, a far more potent and dangerous greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, is greater than can be explained by the sources of emissions associated with human activity. This finding implies the existence of other sources - for example, increasing methane emissions from the warming permafrost - result from human disturbance of nature.

An increasing number of climate scientists believe it would be appropriate to declare a climate emergency, because, at the current rate, global warming is bound to exceed 1.5°C. As Sir David King, chief science adviser to the British government under Gordon Brown and currently the head of the Climate Crisis Advisory Group, said last month, we need to "reduce emissions rapidly and remove excess greenhouse gases, but, most importantly and urgently, refreeze the Arctic." That's quite a large program, given the fact that we are already behind schedule.

The other domain where important changes have taken place is Russia's war against Ukraine. Until October, Ukraine was winning on the battlefield. Then, Russia, with the help of Iran, introduced drones on a large scale. Their aim was to undermine Ukrainians' morale by depriving the civilian population of electricity, heat, and water. This put Ukraine on the defensive.

The regular Russian army is in desperate straits. It is badly led, ill-equipped, and gravely demoralized. President Vladimir Putin recognized this and took a desperate gamble. He turned to Yevgeny Prigozhin, who had marshaled an army of mercenaries called the Wagner Group and was eager to prove that his forces could outperform the regular army. Putin allowed Prigozhin to recruit prisoners from Russia's jails. With the former convicts' help, and at an enormous cost in their and other mercenaries' lives, Wagner started to gain territory around the town of Bakhmut while the regular army remained stymied or was losing ground elsewhere.

Putin's gamble worked - up to a point. The regular army, feeling threatened, started waging a bureaucratic war against Prigozhin - which they won. They saw to it that Prigozhin was prohibited from recruiting more prisoners and supplied Wagner fighters with the wrong types of munitions. In recent weeks, Prigozhin went public with his complaints, an action that put Putin in a difficult position. At first, Putin tried to help Prigozhin, but the establishment supported the regular army. Together, they convinced Putin that Prigozhin poses a threat to his continued rule.

Ukraine is taking advantage of this Russian infighting. President Volodymyr Zelensky consulted his army's leaders, and they unanimously recommended putting Prigozhin's army through the proverbial meat grinder while it is so disadvantaged. Ukrainian forces will thus be able to mount a counterattack when they receive the up-to-date armaments, in particular Leopard 2 tanks, they have been promised. That should happen around May, but it could also be earlier.

So, most of the important predictions I made in Munich a month ago about the war - including that a powerful Ukrainian spring offensive will decisively turn the tide - are likely to come true. I am aware, of course, that a number of reputable publications have published articles that paint a much more dismal picture of the war's progress. How can they be reconciled with the upbeat view that I hold? Only by postulating a successful disinformation campaign.

Putin is desperate for a ceasefire, but he does not want to admit it. Chinese President Xi Jinping is in the same boat. But US President Joe Biden is unlikely to jump at this seeming opportunity to negotiate a ceasefire, because he has pledged that the US will not negotiate behind Zelensky's back.

The countries of the former Soviet empire, eager to assert their independence, can hardly wait for the Russian army to be crushed in Ukraine. At that point, Putin's dream of a renewed Russian empire will disintegrate and cease to pose a threat to Europe.

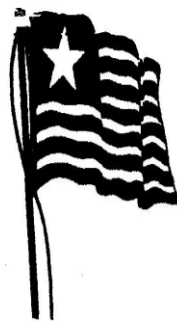
The defeat of Russian imperialism will have far-reaching consequences for the rest of the world. It will bring huge relief to open societies and create tremendous problems for closed ones. Most importantly, it will allow the world to concentrate on its biggest problem, climate change.

George Soros, Founder and Chair of the Open Society Foundations, is the author, most recently, of *In Defense of Open Society* (Public Affairs, 2019).



Republic of Liberia GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY

United Nations Drive - Old USTC Compound - Monrovia, Liberia
Telephone Number (231) 226-745 - P. O. Box 9027



Office of the Deputy Director
General for Administration
WVD-DDGA-ADG-082-2023

Invitation for Bids

1. The General Services Agency (GSA) has received funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2023 budgetary allotment and intends to apply part of this funding for the Procurement of goods under the contract packages listed in the table below.

Code	Contract Package	Quantity	Bid Closing Date	Bid Opening Date
IFB# GSA/NCB/ 001/23	Building Materials	Assorted	April 22,2023 10:00AM	April 22,2023 10:30AM
IFB# GSA/NCB/ 002/23	Supply of Vehicle Spare Parts	Assorted	April 22,2023 10:30AM	April 22,2023 11:00AM
IFB# GSA/NCB/ 003/23	Supply of Cleaning Materials	Assorted	April 22,2023 11:30AM	April 22,2023 12:00PM

2. The GSA now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of goods stated above.

3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the PPCA and approved by the PPCC, and is open to all eligible bidders.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the General Services Agency and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below.

5. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested Bidders upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of \$100.00 US for each set from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday.

6. All submissions must be signed, sealed in an envelope and clearly marked with the code and name of contract package that is being bid for and must be delivered to the address below at date and time stated. Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after the deadline of bid submission. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount as required in the Bid Data Sheet, in the form of a Bank Guarantee, Manager's Check, or an Insurance Bond. Late bids will be Rejected and returned unopened. Bids will be opened in the presence of Bidders or their representatives and those who choose to attend at the address below.

THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
GENERAL SERVICES AGENCY
OLD USTC COMPOUND, UN DRIVE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA
MOBILE NUMBER: 0886554465/0770554465
EMAIL ADDRESS:sloanjohnsonp@gmail.com

7. The General Services Agency (GSA) 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 therefore; Invitation for Bids and Award of Contract will be issued to qualified bidders in accordance with procurement procedures applicable under the Republic of Liberia Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concessions Act published and approved September 18, 2010.

Signed: Johnson P. Sloan
Director of Procurement

Approved: [Signature]
Acting Director General



Local Voices, UNDP to launch first iVerify Fact Checking System to counter disinformation ahead of 2023 elections

By Jerry Gaye

Monrovia - Liberians will go to the polls in October this year. The outcome of the polls will depend on how the media as one of the key actors will play its role to ensure a transparent, inclusive, and peaceful process. Disinformation, misinformation and hate speech, on the other hand can undermine the integrity of elections, their outcomes, and the role of the media.

This is why the Liberian media, with its unique and critical role will have to do all it can to promote a credible process. To arrive at this, the United Nations Development Program, through its Liberia Election Support Project (LESP) is supporting Local Voices Liberia

that can support elections and election institutions, but it can also undermine them."

According to him, the confidence in electoral institutions and processes is decreasing globally owing to the rapidly spread rumors, putting electoral institutions into the positions of fire fighters often finding themselves fighting the fires of disinformation and misinformation in quest for a greater electoral integrity.

The UNDP Deputy Resident Representative has, meanwhile, called for a collective responsibility to utilize the platform for its intended purpose.

Also remarking at the occasion, the representatives from the Embassies of Sweden and Ireland as well as National



(LVL), a media organization, to strengthen and expand its fact checking capacity to mitigate the spread of disinformation, misinformation and hate speech.

As part of the support, a fact checking system was launched on March 14 at the Royal Grad Hotel in Monrovia. The iVerify System will be used by fact checkers at LVL to track and fact check information that might be misleading or problematic. The system will also allow for members of the public to make request for fact checking of information that they want to verify. This will help mitigate potential election disinformation, misinformation and hate speech before, during and after this year's elections.

The iVerify System is UNDP's automated fact-checking tool that can be used to identify false information and prevent and mitigate its spread.

UNDP's Deputy Resident Representative Louis Kuukpen, speaking at the occasion, praised the UNDP and Local Voices Liberia's team for the achievement noting that the iverify tool has a huge potential to help Liberia strengthen the integrity of the electoral processes and control bad reportage that may undermine the fragile peace and stability the country enjoys.

Mr. Kuukpen furthered that the UNDP and its partners (The Embassies of Sweden and Ireland in Liberia) are supporting the iVerify system, led by the EC-UNDP Taskforce on electoral processes, to enhance the capacity of Local Voices Liberia in contributing to safeguarding the information integrity in the country.

He mentioned that the integrity of information is critical leading to the 2023 elections, adding, "Information, they say is powerful, it is a powerful tool

Elections Commission lauded the UNDP and Local Voices Liberia for the collaboration to ensure the availability of the iVerify platform ahead of the crucial October elections.

NEC Deputy Executive Director for Administration commenting on the effect of consuming wrong information during electoral processes said the commission has spent lot of time and resources trying to get out of the community of misinformation when it should be spending "quality time to inform the Liberian people about the process".

Said Mr. Samuel Cole: "Some very heavy voices" in the media told the public "that the National Identification Card is a primary requirement for the voter registration," something he noted "went as far as into the local market, and to take that out of the community, the commission has to spent lot of time and resources to do."

He said because the NEC is aware that "these vices will interplay in the 2023 electoral process, it has taken concrete actions and has endeavor to found strategic partnerships", adding that the NEC had improved collaborations with Internews to ensure that misinformation, disinformation and hate speech can be mitigated during the electoral processes.

Local Voices Liberia Executive Director, Alpha Daffae Senkpeni, also speaking at the program lauded the collaborative efforts of the UNDP and the donor to enhance his organization's capacity to do more fact checking and called on other partners to support the organization's activities to augment its performance.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

House Speaker, AfDB officials deliberate on Liberia's development

House Speaker Bhofal Chambers Tuesday, 21 March received Six Executive Directors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group who are currently on a consultation mission to

Country's development trajectory as well as the Bank's cooperation with Liberia. Speaker Chambers expressed unhappiness over the manner in which Africa is treated.

According to him, Africa is

current priorities for Liberia are guided by the Country Strategy Paper (CSP) covering the period 2019-2023.

The CSP is anchored on two re-enforcing priority areas: (i) Economic diversification through improved transport and energy infrastructure; and (ii) Improving economic governance and enhancing private sector development.

The CSP is informed by the Government's development strategy, the "Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD 2018-23)" that has prioritized infrastructure development and job creation.

Liberia was instrumental in the creation of the African Development Bank and is also a founding member of the Bank as its vision bearer when the late Dr. Romeo A. Horton crafted the vision for the formation of the Bank.

Having joined in 1964, the Bank remains one of Liberia's key development partners.

Accordingly, the delegation mentioned that the Bank's current portfolio in Liberia comprises 14 ongoing and recently approved operations with cumulative commitments amounting to USD 376.96 million, dominated by road

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

AfDB Development Fund grant to modernise payments infrastructure and systems in Liberia

The African Development Fund's Board of Directors has approved \$3.9 million grant to finance upgrade of Liberia's payments infrastructure and systems project. The approval of the grant from the Bank's concessional lending window, was made on 17 March. The project's primary objective is to strengthen the payments ecosystem in Liberia for increased efficiency and to foster growth and innovation. It targets the automated cheque processing and automated clearing house (ACP/ACH) and real-time gross settlement (RTGS) systems, which form the backbone of payments processing in the country's financial sector.

The project will also involve the upgrade of the Central Bank of Liberia's main data centre and

Implementation of the new project will commence in June 2023 and will be executed by the Central Bank of Liberia working in close collaboration with banking and non-banking institutions.

African Development Bank country manager for Liberia, Benedict Kanu, said: "the modernisation of Liberia's payments infrastructure and systems to improve payments efficiency will not only strengthen the formal financial sector, but contribute to greater financial stability and improved private sector development."

He added that the impact of these improvements would contribute to reducing the financial inclusion gap through the provision of infrastructure support for the World Bank financed NEPS project. The project will also serve to



Speaker Chambers and AfDB officials

Liberia. The consultation mission, which is part of the annual work program of the Executive Directors, is aimed at visiting selected regional member countries of the Bank Group. According to a press release, the AfDB delegation exchanged views with the Speaker of the House of Representatives on issues related to the

the richest continent but has not been given the opportunity to borrow as much as compared to other European countries for the purpose of carrying out development. He wants Liberia to benefit more from the continental Bank, especially in the infrastructure area.

For its part, the AfDB delegation said the Bank's

GVL wins most supportive organization award

Golden Veroleum Liberia (GVL) Inc. has won the Most Supportive Corporate Organization of the Year category in season 4 of the Liberty Young Achievers Award. According to a press release, the award cited GVL's numerous contributions toward community development and livelihood improvement in Liberia. The Liberty Young Achievers is a registered socio-cultural development project designed to celebrate and reward the young achievers of Liberia, who are significant and outstanding in their chosen fields. Golden Veroleum Liberia was nominated along with ten other corporate organizations.

"The panel cited the construction of housing for workers, support of the educational needs of both GVL employee's dependents and children from the surrounding communities," the release said.

US\$200,000 under its GVL Educational Support (GES) program to rehabilitate schools.

It detailed that the money is also meant to provide teaching and learning materials, pay the stipends of volunteer teachers, and US\$100,000 for



It further cited free health care, rehabilitation and construction of community roads, the provision of USD\$100,000 annually for scholarships, and the provision of safe drinking water as among the basis for selecting GVL for the award.

According to GVL, it currently allocates over

scholarships to students studying agriculture, science-related courses, health, and engineering, among others.

"GVL strongly values this recognition and remains committed to improving the livelihoods and well-being of its employees and host communities," the release said.

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
Building today, a better Africa tomorrow

disaster recovery sites and is expected to impact the institution and government ministries involved in payments. Other beneficiaries include commercial banks and their customers, all of whom will experience improved services and turnaround times, real time processing and online administrative access.

The project will also contribute to increased inclusion and fostering of regional integration through technological upgrade to required standards. For Liberia, this initiative will directly impact the roll-out of the proposed National Electronic Payments Switch (NEPS) system targeted at the retail market where the greatest exclusion occurs. With the NEPS project approved by the World Bank in 2022 (<https://apopa.info/3lq8J2q>) and its implementation underway, the proposed project is critical to efforts to improve financial inclusion in Liberia, currently standing at 44.2% (Findex 2021), and reach to disenfranchised populations including youth, women, smallholder farmers, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and other rural populations.

prepare Liberia for the region's financial integration efforts and increased cross border trade which require robust payments infrastructure. Ahmed Attout, acting director for the Financial Sector Development Department noted that the Bank's financial sector development strategy aims to support domestic financial systems in regional member countries and to see that they comply with regional, and international financial standards. He further noted that financial sector development through provision of infrastructure and digital finance support is critical to private sector development particularly in an increasingly digital world that demands more inclusivity.

Liberia's financial sector suffers from a number of challenges including inadequate ICT and last mile reach infrastructure. Existing payments infrastructure, deployed in 2016 with help from the African Development Bank, have served the country well over the last six years, but require urgent upgrading. This project is expected to maximise potential to strengthen the financial sector, build financial stability, bridge the financial inclusion gap and facilitate integration in the region.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

CSA calls on Pres. Weah to veto Pension Bill

The leadership of the Civil Servants Association of Liberia (CSAL) is appealing to President George M. Weah not to sign into law the recent pension and benefit bill for former lawmakers passes

payers money to bury the interest of the public and forecast their desire to continue living on government's meager revenues even after their exist from office. Mr. Moibah who is also the President-General of the

when you are rejected by your own people from represent them thus resulting into your defeat and therefore given marching order to vacate the Capitol Building government should use its meager revenues intended to run government functionaries and execute national development to pay you (former lawmakers)?

This awful bill passed by the Liberian senate is intended to strangulate current and incoming governments and kill every good developmental policies including the Pro-Poor Agenda for Development and Prosperity as when sign into law, would hinder growth of the Economy and other areas in the society, Mr. Johnson emphasized.

He announced that in the coming days, his association, the CSAL will mount forces with other public sector institutions including the National Health Workers Union of Liberia, the National Teachers Association of Liberia among others to prevail on President Weah to veto the awful legislative instrument just passed by the Liberian senate.

Meanwhile, the CSAL President is calling on all civil servants and other public sector workers in Montserrado, Bomi, Margibi, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa and Gbarpolu counties to troop to various National Elections Commission (NEC) registration centers in the six counties from March 20-April 9, 2023, to get registered.

According to him, the process is necessary as this is the surest way of obtaining their voter registration cards in preparedness for the upcoming October 10, 2023, presidential and legislative elections.

Liberia Labor Congress (LLC) that is currently entangled in a legal battle at the Temple of Justice intoned that what is even observed as a mischief in the bill is that there is no clear explanation as to what the bill considers as retirement. He questioned that does retirement means when a lawmaker is booted out of office through democratic election. Or when lawmakers decide not to further contest legislative elections after serving their respective office terms can be considered as retirement.

Mr. Moibah in no uncertain term urged President Weah to veto the bill saying "How will you craft a bill that states that when you are out of the Capitol Building, while sitting home, government will be obliged to pay you fifty percent of the gross salary you were working for. So are you telling us that

'Pension Bill wicked and unacceptable' -Says Civil Servant President

The President of the Civil Servants Association of Liberia Mr. Moibah Johnson has described a Pension Bill recently passed by the Legislature as totally unacceptable and wicked.

think this bill is against the interest of the workers of this country. It's also against the interest of the growth of the health sector, the improvement of the education sector, and other key sectors," Johnson pleaded with President Weah.

He wondered how lawmakers will pass a bill that make them receive about 50% of their gross

salary even when they are no longer in government. He said in the first place, the lawmakers fail to clearly define what they referred to as retirement. "We're asking the president not to sign this bill because we



Mr. Johnson retains his position as president of the association after a five-year tenure as inscribed in the constitution of the Civil Servants Association of Liberia (CSAL).

Fake clinic, town funded

Citizens of Electoral District #2 in Lofa have discovered a criminal syndicate of a false clinic placed within the National Budget under the Ministry of Health.

Electoral District #2 in Lofa County is considered one of the most underdeveloped and remote districts of Lofa as it lacks adequate basic social services for its inhabitants, especially healthcare service provision institutions.

Accordingly, the fake clinic "Nyekehun Community Clinic, Nyekehun Town, Wahasa District" has a whopping amount of Twenty-Five Thousand United States Dollars (US\$25,000.00) with the budget line 253244, while the legally existing ones are without the necessary and adequate support (financial, human resource,

common criminal. Is this the change you promised us Madam Wiah? We can go to the clinic, but no medicine not knowing that Julie has been stealing the money that was supposed to be used to buy medicine for us," some Citizens of the district, mostly youth questioned.

"We are demanding the national government and the international development partners to Liberia including diplomatic missions to demand Honorable Julie Fatorma Wiah to fully and immediately account for this money. We do not want to reach to a point of asking Honorable Wiah to drive with us to Nyekehun Town to see her clinic. But if the national government cannot hear our cry to immediately make Julie Fatorma Wiah account for this money, we will erect a

Account Code	FY2019-20 Actual	FY2020-21 Budget	FY2020-21 Est. Outturn	Sp. B
253243 Bindin Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253102 National Drug Service	150,000	0	0	50
253224 Karloken Health Center	0	10,000	10,000	
253225 Tailor Town Clinic	35,000	25,000	25,000	
253226 Lugbeyee Clinic	0	5,000	5,000	
253227 Kamakun Clinic	25,000	0	0	
253230 Payee Clinic	15,000	25,000	25,000	
253231 Little Kola Clinic	20,000	7,000	7,000	
253234 Zooplay Clinic	15,000	0	0	
253235 Jenneh Clinic	0	30,000	30,000	
253237 Miracle Center of God Clinic	20,000	0	0	
253238 Annur (Light) Clinic	20,000	0	0	
253240 Gokai Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253239 Kpayah Clinic	15,000	25,000	25,000	
253242 Zolowo Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253225 Tailor Town Clinic	15,000	0	0	
253244 Nyekehun Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253245 Scheffelin Town Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253246 Dagwata Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253247 Wropiukun Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253248 New-Town Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253249 Sobo Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253250 Baypolu Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253251 Volomeni Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
253252 Baalela	0	25,000	25,000	
253236 Life Support Clinic	20,000	0	0	
253239 Kpayah Clinic	15,000	0	0	
253204 St. Joseph Catholic Hospital	50,000	0	0	
253241 Leugbeh Clinic	0	25,000	25,000	
Total	415,000	452,000	452,000	50

materials) to cater to the needs of the people.

The sector is already struggling, and the citizens of District #2 say they can't afford to see it become a criminal enterprise, stating that, "we need an answer from our lawmaker".

Meanwhile, the Citizens of Electoral District #2 are demanding their Representative Julie Fatorma Wiah to provide an explanation on how this clinic was placed in the national budget under her watch.

To make matter worse, an investigation has shown that no such town "Nyekehun" as it placed in the Fiscal Year 2020/2021 approved National Budget line 253244 exists in Wahasa.

However, a letter in our possession dated February 17, 2021, was written to Dr. Willimena Jallah, Minister of Health, requesting the payment of US\$25000 in the name of the fake "Nyekehun Community Clinic" as it is placed in the approved National Budget for the Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

"What qualified a health institution for placement within the national budget, especially with such a whopping amount? Is the Minister a beneficiary of this criminal enterprise? A lawmaker like Julie Fatorma Wiah has rather decided to steal from the suffering people, she should be considered a

checkpoint that will deny her entry into the District," the Citizens asserted.

Electoral District #2 comprises three administrative districts namely Vahun, Tengia, and Wahasa. "Across all these districts, the Honorable has only been successful in stealing from the poor masses as evidenced by her creation of a fake Nyekehun Community Clinic," a prominent son of district # 2, who spoke on condition of anonymity, averred.

"But she will surely pay for this, said a Town chief. None of the Lofa County Health Team leadership can provide any evidence of the existence of this clinic, not even the District Health Officer in whose district this Julie-made fake Nyekehun Community clinic is said to be operating," the prominent son of district #2 further averred.

The investigation has also uncovered that the former administrator of the Vahun Health Center, Madam Sarah F. Conteh is now the administrator of this fake clinic, and she affirmed that this clinic does not exist.

She, however, asserted that since the February 17, 2021, requisition letter from Honorable Julie Fatorma Wiah fake Nyekehun Community Clinic came to the

Français

Un rapport américain fait état des violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme au Libéria

Un rapport américain 2022 sur les droits de l'homme au Libéria fait état d'importantes violations des droits de l'homme, citant des rapports crédibles.

Le rapport cite des exécutions illégales ou arbitraires, des exécutions extrajudiciaires, des peines

d'expression et des médias, notamment des violences et des menaces de violence contre les journalistes, une grave corruption au sommet de l'Etat, un refus de la part des autorités de procéder à des enquêtes pour situer les responsabilités sur la violence sexiste, dont le mariage précoce et forcé, et la mutilation génitale féminine.

d'avoir fait des tentatives intermittentes mais limitées pour enquêter et poursuivre les responsables accusés d'abus au cours de l'année, que ce soit dans les rangs des forces de sécurité ou au sein du gouvernement. Selon lui, c'est aussi le cas pour la corruption au sommet de l'Etat.

"Il y a eu plusieurs rapports selon lesquels le gouvernement ou ses agents ont commis des meurtres arbitraires ou illégaux. Les meurtres commis par la police font l'objet d'une enquête de la Division des normes professionnelles de la Police nationale du Libéria (LNP), puis sont transmis aux tribunaux pénaux pour faire des poursuites", a déclaré l'U.S. Human Rights Report.

Le 13 juin, selon le rapport, la police a tué Rufus Fongbeh, un civil non armé, à Kakata, dans le comté de Margibi. À la suite d'une enquête, a-t-il déclaré, deux agents de la LNP ont été officiellement démis de leurs fonctions dans l'attente de nouvelles mesures disciplinaires.

Il a rappelé que le 4 juillet, l'officier de la LNP, James Togba, a abattu Orlando Broh (également rapporté dans les médias sous le nom de Bloh), un civil non armé à Monrovia.

Citant des archives judiciaires, le rapport américain sur les droits de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



ou traitements cruels, inhumains ou dégradants infligés dont seraient responsables des cadres du gouvernement, des conditions de détention dures et potentiellement mortelles, et des arrestations ou détentions arbitraires.

Le rapport dénonce également de graves problèmes d'indépendance du pouvoir judiciaire, de graves restrictions à la liberté

En outre, il pointe du doigt les crimes de violence ou les menaces de violence sur les homosexuels et la criminalisation des relations sexuelles homosexuelles consenties entre adultes.

Le rapport américain sur les droits de l'homme fait également état d'une impunité pour les personnes qui ont violé les droits de l'homme et se sont rendus coupables d'atrocités au cours des deux guerres civiles.

Il accuse le gouvernement

Guinée: la détention de deux leaders du FNDC, «une prise d'otages» pour un responsable du mouvement

En Guinée, le responsable de la communication du Front national pour la défense de la constitution (FNDC) répond aux propos sur RFI du porte-parole du gouvernement de transition, notamment sur le processus judiciaire concernant deux leaders du FNDC détenus depuis presque 8 mois. Abdoulaye Oumou Sow dénonce « une prise d'otages » et estime que « Foniké Mengué et Ibrahima Diallo ne sont plus dans le délai normal de détention ».

En Guinée, alors que le dialogue entre les autorités de transition et l'opposition peine à s'instaurer, la société civile réunie au sein du Front national pour la défense de la constitution (FNDC) rejette les déclarations du ministre Ousmane Gaoual Diallo.

Sur les antennes de RFI le 20 mars 2023, le porte-parole du gouvernement de

transition est revenu sur l'interdiction des manifestations dans le pays et a précisé que cette interdiction ne concernait que « une partie du territoire national ».

Sur le cas des leaders du FNDC, Foniké Mengué et Ibrahima Diallo, détenus depuis bientôt huit mois sans procès, le ministre a affirmé que le processus judiciaire suivait son cours.

Mais pour le responsable de la communication du FNDC Abdoulaye Oumou Sow, qui opère dans la clandestinité depuis l'an dernier, la junte du Comité national du rassemblement pour le développement (CNRD) gagne du temps en empêchant la tenue du procès de ses camarades.



Éditorial

C'est un peu trop tard Monsieur le Président

Le président George Weah a publié mardi dernier le décret présidentiel n° 117 conformément aux articles 5.2 et 10.2 du code de conduite, exigeant la démission immédiate des fonctionnaires qui veulent briguer un siège électoral aux prochaines élections présidentielles et législatives.

La loi prévoit que tous les fonctionnaires nommés par le président, à savoir les ministres, les vice-ministres et les ministres adjoints du cabinet, les ambassadeurs, les consuls, les surintendants de comtés et autres fonctionnaires d'état, tant militaires que civils, nommés par le président conformément à l'article 56(a) de la Constitution de 1986, et tout directeur général, directeur général adjoint, directeur général adjoint d'une société d'état, tout commissaire, adjoint et commissaire adjoint de toute commission établie, et tout fonctionnaire du gouvernement qui négocie et exécute des contrats, achète des biens et des services et/ou gère des actifs pour et au nom du gouvernement du Libéria, qui souhaite solliciter ou briguer une fonction publique élective doit démissionner de son poste un (1) an avant la date de l'élection à laquelle il ou elle veut se présenter.

Les raisons invoquées par les rédacteurs de la loi et que le président a reconnues dans son décret présidentiel sont de dissocier le devoir fiduciaire de confiance, d'intégrité et de loyauté dû par les agents publics au peuple de leurs désirs personnels de se présenter aux élections au détriment des ressources publiques.

De plus, l'intention des rédacteurs du Code de conduite, en particulier les sections 5.2 et 10.2 modifiées, est de créer des règles de jeu équitables pour tous les Libériens souhaitant participer à une élection.

Cependant, le décret présidentiel est intervenu moins de six mois avant les prochaines élections générales et présidentielles, soit plus de six mois après le délai prévu pour la démission selon le code de conduite.

Demander aux fonctionnaires nommés souhaitant se présenter aux élections générales et présidentielles de 2023 de démissionner, en moins de six mois, ne fait que remettre en question la sincérité du président dans la mise en œuvre de la loi. Cela pourrait même ouvrir l'ordre du président à des contestations judiciaires, comme cela a été le cas en 2017, mais cette fois d'une manière différente.

Le président et son équipe pourraient faire valoir que la loi qui prévoyait initialement deux ans a été modifiée le 29 décembre 2022, par conséquent, même si le président avait fait la déclaration en janvier, elle n'aurait toujours pas respecté le délai d'un an.

Cependant, être au courant d'une élection et se prononcer au cours de la première semaine de janvier aurait été considéré comme un bon élan en raison du moment où la loi a été adoptée.

Ce qui n'est pas bien fait n'est tout simplement pas fait du tout. La loi dit démissionner un an avant l'élection, pas moins de six mois. C'est un peu trop tard Monsieur le Président.

Français

Un rapport américain

l'homme a indiqué que Togba avait commis le meurtre lors d'une tentative ratée d'extorquer de l'argent à des toxicomanes.

"Après que la LNP a renvoyé Togba de la force, il a été inculpé et accusé de meurtre. Togba attend son procès à la fin de l'année", a-t-il déclaré.

Cependant, le rapport sur les droits de l'homme indique qu'aucun cas de disparition n'a été signalé par ou au nom des autorités gouvernementales.

Selon le rapport, la Commission nationale indépendante des droits de l'homme (INCHR) mandatée par le gouvernement a dit que le gouvernement n'a pas répondu à la plupart des préoccupations en matière de droits humains, y compris celles liées aux disparitions passées non résolues, suscitant ainsi la peur du public et restreignant diverses libertés.

Néanmoins, le gouvernement américain a déclaré qu'il y a des rapports selon lesquels les autorités gouvernementales libériennes auraient agressé physiquement des civils pacifiques, y compris des personnes en détention ou en quête de protection.

Il a rappelé que le 6 janvier, un agent de l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue aurait battu un suspect qui aurait volé le téléphone portable de l'agent. L'affaire faisait toujours l'objet d'une enquête à la fin de l'année.

Le rapport précise que le 29 mars, le ministère de la Justice a licencié quatre officiers supérieurs de la LNP - le commandant adjoint Amos Williams, l'inspecteur Otis Wallace, le sergent George Wleh et Humphrey Karhn - pour avoir prétendument battu des civils à Monrovia.

Des cas de viol et d'abus sexuels commis par des agents du gouvernement ont également été signalés. Le rapport indique qu'une agente de la Police Nationale du Libéria a allégué dans une interview à la radio le 7 février qu'elle avait été violée par le commissaire de police adjoint Joshua dans son bureau au siège de la LNP vers la fin de l'année 2021.

Après une longue enquête, le rapport américain a déclaré que le commissaire a été suspendu de ses fonctions puis réintégré par la suite. En mai 2022, selon le rapport, le ministère de la Justice a accepté de poursuivre le Commissaire Pendant après

que l'INCHR ait demandé avec succès à la Cour suprême d'obliger sa poursuite.

"Mais, jusqu'à la fin de l'année, il n'y a pas eu de suite à l'ordonnance de la Cour suprême de poursuivre l'affaire", a dénoncé le rapport.

En outre, il a déclaré que l'avocat de Harper City, Thomas Togba Kun, avait été arrêté et inculpé d'agression sexuelle le 6 mai sur une cliente. Son procès était en cours à la fin de l'année.

Selon le rapport, des observateurs ont l'impression que certains agents des forces de sécurité se croient être au-dessus de la loi, ce, à cause d'un système judiciaire qui condamne et punit rarement les agents abusifs.

Le rapport a toutefois reconnu que le gouvernement a dispensé une formation pour accroître le respect des droits de l'homme parmi les forces de sécurité.

Concernant les conditions de détention des prisonniers au Libéria, le rapport américain dénonce des conditions dures et mortelles en raison de la surpopulation des centres de détention, des pénuries alimentaires, des conditions sanitaires inadéquates et de la médiocrité des soins médicaux.

Selon le rapport, le surpeuplement brut continue d'être un problème, en particulier à la prison centrale de Monrovia (MCP), qui compte 1 426 détenus pour un établissement construit à l'origine pour accueillir 374 prisonniers.

Bureau de correction et de réadaptation (BCR) a signalé 24 décès en prison au 31 octobre. Ces décès sont dus à des causes naturelles. « Pendant ce temps, le BCR n'a signalé aucun incident majeur de violence dans les prisons ou de violence entre prisonniers, appart certains escarmouches mineures courantes ». Le rapport se félicite toutefois de la grâce présidentielle de George Manneh Weah pour 500 détenus, à l'exclusion des personnes reconnues coupables de viol ou de vol à main armée.

"Le 26 juillet, le président a accordé la clémence de l'exécutif à 186 détenus supplémentaires, dont 31 en détention provisoire", indique le rapport. Il a ajouté qu'en décembre, en raison de la surpopulation et d'une crise sanitaire au MCP, le président de la Cour suprême a ordonné la libération des prévenus accusés d'infractions mineures et ayant déjà purgé un mois ou plus de détention. En outre, le rapport américain note qu'en décembre, le gouvernement a commencé la construction d'installations supplémentaires au MCP pour réduire la surpopulation.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Josep Borrell

De l'honnêteté pour aider le processus de paix au Moyen-Orient

BRUXELLES - Trop de personnes meurent chaque semaine en Israël et dans les territoires palestiniens occupés tandis que des millions vivent dans la peur et le désespoir. En réponse, le monde a produit trop de déclarations et trop peu d'actions. Cela doit changer. L'Union européenne et la communauté internationale doivent faire davantage. Nous savons que les citoyens du monde entier attendent de nous que nous prenions position et que nous travaillions pour la paix, la justice et le droit international partout dans le monde. Mais pour agir efficacement, nous devons d'abord être honnêtes les uns envers les autres et envers nous-mêmes.

Être honnête implique tout d'abord de reconnaître que l'extrémisme monte des deux côtés. Les attaques aveugles font de très nombreuses victimes. La violence des colons israéliens en Cisjordanie menace de plus en plus la vie et les moyens de subsistance des Palestiniens, et cela presque toujours en toute impunité. Les opérations militaires israéliennes provoquent aussi fréquemment la mort de civils palestiniens, souvent sans que les responsables aient à répondre de leurs actes ; les colonies illégales s'étendent sur les terres occupées ; et le délicat statu quo concernant les lieux saints s'effrite. Alors que les Israéliens peuvent compter sur un État et une armée forts, les Palestiniens n'en disposent pas. Cette profonde inégalité dans la capacité à maîtriser son propre destin est visible à chaque poste de contrôle. Ces actes constituent autant d'obstacles à la paix.

En Europe, les acteurs réagissent souvent différemment aux événements dans la région. Il n'y a pas de raison cependant que cela empêche l'UE d'agir. Nous avons tous été alarmés par les récents développements, et nous partageons tous le même objectif ultime : voir un État d'Israël vivant en sécurité et reconnu dans le monde entier, vivre en paix aux côtés d'un État de Palestine vivant en sécurité et reconnu dans le monde entier. Cette solution permettrait aux deux parties de jouir de la liberté, de la prospérité et de relations pacifiques avec leurs voisins.

Nos propres intérêts sont également en jeu. Nous voulons la paix parce que la fin du conflit améliorerait nettement la sécurité internationale. Nous voulons la paix parce que nous reconnaissons le droit d'Israël et de la Palestine à exister, et parce que nous défendons le droit international partout dans le monde. Nous voulons la paix parce que nous partageons des liens avec tous les peuples de Terre Sainte, et parce qu'elle serait bénéfique pour la stabilité et la prospérité régionales. Enfin nous voulons la paix parce que le terrorisme est une menace partout.

Mais alors que l'UE, l'Autorité palestinienne et une part significative de l'opinion publique israélienne soutiennent la solution à deux États, le Hamas ne reconnaît pas le droit à l'existence d'Israël et l'accord de coalition du gouvernement israélien actuel nie le droit des Palestiniens à disposer de leur propre État. La droite israélienne nie en effet de plus en plus l'existence même de l'occupation.

Aujourd'hui, ni le camp israélien ni le camp palestinien ne sont prêts pour la paix. Du côté palestinien, on manque d'unité et la légitimité démocratique est insuffisante. Toutes les factions palestiniennes devront renoncer au terrorisme et surmonter leurs divisions politiques. Du côté israélien, il faut d'urgence mettre un terme à la construction de colonies et à la violence des colons, et accepter de négocier la création d'un État palestinien indépendant.

Ces dernières années, la communauté internationale a échoué à conduire des efforts de paix substantiels entre les parties. Nos amis américains tentent depuis longtemps d'aider à rapprocher les parties, et les récents accords de normalisation (les accords d'Abraham) entre Israël et certains de ses voisins arabes ont apporté une contribution significative à la stabilité régionale. Mais ils n'ont aucunement fait progresser la paix israélo-palestinienne. Si les États-Unis demeurent essentiels pour le succès du processus, nous ne pouvons plus laisser le travail le plus difficile aux seuls diplomates américains. Nous avons plutôt besoin d'un effort véritablement collectif qui implique les États arabes, l'Europe, les États-Unis et d'autres.

Après cet exposé honnête des faits, que devons-nous faire ? Nous devons avant tout intensifier les efforts internationaux pour une nouvelle dynamique de paix. Si nous ne pouvons pas forcer les parties à s'asseoir à la table des négociations, nous pouvons déblayer le terrain et les aider à s'y préparer.

En 2013, l'UE avait proposé un "ensemble sans précédent de mesures de sécurité et de soutien économique et politique" si les parties parvenaient à un accord de paix. Dans cette optique, j'ai chargé le représentant spécial de l'UE, Sven Koopmans, de travailler avec la Commission européenne et nos États membres pour donner un contenu à cette proposition. Je lui ai également demandé d'élaborer (avec nos partenaires) des propositions concrètes pour un processus régional global visant à instaurer la paix à la fois entre Israël et la Palestine et entre Israël et tous ses voisins arabes.

En février dernier, j'ai rencontré le ministre des affaires étrangères d'Arabie saoudite, le prince Faisal bin Farhan al-Saud, et le secrétaire général de la Ligue arabe, M. Aboul Gheit. Nous avons convenu de relancer et de développer l'initiative de paix arabe de 2002 en y ajoutant le « paquet » européen. Pour mener à bien ce travail, nous collaborerons aussi étroitement avec d'autres partenaires arabes et internationaux.

Avec ce processus, il s'agit de montrer la façon dont Israël et la Palestine seraient intégrés dans la région s'ils font la paix. Il nous faut envisager les types de coopération sécuritaire, politique et économique que la paix rendrait possibles, ainsi que la manière dont toutes les parties pourraient relever les défis communs liés à l'eau, à l'énergie, aux infrastructures et au changement climatique.

C'est le moment d'explorer ce que nous pouvons tous apporter à la paix israélo-palestinienne lorsqu'elle arrivera. Il est clair cependant que ni l'Europe ni quiconque ne mettront en œuvre ces contributions tant qu'il n'y aura pas d'accord de paix israélo-palestinien. Nous ne devons pas non plus espérer que nos promesses de soutien suffiront pour parvenir à ce résultat. Il n'en reste pas moins qu'il faut mettre fin au cycle actuel de violence et que nous pouvons jouer un rôle important en aidant les parties à réfléchir à leurs options.

Pour être clair, je ne suis pas en train d'annoncer une initiative de paix européenne. À ce stade, nous discutons avec d'autres et réfléchissons à la manière dont nous pouvons nous préparer pour le jour où Israéliens et Palestiniens seront prêts à négocier. Et nous pouvons rapprocher ce jour en brossant un tableau plus précis de ce que serait une paix régionale. L'honnêteté exige en tout cas de considérer que nous ne pouvons plus nous permettre d'attendre davantage.

Josep Borrell est le haut représentant de l'Union pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité et vice-président de la Commission européenne.

US 2022 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Liberia BUREAU OF DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND LABOR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

E. DENIAL OF FAIR PUBLIC TRIAL

The constitution and laws provide for an independent judiciary, but judges and magistrates were subject to influence and engaged in corruption. Judges reportedly solicited bribes to try cases, grant bail to detainees, award damages in civil cases, or acquit defendants in criminal cases. Defense attorneys and prosecutors reportedly directed defendants to pay bribes to secure favorable decisions from judges, prosecutors, and jurors or to have court staff place cases on the docket for trial. Some judicial officials and prosecutors appeared subject to pressure, and the outcome of some trials appeared to be predetermined, especially when the accused persons were politically connected or socially prominent.

The government and NGOs continued efforts to harmonize the formal and traditional customary justice systems through campaigns to encourage trial of criminal cases in formal courts. Traditional leaders were encouraged to defer to police investigators and prosecutors in cases involving murder, rape, and human trafficking.

Trial Procedures

The constitution and law provide for the right to a fair and public trial, but judges and magistrates were subject to influence. By law, defendants may opt for a jury trial or a trial by judge. Defendants have the right to be present at their trials and consult with an attorney, or be provided one at public expense, in a timely manner. Magistrates in remote areas often adjudicated all cases, including land, marriage, and rape cases, sometimes outside their jurisprudential jurisdiction. Defendants have the right to be informed of charges promptly and in detail. If a defendant, complainant, or witness does not speak or understand English, the court is supposed to provide an interpreter, but interpretation was rarely available unless paid for by the defendant. The government usually did not provide sign language interpreters for deaf persons.

Defendants also have the right to a trial without delay and to have adequate time and facilities to prepare their defense, although these rights often were not observed. Defendants are generally presumed innocent under the law, and they have the right to confront and question prosecution or plaintiff witnesses, present their own evidence and witnesses, and appeal adverse decisions. These rights were sometimes not observed.

Political Prisoners and Detainees

There were no reports of political prisoners or detainees.

Civil Judicial Procedures and Remedies

There is no specialized court to address lawsuits seeking damages for human rights abuses, but individuals or organizations may seek remedies for human rights abuses through domestic courts or administrative mechanisms. The constitution stipulates the creation of a claims court, but it had not been established at year's end.

Human rights abuses are generally reported to the INCHR, which then refers cases to relevant ministries, including the Ministry of Justice. In some cases, individuals and organizations may appeal adverse domestic decisions to regional human rights bodies after all domestic redress options have been exhausted. While there is an Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Court of Justice to address human rights abuses in member states, few citizens were aware of it or could afford to access this court, and national courts did not always honor ECOWAS court rulings.

F. ARBITRARY OR UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH PRIVACY, FAMILY, HOME, OR CORRESPONDENCE

The constitution prohibits such actions, and there were no formal reports that the government failed to respect these prohibitions.

G. CONFLICT-RELATED ABUSES

On November 2, a French court found former militia leader Kunti Kamara, who commanded an armed rebel group during the country's 1989-96 civil war, guilty of complicity in crimes against humanity that included allegations of sexual violence and torture. After Kamara was sentenced to life in prison, his lawyers filed an appeal that was pending at year's end.

Section 2. Respect for Civil Liberties

A. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, INCLUDING FOR MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND OTHER MEDIA

The constitution provides for freedom of expression, including for members of the press and other media, and the government generally respected these rights, although with some unofficial limits.

Freedom of Expression: Individuals could generally criticize the government publicly or privately, but government officials used the threat of civil defamation suits to place limits on free expression, and self-censorship was widespread as a result.

Violence and Harassment: Press associations reported

that government officials occasionally harassed newspaper and radio station owners, as well as individual journalists, because of their political opinions and reporting.

Unknown perpetrators caused extensive damage to a radio station in Lofa during an alleged April 23 arson attack. In the period prior to the fire, the station broadcast advocacy messages against female genital mutilation and other politically sensitive topics. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists, on June 29, two LNP officers reportedly threatened to shoot Emmanuel Kollie, a reporter with the state-owned broadcasting system, and Amos Korzawu, a reporter for Fortune TV, when they were covering a political rally.

Censorship or Content Restrictions for Members of the Press and Other Media, Including Online Media: Although generally able to express a wide variety of views, some journalists practiced self-censorship to avoid harassment. Some but not all media outlets avoided criticizing government officials due to fear of legal sanction and potential loss of government advertising, which, according to the Press Union, was the largest source of media revenue. Other outlets, but not all, avoided addressing sensitive human rights topics such as female genital mutilation/cutting. There were several reports that politicians and government agencies offered "transportation fees" to journalists to cover their events. Some media outlets and broadcasters reportedly charged fees to publish articles or to speak on radio programs.

Libel/Slander Laws: Criminal libel and slander laws were repealed in 2019; nonetheless, government officials occasionally used the threat of civil defamation suits to intimidate critics or political opponents.

Internet Freedom

The government did not restrict or disrupt access to the internet or censor online content, and there were no credible reports that the government monitored private online communications without appropriate legal authority. There were reports that government officials threatened civil defamation suits in attempts to interfere with protected speech and intimidate content creators.

B. FREEDOMS OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY AND ASSOCIATION

The constitution provides for the freedoms of assembly and association, and the government generally respected these rights.

Freedom of Peaceful Assembly

A variety of civil society groups conducted demonstrations throughout the year, including outside the legislature and the foreign ministry. On January 18, LNP officers fired tear gas to disperse a political opposition demonstration. On July 26, a protest by a student group was violently broken up by persons credibly alleged to be ruling party supporters. According to media reports, LNP officers were present but did nothing to stop the violence.

C. FREEDOM OF RELIGION

See the Department of State's International Religious Freedom Report at <https://www.state.gov/international-religious-freedom-reports/>.

D. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND THE RIGHT TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY

The law provides for freedom of internal movement, foreign travel, emigration, and repatriation, and the government generally respected these related rights.

Foreign Travel: In an effort to reduce human trafficking, on April 4, the government imposed a 90-day moratorium on international travel by persons seeking employment outside the country as domestic workers.

E. PROTECTION OF REFUGEES

The government cooperated with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian organizations in providing protection and assistance to refugees, returning refugees, or asylum seekers, as well as other persons of concern.

Access to Asylum: The law provides for the granting of asylum or refugee status, and the government has established a system for providing protection to refugees. The government provided a prima facie mode of recognition for refugees from Cote d'Ivoire, granting automatic refugee status without a formal hearing to those who fled because of 2011 postelection violence, but complied with a UNHCR recommendation to end refugee status for Ivoirians effective June 30. Most Ivoirian refugees voluntarily departed, but some opted for local integration.

Durable Solutions: During the year, the government resettled, offered residency, and assisted in the voluntary return of refugees. Voluntary repatriation of Ivoirian refugees took place with support from UNHCR, which also provided aid to refugees who opted for local integration. The government assisted these efforts by offering long-

term residency and inclusion in the government benefit system.

Temporary Protection: The government provided temporary protection to individuals who may not qualify as refugees. Asylum seekers who presented themselves to UNHCR and the Refugee Repatriation Resettlement Commission were provided temporary protection while their cases were being adjudicated.

Section 3. Freedom to Participate in the Political Process

The constitution and law provide citizens the ability to choose their government in free and fair periodic elections held by secret ballot and based on universal and equal suffrage.

ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Recent Elections: On June 28, the country conducted a by-election to fill a vacant senate seat in Lofa County. Election observers characterized the election as free, fair, and largely peaceful. The country last held presidential elections in 2017. After lengthy legal challenges to first-round results, George Weah won the presidential runoff in a process deemed free and fair.

Political Parties and Political Participation: There were instances of violence against opposition leaders and candidates during the year. For example, media reported that on June 27, a vehicle belonging to opposition political figure Yekeh Koluba was attacked and damaged while he was campaigning and that the attack occurred in the presence of LNP officers, who reportedly did not intervene.

Prior to the June 28 senate by-election, the National Elections Commission attempted to exclude opposition Unity Party and All Liberian Party candidates from participation. After a Supreme Court ruling, the candidates were allowed to participate in the polling.

The government created and granted government positions to members and sympathizers of the ruling party as a reward for, or benefit of, party affiliation rather than based on qualification or experience. On occasion, the legislative branch resisted this pattern. For example, in September, the senate rejected Darlington Karnley, the presidential nominee for managing director of the Roberts International Airport, whom the senate found to be unqualified.

Participation of Women and Members of Minority Groups: No law limits participation of women or members of minority groups in the political process, and they did participate. Women and members of historically marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) persons, participated at significantly lower levels than men as party leaders and elected officials. Observers believed traditional and cultural factors, societal pressure, and financial constraints limited women's participation.

Section 4. Corruption and Lack of Transparency in Government

The law provides criminal penalties for bribery, abuse of office, economic sabotage, and other corruption-related offenses committed by officials, but the government did not implement the law effectively. An anti-corruption commission was established by law in 2008 with a mandate to investigate and prosecute acts of corruption, as well as to educate the public regarding the ills of corruption. On July 22, the legislature enacted an amended law that gives a new anti-corruption commission more powers and establishes an open and competitive process for selecting commissioners. The new law remained under judicial review at year's end. There were numerous reports of government corruption during the year. Officials frequently engaged in corrupt practices with impunity.

Corruption: On August 15, Minister of State for Presidential Affairs and Chief of Staff Nathaniel Farlo McGill, Solicitor General and Chief Prosecutor Sayma Syrenius Cephus, and National Port Authority Director Bill Teh Twehway were sanctioned under international law for their involvement in corrupt practices while serving as government officials. All three subsequently resigned in September. This was the third consecutive year in which senior government officials were sanctioned for corruption.

In 2021, President Weah suspended Presidential Special Projects Coordinator Makenneh Keita for allegedly soliciting five million dollars from a businessman who was exploring investment opportunities. On March 22, the LNP cleared Keita of corruption charges.

Section 5. Governmental Posture Towards International and Nongovernmental Investigation of Alleged Abuses of

Charloe Musu's autopsy out

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Police authorities in Monrovia have released a provisional autopsy report surrounding Charloe Musu's brutal murder, blaming extensive bleeding caused by multiple stabbings. The late Charloe, daughter of Liberia's former Chief Justice Cllr. Gloria Musu Scott, was gruesomely murdered when alleged armed criminals invaded

Justice (MOJ) and the LNP, late Monday evening announced the post-mortem examination on the remains of Charloe. The deceased was a student of the privately-run Starz Technology Institute (STARZ College) in Sinkor. The authorities said the post-mortem examination was done in autopsies, and toxicology samples were taken from the body of the 24-year-old to be analysed to fully establish the actual cause of her death. The authorities have

artery, and massive left hemothoraces.

"She drained most of her blood out, and that bleeding came mostly below the rib, [which] caused the blood inside the chest," he added. "You know she was stabbed multiple times, and so much blood inside the chest, caused the death," he continued.

"That is [what] we have gathered from the preliminary results of the autopsy, with all

Starts from page 6 House Speaker, AfDB officials

transport and energy infrastructure and remains committed in the partnership.

Since it started development activities in Liberia in 1968, the African Development Bank's assistance has helped to respond to some of the key drivers of fragility. It includes weak state institutions and human capital, inadequate basic social services and infrastructure, food and

nutrition insecurity, limited good governance and accountability, and slow economic revival.

At the AfDB, Liberia is administered within the same constituency as The Gambia, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Sudan. The constituency is currently represented at the AfDB Board by Executive Director Mr. Rufus N. Darkortey of Liberia, who will be part of the mission.

Starts from back page 'Weah must answer

advise the former Liberian international soccer icon, Amb. Neufville told President Weah that if you are a coach and you want to have a good team, you must first evaluate all of the players and their wings on the field.

To grade the Weah-led government, Neufville said he has to look at every sector. Under health, he suggested that this government has zero because all of the hospitals and major clinics allegedly do not have medical supplies.

According to him, most of the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that were providing aid to Liberia have left.

At the same time, he lamented that the government's support for the health sector is very low.

Regarding education, he also graded the government zero, alleging that the education system has gone from bad to worse.

As for the road, Neufville noted that the government has a passing mark because major Public Works projects are being implemented.

On agriculture, he claimed that the government has failed massively. On his overall grading of the government, he said it is below the passing mark of 70%. Notwithstanding, Neufville said the government still has a few months to elections, and he believes that it can put up several policies if it is serious about winning the pools this October.



Dr. Benedict B. Kolee

Charloe Musu

their Brewerville residence on 22 February 2023.

Following Charloe's brutal murder, Liberia's former Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) chair, Cllr. Jerome Verdier alleged that Monrovia Mayor and ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) Secretary General Jefferson T. Kojee ordered Monrovia City Police Officer Varlee Telleh to attack the former Chief Justice. But Kojee and Telleh denied having any links to the attack against Cllr. Scott and her daughter Charloe's murder.

As part of the Liberia National Police (LNP) investigation into the incident, it said it has conducted an autopsy on the remains of the deceased. The Government of Liberia (GOL) through the Ministry of

vowed to bring the alleged perpetrator to justice.

They reported Tuesday, 21 March that the postmortem examination was held at the ST. Moses Funeral Parlor, along the Japan Freeway. The authorities indicated that it was witnessed by the deceased's family members, human rights advocates, and law enforcement officers. Dr. Benedict B. Kolee told the NewDawn newspaper that the autopsy carried out on the late Charloe's remains revealed that she died of severe exsanguination or a massive loss of blood. He also cited

secondary to severe hemothorax chest trauma, which is associated with a collapse in the left lung, after excess blood clotting defects. Dr. Kolee explained that the deceased suffered chest abdominal, intercostal

of the needed evidence we need," Dr. Kolee added. According to him, at least 20 persons witnessed the autopsy, saying it was an open one to determine the scientific cause of her death.

The Pathologist works for the Merck Foundation and has performed over 200 autopsies in Liberia.

He spearheaded the autopsy on the remains of the late Princess Cooper who was found lying unconscious in the FAWAZ building materials store along the ELWA Junction, and later pronounced dead in March of 2022.

For his part, Police Spokesman Moses Carter urged for calm in the proceeding of the autopsy on the body of the late Charloe Musu.

Carter said the LNP will do all in its power to bring the perpetrator to justice.

Starts from page 7 Fake clinic, town funded

public, she has received numerous calls on an anonymous number from a person who claimed to be an authority from the Ministry of Health cautioning her not to speak to the public about this Nyekehun Community Clinic.

Departments were so as to speak to the validity of the information; however, they failed provide responses despite promises made to do so.

Madam Felicia Gbesior, Director of Press and Public Affairs

NYEKEHUM COMMUNITY CLINIC
Nyekehun Town
Wanhassa District, Lofa County
Republic of Liberia
Contact: 0775-573-765-0880-333-612 email: nyekahun@nyekahunclinic.com

February 17, 2023

Dr. Willimena Jallah
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Monrovia, Liberia

(REQUISITION)

Dear Dr. Jallah
I bring you greetings and want to use this time to request that you please do a cover letter asking the Ministry of Finance Development Planning to raise the voucher for Nyekehun Community Clinic keeping with the Approved fiscal year 2020/2021 Budget

The Nyekehun Community Clinic has an allotted amount of Twenty Five Thousand United States Dollars (\$25,000.00 USD) under the Ministry of Health budget line number 253244 in the approved 2020/2021 budget

The need to urgently and speedily do this will actually help in enhancing the continuous challenges faced by the Clinic that is offering services to over seventy five rural communities.

Thanks for your usual understanding

Sarah F. Conton
Madam Sarah F. Conton
Administrator
Nyekehun Community Clinic

Momoh J. Dunor
Mr. Momoh J. Dunor
Finance/Admin
Nyekehun Community Clinic

**Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!**

"Julie is a game player and she knows how to play her game well," a former employee from the office of Rep. Wiah alleged.

This revelation brought to knowledge that, Momo J. Dunor, who is the Finance/Administration for the Nyekehun Clinic, is currently employed with Honorable Julie's Office as a receptionist.

The Ministry of Health and the Capitol Building-seat of the Liberian Legislature, through their respective Public Affairs

at MoH, in particular requested a summary of the information to have it forwarded to Dr. Francis Kateh, Deputy Minister of Health and Chief Medical Officer to respond to the issue, but no such response was provided. Also the Capitol Building, the Director of Press of the House of Representatives, also promised to reach out to Lofa County Electoral District #2 Representative to speak to the information, but neglected calling back.

'Weah must answer to corruption fight'

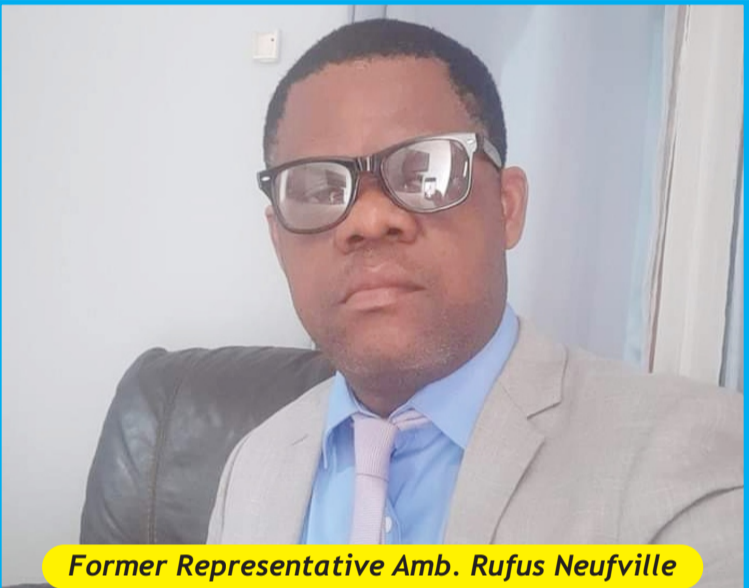
-Former official makes demands

By Lewis S. Teh

President George Manneh Weah is being pressured to answer to the fight against corruption, amidst allegations of his alleged failure to battle graft. Liberia's former Chief of Protocol and former Montserrado County Electoral

interview. He argued that President Weah was overwhelmingly elected to fight against corruption. Neufville believes that if Mr. Weah must once redeem his lost image, he must answer to the fight against corruption. "The fight against

are several audit reports submitted to his office and the Legislature with no concrete actions taken. Neufville acknowledged that President Weah cannot be everywhere at the same time, but he also noted that he receives several reports that need to be forwarded to the Ministry of Justice for prosecution. "The GAC [General Auditing Commission] did her work and submitted findings to you, if you so desire of changing Liberia as being claimed, act on those reports that are before you," Neufville challenged Mr. Weah.



Former Representative Amb. Rufus Neufville

District #8 Representative Amb. Rufus Neufville has accused Mr. Weah of miserably failing the Liberian people in the fight against corruption. "Weah must answer to the Liberian people regarding his fight against corruption," Neufville told local broadcaster OK FM Tuesday, 21 March 2023 during a live

corruption is the fundamental reason why President Weah was elected and he has to answer how far he has [gone] in that fight," Neufville suggested. He alleged that President Weah is still lagging in the fight, lamenting that there

He noted that the problem Liberia has had over the years hasn't been a road issue because the late President Samuel Doe and the former ruling Unity Party's governments constructed roads. He added that the issues have never been about giving school fees, saying the fundamental problem in Liberia has been corruption by individuals to the detriment of the majority. "This should be the fundamental problem a president must solve. If President Weah can make a good move in the fight against corruption by submitting the audit report to the Ministry of Justice, start prosecution, detain people, then he can once more become a celebrity," said Neufville. Using soccer analogy to

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

Pay with MoMo!

Dial *156*3#

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN

The New Dawn

TRULY INDEPENDENT

PRESS

WE DO GENERAL PRINTING SERVICES:

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

DIGITAL & OFFSET Printing

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