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DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023	LS160.9092/US\$1.00	LS162.9915US\$1.00

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

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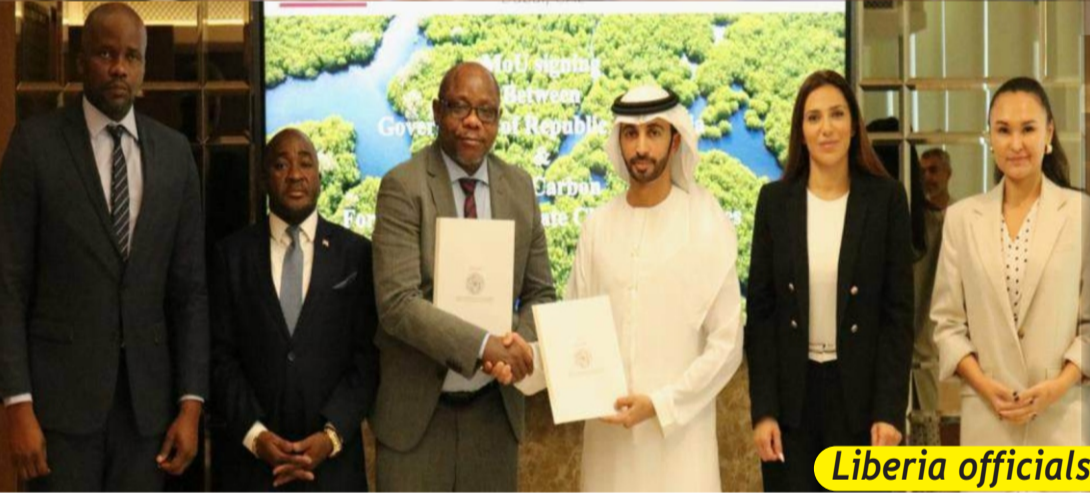
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Pres. Weah and UAE counterpart

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Liberia officials and UAE counterparts

-Sign MoU with UAE

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Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe in Nimba County

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Continental News

Kamala Harris Africa trip: Can US charm offensive woo continent from China?

First it was the US secretary of state who went on a trip to Africa, now it is the vice-president and later in the year the president himself is

strengthening ties with the African diaspora as well as a record of several peaceful democratic transfers of power, provides an ideal launchpad for Ms Harris.

Her trip, according to an

economy is going through its most difficult financial crisis in decades.

The country is seeking to restructure its debt amid surging inflation of over 50%. Finance Minister Ken Ofori-Atta has just been in Beijing leading negotiations with the Chinese government.

"So far, very positive and encouraging meetings in China," the finance minister tweeted as he expressed optimism that it would secure external assurances "very soon".

It needs the assurances to unlock financial support from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

It is not clear what, if any help, Ms Harris can offer, but it will be under pressure to act like a willing partner in the wake of Mr Ofori-Atta's China visit. Economist and professor of finance at the University of Ghana, Godfred Alufar Bokpin, does not think the visit will deliver "an immediate dividend" to help alleviate the country's financial woes.

"Having China on board is complicated," he said, while noting that Ms Harris' visit was "a very important" one for Ghana as it "elevates our relationship with the US to another level".

He told the BBC the interest the US is showing in the country and its debt crisis "is good" but he is worried about what he described as "unfavourable terms of trade" with creditor nations. BBC



US Vice-President Kamala Harris hosted sessions

expected to come.

This flurry of visits by top figures in the US administration reflects a growing awareness that the US needs to deepen its engagement with the continent.

This all comes in the face of growing competition from other global powers, especially China and Russia.

Vice-President Kamala Harris started her nine-day trip in Ghana on Sunday, where she was greeted by drummers and dancers at Kotoko International Airport. She will later go to Tanzania and Zambia.

Ghana, with its focus on

official statement, is intended to "build on" December's US-Africa summit in Washington where President Joe Biden said the US was "all in on Africa's future".

But it is that future, boosted by a youthful and growing population as well as the continent's immense natural resources, that have attracted a lot of other powerful nations vying for influence.

While Secretary of State Anthony Blinken's recent visit to Ethiopia and Niger focused on these countries' security challenges, the vice-president's tour will take her to nations facing serious economic problems.

Ghana's once-thriving

Tunisia migrants: At least 29 die off coast

At least 29 migrants have died after at least two boats sank off Tunisia's coast within hours of each other, officials say.

The sub-Saharan migrants were trying to cross the Mediterranean to reach Italy.

It is the latest in a string of migrant boat capsizes off Tunisia's coast in the last few days, with five others sinking in the past four days.

This comes after Tunisia launched a campaign against undocumented African migrants.

Meanwhile, Italian officials on the island of Lampedusa say they are overwhelmed, after a record 2,500 migrants arrived in the last 24 hours.

The Italian far-right Prime Minister, Giorgia Meloni, has warned Europe risks seeing a huge wave of refugees arriving on its shores.

Tunisia has become a hub for migrants who wish to make it to

Europe, with UN figures showing at least 12,000 migrants who landed on Italy's shores this year left from Tunisia. That figure was just 1,300 in the same time period last year.

However, the Tunisia coast guard say they are taking steps to stop the migrant crossings, having halted around 80 vessels headed for Europe in the past four days, according to the Reuters news

agency. It also says it has detained more than 3,000 migrants, the same agency reports.

In a controversial speech last month, Tunisia's president accused sub-Saharan African migrants living in the country of causing a crime wave and described them as a demographic threat. BBC



In February this boat of migrants was rescued some 31 miles (50km) from Tunisia's coast

Paul Rusesabagina: Hotel Rwanda hero set free

Paul Rusesabagina, a former hotel manager portrayed as a hero in the Hollywood film Hotel Rwanda, has been released from prison in Kigali.

Two years ago, he was sentenced to 25 years for terrorism by a Rwandan court in what supporters called a sham trial.

A government spokesperson said Mr Rusesabagina's sentence had been "commuted by presidential order".

Mr Rusesabagina, 68, is credited with saving some 1,200 people during the 1994 genocide.

US President Joe Biden called the news of his release a "happy outcome".

"Paul's family is eager to welcome him back to the

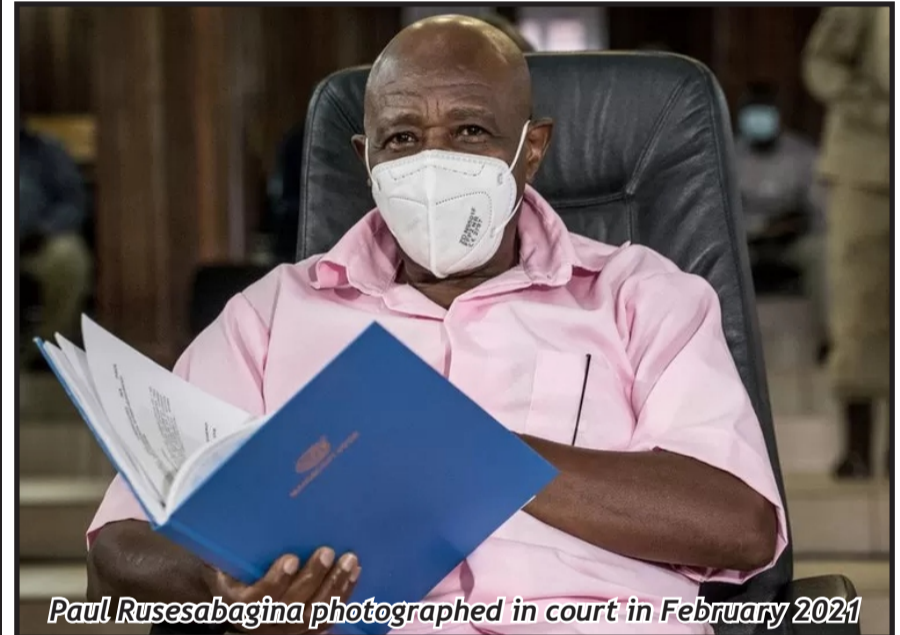
attention.

The Rwandan genocide lasted 100 days from April 1994, when 800,000 people, mostly from the Tutsi ethnic group, were slaughtered by extremists from the Hutu community.

Mr Rusesabagina - a hotel manager at the time - protected some 1,200 people from the violence, after they sought shelter in the building.

The following year he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by then-US President George W Bush for his efforts. But he became a fierce critic of Rwanda's President Paul Kagame.

In a 2018 video message, Mr Rusesabagina called for a regime change, saying that "the time has come for us to use any means possible to bring about change in Rwanda".



Paul Rusesabagina photographed in court in February 2021

United States, and I share their joy at today's good news," he said in a statement.

It has taken years of diplomatic pressure and talks brokered by Qatar for Mr Rusesabagina to be released.

Much of that pressure came from the United States, where he had lived since 2009. The Biden administration has said he was "wrongfully detained".

Mr Rusesabagina's family say the Rwandan government lured him from Texas, where he had permanent residency, back to Rwanda in 2020.

He left Rwanda in 1996. His story remained largely unknown for a decade, while he worked as a taxi driver in the Belgian capital, Brussels.

It was featured in a section of journalist Philip Gourevitch's 1998 book about the genocide, but it was the 2004 Hollywood movie, where he was played by Don Cheadle, that brought him global

He was arrested in 2020, when, according to his supporters, a private jet he believed would take him to Burundi, instead landed in the Rwandan capital Kigali.

In September 2021 he was found guilty of backing a rebel group behind deadly attacks in 2018 and 2019 in Rwanda.

Mr Rusesabagina was freed alongside Callixte Nsabimana, spokesman of the Rwanda Movement for Democratic Change - an opposition political party.

A spokesperson for the Rwandan government said: "No-one should be under any illusion about what this means, as there is consensus that serious crimes were committed, for which they were convicted.

"Under Rwandan law, commutation of sentence does not extinguish the underlying conviction.

"Rwanda notes the constructive role of the US government in creating conditions for dialogue on this issue, as well as the facilitation provided by the state of Qatar." BBC

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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 Julia Kaufman &
Jane Kabubo-Mariara

Localizing Development Research

WASHINGTON, DC/NAIROBI - "Localization" has become a buzzword in international development circles, partly thanks to a push by the United States to shift more aid funding to local actors. But growing awareness of the importance of local expertise is not yet adequately reflected in most development research, which still regularly excludes researchers from low- and middle-income countries.

As matters stand, economic and development research in the Global South is led almost exclusively by academics who do not live there. A 2021 study found that just 16% of the articles published in top development journals between 1990 and 2019 were authored by researchers based in developing countries, and only 9% of presenters at major development conferences were affiliated with universities in developing countries.

Moreover, a recent report by the Center for Global Development shows that local researchers tend to be left out of rigorous impact evaluations of development programs in health, education, and other sectors. While the number of research experts in low- and middle-income countries has grown over the past decade, as have collaborations between academics across geographic regions, developing-country scholars remain underrepresented in academic fora.

The exclusion of developing-country researchers reflects the general failure within academia to regard local contexts. As recent analysis of academic racism has shown, research institutions and processes can reflect and exacerbate bias, prejudice, and discrimination. Their lack of diversity constrains research quality and impact, and impedes efforts to eradicate poverty, improve living standards, and promote prosperity for hundreds of millions of people around the world.

Researchers with deep knowledge of their countries and communities offer critical insights into local priorities and opportunities to inform policy decision-making. And contextual knowledge is not entirely dependent on geography: many in the diaspora can also provide valuable empirical insights for policy.

The Partnership for Economic Policy (PEP) - led by one of us (Kabubo-Mariara) - is an example of a Southern-led global organization that supports and promotes the work of local researchers in order to amplify the policy impact of high-quality evidence. PEP uses a "research coproduction" model in nearly all its projects, fostering collaborations among researchers and key government and nongovernment stakeholders to shape research objectives and generate useful evidence.

Consequently, more than half of PEP's projects since 2013 have influenced policy processes and decisions in target countries. For example, recommendations by local PEP researchers concerning the protection of rural women's livelihoods against climate shocks have been integrated into Lesotho's national agricultural policy. And in Pakistan, PEP-supported research on the economic effects of the policy response to COVID-19 has informed the federal budget. In academic settings, over

40% of papers from PEP-supported projects have been published in international peer-reviewed journals, and half of all projects have been presented at high-level academic conferences.

Another example is the Transfer Project, a multi-country research network launched by UNICEF, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill which brings together governments and local researchers studying the impact of cash transfers in Sub-Saharan Africa. The organization invests in long-term relationships with government officials to build trust, co-create research, align methods with the questions most relevant to policymakers, and continuously iterate programs. In Ghana, a Transfer Project study prompted the government to expand its cash-transfer program from 1,645 to 150,000 beneficiaries.

Unfortunately, successful initiatives of this kind are still outliers. The most fruitful partnerships are those that enable local researchers and policymakers to generate, synthesize, and use evidence for policy needs by collaborating over time. But despite the growing interest in and capacity for long-term, trust-based partnerships, a large share of development-research funding continues to support one-off projects and short-term consultancies. As a result, many local research institutions face chronic funding challenges and other professional barriers.

To be sure, local expertise is by no means a silver bullet for combating poverty. And, like all empirical research, policy-relevant evaluations may carry risks related to conflicts of interest and require ethical safeguards. But both evidence and experience show that researchers with firsthand knowledge of the countries studied can help identify more relevant questions, understand political constraints, and guide policymakers on how to spend limited public funds more effectively. Last year, a group of PEP researchers launched a call to action to increase the participation of researchers from the Global South in economic development research, citing a series of studies on underrepresentation in the field.

Funders in government, philanthropic foundations, universities, and other grant-making institutions are in a unique position to drive positive systemic change. To do so, they must build on existing support and momentum to provide the researchers closest to decision-makers with the agenda-setting power and resources they need to get relevant information into the hands of those willing to use it.

For philanthropies, this means increasing long-term, flexible support for innovative research organizations to enable them to sustain partnerships over time and produce policy-responsive evidence. Government officials, for their part, must strengthen their commitment to measuring and increasing the impact of their programs. To this end, improving underlying country data systems is essential.

More inclusive, responsive research could help solve the world's most pressing policy challenges. By investing in new opportunities for locally immersed researchers, funders can pave the way for higher-quality research and more effective development policies and programs.

ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

No Jail house for president

Liberia's President George M. Weah departed the country on Friday, March 17 to honor an invitation by US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) chief, Bill Burns following the latter's visit here early this year.

Unlike regular official visits where the nation is kept updated with the President's activities abroad via dispatches or press releases accompanied by videos, photographs, and social media posts, this visit had none to show.

The inconspicuous nature of the President's meeting at the CIA Headquarters in Langley, Virginia, U.S.A. has left much room for speculations.

Some Liberians at home and abroad are suggesting that the president was placed under investigation to answer to crimes of money laundering, extrajudicial killings, plundering the country's resources, drug trafficking, and the like.

Others say the president was summoned to be given the matching order, but instead was given a deal of his presidential lifetime support by the CIA for the establishment of a CIA sub-headquarters, but all of these remained speculations.

President Weah was accompanied by Amb. Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Cllr. Musah Dean, Minister of Justice; Maj. Gen (Rtd). Daniel Ziankahn, Minister of National Defense; Mawine Diggs, Minister of Commerce and Industry; Ledgerhood Julius Rennie, Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism; Samuel D. Tweah, Jr., Minister of Finance and Development Planning; and Lenn Eugene Nagbe, Commissioner of Liberia Maritime Authority.

Sources close to the Langley say, no member of the President's delegation except for Cllr. Dean and his private lawyer, Deputy Speaker Cllr. Fonati Koffa who traveled solo via Accra were said to have attended what has been speculated as interrogation of Mr. Weah by the CIA.

But why would the CIA want to investigate a sitting president?

Historically, the CIA is not noted for inviting sitting presidents to its headquarters for investigation or for coronating same as its agent.

What the CIA is noted for historically is its alleged roles in the assassination of dictators around the world and installing puppets of the US in place of those dictators.

Since the 19th century, for instance, the United States government has participated and interfered, both overtly and covertly, in the replacement of many foreign governments.

In the latter half of the 19th century, the U.S. government initiated actions for regime change mainly in Latin America and the southwest Pacific, including the Spanish-American and Philippine-American wars.

At the onset of the 20th century, the United States shaped or installed governments in many countries around the world, including neighbors Panama, Honduras, Nicaragua, Mexico, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic.

In short, there would have been no need for much publicity if the CIA had found president Weah as a person of interest.

There are many ways the spy agency would have gotten at President Weah as it has operated in the past if its intention is to have him answer to alleged atrocious crimes committed under his watch.

However, could it have been possible that the CIA intended to tell the President to his face how his actions and inactions are affecting the US interests in the sub-region? That too could have been done quietly as the CIA is well known for its secret operations.

But none of the above is known except for the speculations coming out of Langley that Mr. Weah had been placed under investigation to the delights of many.

From all indications, it appears that there are some Liberians who would have celebrated the arrest of the president since in their mind that would have been the right thing to do.

Weah and his delegation are expected back home on Tuesday, March 28, the press statement pertaining to this much-speculated visit would only clarify or leave room for more questions than answers. Until then, we will never know what transpired at Langley.



Jones Mallay asks

LIBERIA POLITICAL HOT-FIRE

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

Is Sen. AB Darius Dillion Still: "Light in the Dark or the Darkness in the Light"?

When William Tolbert William Richard Tolbert Jr., 20th president of Liberia, died due to the sudden death of William Vacanarat Shadrach Tubman, the 19th president of Liberia, in 1971, Liberia was breaking away from its dark past and graduating as a nation-state among nations of the world. Eight (8) years later, in 1979, President Tolbert True Whig's government was confronted with a fearless political dilemma, the rice riot, through the organized political mechanism of The Progressive Alliance of Liberia (PAL) under the late Gabriel Baccus Matthews as chair.

PAL planted a political seed that led to the death of some Liberians during the 1979 Rice Riot, finally setting the stage for active political activities in Liberia. This combination spilled over to the 1980 senseless bloody military takeover that also led to the death of hundreds of Liberians, including the assignation of Liberia's 20th President.

PAL created all those political momentums to educate the illiterate masses on their rights. Where is PAL today? PAL finally ended up in political drainage after they set the stage for the demise of many Liberians. PAL no longer exists in practice or political theory. Some of PAL's political fathers, like Dr. Fabullah, are still around. Can they account for the innocent blood back in those days?

The rise and fall of PAL are synonymous with Senator Darius Dillion of Montserrado County, who once took Liberia by storm and professed to be the light in the darkness. Sen. AB Darius Dillon went on a political spree to disclose so many inner-working dark activities of the Liberian Senate, including revealing their take-home pay.

Dillion was vocal. He was down to earth. He was moving everywhere, shaking hands, dancing, and sympathizing with the downtrodden in society. He referred to him as a champion of the poor. He vowed to expose those working against the poor people's interests. He turned down incentives. He demonized his colleagues; He was indeed the modern Daniel Trump of Liberia.

He was taken on issues, challenging the status code and bringing much more hiding to light as the light in the darkness. He was the modern democratic face of Liberia. The one-million-dollar question is why the anti-man became pure in his political nature and activities. He drew to himself followers who believe in accountability and transparency. AB Dillion was not simply the voice of truth; he was living it and preaching it in every part of his constituency in Montserrado County.

Today, Sen. AB Dillon has gone quiet. His extraordinary footprints as Liberia's modern Messiah among the poor and the oppressed are far from reality. The man who visited deprived communities and gave poor people hope and confidence is no longer that same person. Many are beginning to wonder about what politicians say they are. They come as sheep in wolf's clothing and, later on, take on their actual wolf clothing and abandon their once beloved sheep clothing they once used to attract followers to themselves.

Politics is a hazardous variety in society. If Sen Dillion, who once referred to himself as the light in the dark and today the same light, has devoured him, it is something to think about truth. Like the rest, he rode a tinted SUV. He now lived above the poverty line. The fence he erected around his home in Garnerville indicates that he was using the poor people to ascend to power.

The wall alone can erect five two bedrooms for impoverished people who are his neighbors. Liberians he once sat with, joked with, ate with, laughed with, and shared jokes with are no longer peers in earnest. Today he rode a very tinted SUV and passed by the people who made him what he is today. Like PAL, he encourages many young people to follow him.

Today their peers have rejected some of those very young people. Sen. AB Dillion should be a Senator of principle to continue what he started. To remain very outspoken. To stand up for the poor people he once stood for.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

RECRUITMENT OF 12 INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS (RESEARCH ASSISTANTS) FOR THE 5TH LIBERIA NATIONAL POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS:

Post No.	Purpose	Category	Location	Estimated Duration
N/A	To support the analysis of the 2022 National Population and Housing Census data	Consultancy	Monrovia, Liberia	Two (2) Months April-May 2023

Background and Justification

As part of the implementation of the 2022 Liberia National Population and Housing Census, the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) conducted the enumeration of the population in November and December. The main purpose of this nationwide exercise is to gather comprehensive, reliable and timely data on the characteristics and dynamics of the Liberian population that will be used by national authorities and development partners for planning and evaluation.

It is in this context that United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) invites national Research Assistants (**individual consultants**) to apply and participate in the analysis of the 2022 Census data on the topics listed above, according to the theme(s) related to their capacities.

The Thematic Areas

There are seventeen (17) Thematic areas to be analyzed. However, the National Research Assistant is restricted and required to apply for one of twelve (12) areas. Therefore, National Research Assistants are to express interest in any of the following 12 thematic areas:

1. Administrative Report
2. Population Size and Composition
3. Education and Literacy
4. Nuptiality (Marriages)
5. Housing Conditions and Housing Facilities
6. Labor Force and Employment
7. Health and Sanitation
8. Agriculture
9. Disabilities, Elderly and Special Population
10. Poverty Dimension
11. Youths and Adolescents
12. Economic Activities

Qualifications

Writers who shall qualify to perform this assignment must possess the following qualifications and experience:

- A minimum of Master's Degree in Sociology, Demography, Population Studies, Economics, Statistics, Development Studies, or a related field. PhD. is an added advantage.
- Proven experience in writing reports and peer-reviewed articles with a minimum of ten publications or at least five years' experience as a senior-level policymaker.

For more information, including the Scope of Work, Duration and Work Schedule, and Remuneration, please consult the full Terms of Reference available at:

<https://bit.ly/40tGLCd>

How to Apply

Candidates should submit their applications indicating the post, attach an updated CV, and a completed United Nations Personnel History Form (P11 Form) obtainable from the UNFPA website at www.unfpa.org.

ALL APPLICATIONS, WITH RELEVANT ATTACHMENTS, SHOULD BE UPLOADED ON UNFPA CONSULTANTS ROSTER AT <http://www.unfpa.org/unfpa-consultant-roster>.

The last date to receive applications will be **07 April 2023**. UNFPA will only respond to applicants who will meet the stated job requirements.

Please note that this Consultancy is for Liberian Nationals Only. Applicants of either sex are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to equally qualified women candidates. UNFPA does not charge any application, processing, training, interviewing, testing or other fee in connection with the application or recruitment process. Please submit all fraudulent notices, letters or offers to the UNFPA fraud hotline at <http://www.unfpa.org/help/hotline.cfm>



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

RECRUITMENT OF 12 INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS (NATIONAL DATA ANALYSTS) FOR THE 5TH LIBERIA NATIONAL POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS:

Post No.	Purpose	Category	Location	Estimated Duration
N/A	To analyze the 2022 National Population and Housing Census data and translate them into usable information by stakeholders in planning, monitoring, and evaluation of policies, strategies, plans, and programmes	Consultancy	Monrovia, Liberia	Two (2) Months April-May 2023

Background and Justification

As part of the implementation of the 2022 Liberia National Population and Housing Census, the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) conducted the enumeration of the population in November and December. The main purpose of this nationwide exercise is to gather comprehensive, reliable and timely data on the characteristics and dynamics of the Liberian population that will be used by national authorities and development partners for planning and evaluation.

It is in this context that United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) invites national analysts (**individual consultants**) to apply and participate in the analysis of the 2022 Census data on the topics listed above, according to the theme(s) related to their capacities.

The Thematic Areas

There are seventeen (17) Thematic areas to be analyzed. However, national experts are restricted and required to apply for one of twelve (12) areas. Therefore, National Analysts are to express interest in any of the following 12 thematic areas:

1. Administrative Report
2. Population Size and Composition
3. Education and Literacy
4. Nuptiality (Marriages)
5. Housing Conditions and Housing Facilities
6. Labor Force and Employment
7. Health and Sanitation
8. Agriculture
9. Disabilities, Elderly and Special Population
10. Poverty Dimension
11. Youths and Adolescents
12. Economic Activities

Qualifications

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For more information, including the Scope of Work, Duration and Work Schedule, and Remuneration, please consult the full Terms of Reference available at:

<https://bit.ly/3ZcxCwb>

How to Apply

Candidates should submit their applications indicating the post, attach an updated CV, and a completed United Nations Personnel History Form (P11 Form) obtainable from the UNFPA website at www.unfpa.org.

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Yekeh vows to kill in self-defence

By Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

Montserrado County Electoral District #10 Representative Yekeh Kolubah says in an act of self-defence, he will kill anyone who will attack him.

Yekeh is an opposition lawmaker in the House of Representatives and a fierce critic of President George Manneh Weah and the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC).

In retaliation to alleged constant attacks against him by

Violence between supporters of Mr. Kolubah and the CDC left several innocent people sustaining injuries, and properties damaged.

Eyewitnesses alleged that there was voter trucking taking place in the district by people believed to be supporters of



"If I'm attacked, in defending myself, anything can happen. If it means that I kill while defending myself, I will waste blood," Mr. Kolubah said over the weekend.

"Let me tell this to the Liberian people that we have reached the point where somebody [will] be taken to the St. Moses Funeral home, where someone needs to be killed," he added.

He claimed that this is the only way the brutalizing of people in his district will stop.

President Weah's supporters and CDC partisans, Mr. Kolubah often directs counter-attacks against Mr. Weah, including the use of invective.

There have been consistent reports of attacks against Mr. Kolubah's residence by folks believed to be supporters of the CDC.

In wake of the latest chaos on the Old Road, Montserrado County Electoral District #10 over the weekend, Mr. Kolubah has vowed self-defense, including killing anyone who will attack him.

the ruling CDC, led by the party's youth-league Chairman Emmanuel Johnson.

It is alleged that Mr. Johnson led supporters of the CDC through the street of Old Road, chanting Voter Registration awareness slogans.

They allegedly overcrowded one of the voter registration centers, which reportedly prompted Mr. Kolubah's supporters to mount a resistance against the CDCians.

In the violence that ensued,

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

'Demeaning for Weah'

-Gongloe raises concerns about the president's U.S. trip

By Lincoln G. Peters

Presidential hopeful Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe says it's so demeaning and unprecedented that Liberian President George Manneh Weah is allegedly undergoing an alleged international criminal investigation.

While there are no details about why Mr. Weah is in the United States, the renowned Liberian Human Rights lawyer has alleged that the incumbent is being probed in the United States over alleged corruption and drug trafficking.

On 17 March, the Executive Mansion issued a release saying Mr. Weah had left the country for international engagements in the United States of America and the United Arab Emirates.

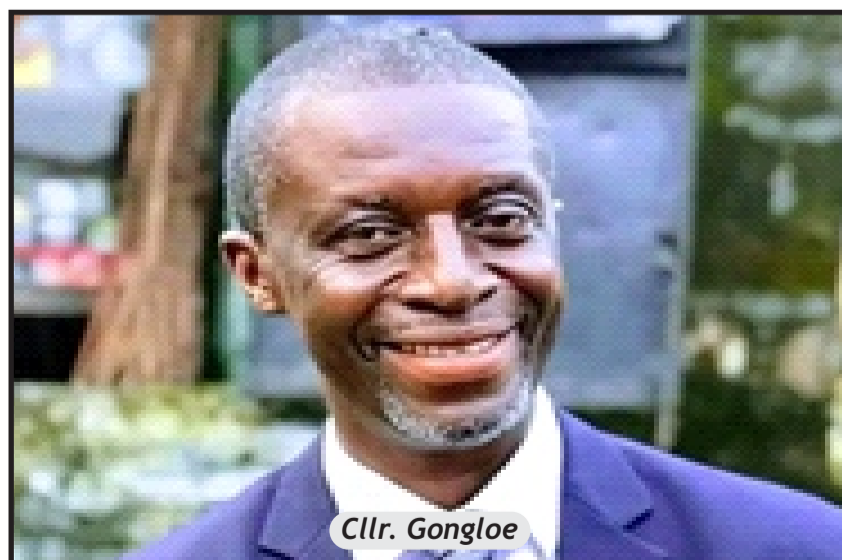
It said as part of his engagements, he was due to meet with key United Arab

Emirates (UAE) and U.S. government officials, Liberia's development partners, and would-be investors.

Cllr. Gongloe, a presidential hopeful, wonders where in the

Last week, Liberians were eager to know why Mr. Weah and a handful of his officials sat down for a meeting with the top brass of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) at Langley, Virginia.

He was accompanied to the



Cllr. Gongloe

United States is President Weah and what is he doing there.

Gongloe demanded a prompt answer from the Ministry of Information to avoid public speculation and mitigate the many concerns.

US by Foreign Minister Amb. Dee-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Justice Minister Cllr. Frank Musah Dean, Defense Minister Maj. Gen (Rtd). Daniel

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

CDC vows to prosecute partisans

--When caught in violent act

By Lewis S. Teh

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) has vowed to prosecute any of its partisans caught in acts of violence amid the October 10 presidential and legislative elections.

CDC National Chairman Mulbah K. Morlu late Saturday evening, 25 March 2023 called on partisans and supporters to refrain from acts that have the proclivity to undermine the peace.

In a statement issued Saturday, Mr. Morlu warned that "Any partisan caught in violence in D-10 is a lawbreaker who'll be prosecuted."

He called on partisans to reject violence, de-escalate tension and be peaceful.

Chairman Morlu's remarks came in the wake of a heated riot that took place in Montserrado

peace which has been championed largely by President George Manneh Weah.

"The CDC condemns all persons, including some of its partisans, who may have been engaged in the acrimonious act which resulted in an assault on peaceful citizens, destruction to properties, and infringement of the rights of many," he said.

He contended that the ruling party has always and will continue to encourage partisans to eschew violence at all times and use the recourse of the law to seek redress.

At the same time, Chairman Morlu said the CDC categorically condemns the alleged contribution of Representative Yekeh Kolubah to the act of gangsterism which is repugnant to the standards laid down for senior government officials.

He alleged that establishing a vigilante group that harasses



Mulbah K. Morlu

Electoral District #10.

The riot involved the CDC youth league and supporters of Representative Yekeh Kolubah, leading police to fire tear gas.

Early Saturday morning, CDC Youth League Chair Emmanuel M. Johnson and his followers marched through the streets of District #10, encouraging supporters to turn out in their numbers to register for the pending presidential and legislative elections.

Tension erupted between the CDC partisans and Rep. Kolubah's supporters and resulted in the injuries of several citizens, and the launch of tear gas by the police.

Responding to the incident, Chairman Morlu condemned the violence in the strongest terms and called on the Ministry of Justice to investigate and penalize the perpetrators.

According to him, the Coalition for Democratic Change is appalled by allegations of violence instigated by citizens via a sullen crowd congregating in District #10.

Morlu said this alleged act undermines the hard-earned

citizens who go to exercise their democratic rights through the voter registration process is divisive and utterly unwarranted.

"This action of Representative Kolubah belies the key attributes of a statesman," said Morlu.

"The Party calls for immediate de-escalation and cautions all actors of the violent act or those who were intending on regrouping to reignite the situation to desist and utilize the administrative or legal framework to seek redress," he added.

Morlu encouraged citizens to continue their vigilance, steadfastness, and desire to register and join the millions of Liberians preparing to exercise their constitutional rights.

He admonished everyone to report any threat or acts of violence at the registration centers to the nearest National Elections Commission (NEC) officials or police Officers.

He noted that the CDC is confident that the developmental gains accumulated over the last years will propel the party to another six years of leadership through the conduct of a transparent and peaceful election.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

NEC announces funding for BVR staff

The National Elections Commission (NEC), says it has received funding from the Government of Liberia for the payment of Temporary Biometric Voter Registration Staff that are

currently serving citizens of Liberia at the 1,065 Registration Centers in Bomi, Gbarpolu, Grand Bassa, Grand Cape Mount, Margibi and

Workers that their contracts are being sent to the field for signing in preparation for payment which date will be communicated in line with the contractual agreement.

Meanwhile, the Commission said it has commenced the payment of meal allowance to Registration Staff and janitorial service fees to facility owners which will gradually be done throughout the six phase-one counties of the voter registration exercise.

The Commission assured electoral staff and facility owners that all is being done to address their concerns while thanking them for their contribution to promoting democracy in Liberia.

The Commission extends its gratitude to the staff for their tireless efforts and progress since the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) exercise started on 20 March 2023.

Montserrado Counties. The Commission informs the Temporary Registration



Liberia NEC Building

Liberia for the payment of Temporary Biometric Voter Registration Staff that are

Nimba backs Whapoe presidential bid

By Lincoln G. Peters

Residents of Nimba County including elders have marched through Ganta City's principal street in jubilation, committing to support Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe's presidential bid this October.

During a parade through Ganta, they chanted: 'Nimba [is] ready to produce [a] president; We are tired of suffering; and Dr. Whapoe will be the one to change Liberia for us,' among others.

Whapoe, a son of Nimba County, is aspiring for the Liberian presidency for the second time after failing in his first bid in 2017

Dr. Whapoe to contest because Nimba deserves the presidency.

According to him, their petition is a fulfillment of Exodus 3:7 when God said that he has surely seen the oppression and suffering of his people in Egypt and has heard their cries because of their slave master.

Mr. Duo told Dr. Whapoe that they are tired of complaining about their leaders seeking their interests and forgetting the citizens.

He also noted that their leaders don't see themselves as accountable to those that elected them.

"You are the man who can deliver Liberia as you did times



"Liberia in leadership deficit" -Dr. Moniba cries out

By Lincoln G. Peters

The standard bearer of Liberia National Union, Dr. Clarence Moniba says, Liberia is currently suffering from extreme leadership deficit because people in power are decimally underperforming in government.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with this paper at the weekend, in Sayon Town, Bushrod Island, Dr. Moniba indicated that every sector of Liberia is currently suffering and experiencing serious leadership deficit, which has spurred poverty, hunger and lack of opportunity in the country.

"If you ask me about leadership deficit in the country, I will answer you a big 'Yes.' We have leadership deficit. Liberia is suffering from leadership deficit in almost every single sector of our country. The government right now needs to do better and that is why I am contesting. But, also, each of our individual lives we need to do better at our school, home, church, sporting organization and lot more" Dr. Moniba explained.

Dr. Moniba argued that Liberia will not be fixed if everyone looks at one person to fix and build the country. He said it needs the involvement of all to improve their own lives and communities.

Explaining his vision for Liberia, Dr. Moniba said his reason for running as

President of Liberia is to ensure that the over 5.2 million people in the country benefit from the resources of the country.

"Right now, let's be very honest and fair to ourselves, the resources in this country are not being divided equally. You have a lawmaker and government officials earning over twelve to fifteen thousand United States Dollars monthly. But the common person makes hundred dollars.

And so, the reason I am contesting is to change and

He assured that under his administration, he will make sure that every high school student has a skill before they can leave high school and that will start once they enter the senior class.

Dr. Moniba further indicated that Liberia has to make sure that its citizens have opportunities, and in his administration, he will start implementing that by giving technical vocational skills to high school students.

"We have to give people opportunity. You give poor person opportunity; they will



Dr. Clarence Moniba

bring out a new Liberia in this place where everyone benefits from the resources. Where we will educate our children better. Right now, we are graduating high school students who can barely read and write" Dr. Moniba added.

be able to sustain themselves and build their lives. And so, that is why I am contesting as president. To make sure that Liberia we have tomorrow, will be a lot better than the country we have today" he concluded.

against incumbent President George Manneh Weah and other major contenders.

Upon the arrival of the Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) political leader and his entourage over the weekend, Ganta was a center of attraction and excitement.

Dr. Whapoe was received at the checkpoint between Nimba County and Bong County Friday, 24 March 2023 by women, youth, students, elder council, and traditional dancers.

At the checkpoint, Dr. Whapoe was presented with a white chicken, locally grown rice (country rice), cola nuts, and a white chuck as a symbol of love, affection, and welcome.

An indoor program was held later at the Ganta United Methodist School. Reading a petition on behalf of Dr. Whapoe's supporters, Mr. Jenkins Duo said they were resolved in Nimba County to support the VOLT political leader's presidential bid.

"Today is a historic day in Liberia and that of Nimba County for VOLT to have a petition statement today in Ganta City, Nimba County," he said.

"A new day has come in Nimba District #1. God has heard the voice of the suffering masses of Liberia to deliver us. And that deliverance will be done by our son Dr. Whapoe," he continued.

He stated that they petitioned

back. Liberia is at a crossroads. You have the charge to appear before our Pharaoh of Liberia to deliver us," Mr. Duo continued.

He alleged that they are in modern slavery in Liberia, and they believe that Dr. Whapoe will take Liberia from poverty to a nation that will feed itself.

"We are tired of suffering. The pain, poverty, suffering, and hardship are many. We have nothing to boast of in our own country. We will stand with you and by you until we achieve this together," he concluded.

Remarking on behalf of the Traditional Council of Buu-Yao, Chairman Moses Vah said as elders of Buu-Yao, they were excited to form a part of the petitioning process.

According to him, they are prepared to make their president, and that person will be Dr. Whapoe because he served humanity, and loves the country.

"Dr. Whapoe, we will make you president. We are prepared and ready. We have the number. You are a man with a good heart," Elder Vah said.

"We have many sons who are expressing interest, but you are the only person we see and know who loves us and so that's why we call you today to petition you. We are with you and we will make this work together," said Elder Vah.

Français

Présidentielles 2023 : L'opposition s'en prend à la Cour Suprême

La Collaboration des Parties politiques (CPP) accuse la Cour suprême du Libéria de vouloir « inviter le chaos dans le pays » par son silence sur une plainte relative aux élections qu'elle a déposée il y a une semaine.

La CPP a récemment

d'autres.

Elle a ainsi déposé une plainte contre la Commission des élections nationales (NEC) à la Cour suprême juste avant le début de l'opération d'enrôlement des électeurs. Mais il semble que la Cour Suprême n'a jusque-là accordé aucune attention à cette plainte.

mais de faire en sorte que la commission électorale procède à l'enrôlement des électeurs après le découpage des circonscriptions conformément à la croissance démographique, comme en témoigne le résultat provisoire du dernier recensement.

Au cours d'un entretien jeudi dernier avec un groupe de journalistes, l'ancien ministre de l'information Lewis G. Brown, qui est maintenant directeur de campagne de M. Cummings, a fait part de la préoccupation de la CPP par le silence assourdissant de la Cour suprême.

M. Brown a voulu attirer l'attention des citoyens libériens et de la communauté internationale sur ce qu'il appelle « l'anarchie » du pays.

« Une coalition politique a déposé une pétition auprès de la Cour suprême du Libéria pour attirer son attention sur ce qu'elle croit être un comportement inconstitutionnel de la part de la Commission des élections nationales. Nous demandons au tribunal d'agir maintenant et de sauver le pays », a-t-il dit.

Il s'en est pris à la NEC qui, selon lui, s'entête de violer de manière flagrante la



ANC Leader Mr. Alexander Cummings

Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene Yuoh

demandé au plus haut tribunal du pays de suspendre l'opération d'enrôlement des électeurs en cours.

La CPP dénonce le fait que le rapport final du recensement n'ait pas été publié pour permettre au pouvoir législatif de fixer le seuil du nombre d'habitants de chaque circonscription électorale et en créer

La CPP estime donc que la haute cour de justice veut, par son silence et son refus de se pencher sur cette plainte, inviter le chaos dans le pays. Elle s'est dite préoccupée par la constitutionnalité de l'action de la commission électorale qui lance l'opération d'enrôlement sans procéder au découpage des circonscriptions électorales.

Il ne s'agit pas, selon la CPP, de retarder le processus électoral,

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Ecovisa : La Commission de la CEDEAO tient une réunion de sensibilisation au Libéria

La Commission de la CEDEAO, à travers la Direction de la libre circulation des personnes et de la migration, vient de conclure une réunion de sensibilisation sur la mise en œuvre d'un système de visa unique multi-pays (de type Schengen) pour les migrants des pays hors CEDEAO.

La réunion de sensibilisation qui a eu lieu le mercredi 22 mars 2023 fut une opportunité pour la Commission de la CEDEAO d'informer les parties prenantes sur les mesures prises pour actualiser le régime Ecovisa. Au cours de la réunion, la Commission a également présenté des recommandations de la précédente réunion des experts tenue en octobre 2022 pour leur contribution, en particulier en ce qui concerne le coût, la conception et le traitement de l'Ecovisa.

Mme Massandjé Toure-Litse, commissaire de la CEDEAO chargée des affaires économiques et agricoles, a affirmé que l'établissement d'un système de visa unique de type Schengen pour la région de la CEDEAO, est l'une des étapes importantes pour garantir la libre circulation des personnes et des marchandises.

Elle a ajouté : « L'Ecovisa, qui est une priorité pour l'autorité des chefs d'État et de gouvernement,



atténuera les difficultés rencontrées par les investisseurs étrangers, les touristes et les visiteurs chaque fois qu'ils prévoient de se déplacer vers et dans l'espace communautaire de la CEDEAO. La mise en œuvre de l'Ecovisa stimulera les activités économiques et stimulera la motivation du tourisme dans la région ».

Éditorial

Pourquoi il ne faut pas accuser la NEC la NEC

Pendant que le Libéria se prépare pour les élections du 10 octobre, la crainte d'une crise constitutionnelle due en partie à plusieurs facteurs est énorme.

Les élections, comme nous le savons tous, sont un processus qui se fait selon un calendrier donné, tout retard qu'accuse une opération relative aux élections pourrait affecter la suite de l'opération.

Par conséquent, la crise constitutionnelle imminente actuelle ne peut être attribuée à l'incapacité des commissaires de la NEC à accomplir la tâche qui les attend, comme l'exige la loi. Les pouvoirs législatif et exécutif de l'État sont également responsables.

Selon l'article 80c de la Constitution libérienne, « tout citoyen libérien a le droit d'être inscrit dans une circonscription et de voter aux élections publiques uniquement dans la circonscription où il est inscrit... ». Selon le point (d) du même article, une circonscription « doit avoir une population approximativement égale à 20 000 habitants, ou un nombre de citoyens que le pouvoir législatif aura prescrit en fonction de la croissance et des mouvements de population, comme en témoigne les résultats d'un recensement national, pourvu que le nombre total des circonscriptions électorales de la République ne dépasse pas cent.

Au point e, la Constitution prévoit que « immédiatement après un recensement national et avant les prochaines élections, la Commission électorale procède au découpage des circonscriptions en fonction des nouveaux chiffres de la population afin que chaque circonscription ait autant que possible la même population; à condition toutefois qu'une circonscription soit uniquement à l'intérieur d'un comté.

Le retard du Recensement national du logement et de la population qui devrait avoir lieu en 2018, mais qui a fini par avoir lieu 4 ans plus tard. Le Recensement national du logement et de la population de 2022, a marqué le début de la crise constitutionnelle créée par le pouvoir exécutif, aidé et encouragé par le pouvoir législatif, qui utilise depuis 2018 des « résolutions » pour contourner les exigences constitutionnelles.

Si le pouvoir législatif avait agi pour faire respecter la Constitution en obligeant l'exécutif à procéder au recensement national du logement et de la population comme l'exige la Constitution, la NEC aurait travaillé conformément à l'article 80 (e). On s'attendait en tout à ce que le pouvoir législatif soit assez responsable.

Mais comme si cela ne suffisait pas, le financement de l'élection elle-même a également fait défaut. Il y a quelques jours, le président de la NEC a informé les sénateurs qu'au 9 mars, à 11 jours du début de l'opération d'enrôlement des électeurs, la Commission n'avait pas encore reçu le montant initial de 4 millions de dollars du ministère des Finances pour commencer le processus électoral de 2023.

Cela signifie que même si la commission électorale était prête pour quelque activité que ce soit elle aurait été repoussée en raison du manque de financement.

Fût-ce le déploiement du personnel, du matériel et de la logistique ou le paiement des locaux loués, etc, cela ne changerait rien. Ces équipements auraient été déplorés à l'avance et testés des jours avant que le premier citoyen puisse se présenter pour s'inscrire. Les lieux négociés auraient également été payés pour éviter l'embarras actuel, où le personnel de la NEC est expulsé des locaux, et n'aurait pas recommencé à changer de centre d'inscription en déplaçant certains vers les circonscriptions voisines.

Encore une fois, quand une personne qui réside par exemple dans le district 3 s'inscrit dans le district 8 et veut choisir un candidat qui n'a aucune responsabilité envers son district, que fera-t-il. C'est une situation chaotique, qui doit être corrigée non seulement par le NEC, mais aussi par les pouvoirs législatif et exécutif.

Chacun des deux pouvoirs mentionnés a joué un rôle dans la création de cette situation chaotique. Ils doivent maintenant faire preuve de responsabilité pour sortir le pays de ce chaos imminent.

Français

Présidentielles 2023

constitution du pays. "La pétition a été déposée vendredi, et aujourd'hui c'est jeudi, une semaine plus tard, la rue discute de la pétition. Mais la Cour suprême est restée muette. Elle ne veut pas entendre les parties concernées pour suspendre l'opération d'enrôlement des électeurs", a-t-il dit.

L'ancien ministre de l'information a mis en garde que l'anarchie et le chaos risquent de se multiplier dans le pays si ceux qui ont le pouvoir d'agir décident de ne pas agir, alors qu'ils sont tenus par la loi d'agir.

« Les élections

déclenchent des conflits. Ainsi faut-il honorer la Constitution. Nous faisons appel à la Cour suprême publiquement pour agir et entendre cette pétition pour éviter le chaos et les conflits », a-t-il averti.

Il s'est posé la question de savoir si la Cour suprême recevra demain les cas de fraude aux élections étant donné qu'elle refuse de se pencher sur la plainte de l'opposition relative à l'opération d'enrôlement des électeurs.

« Nous ne voulons pas que le processus s'arrête, mais, écoutez, il faut que la loi s'applique à tous. Les gares, nous jouons avec le feu », a-t-il conclu.

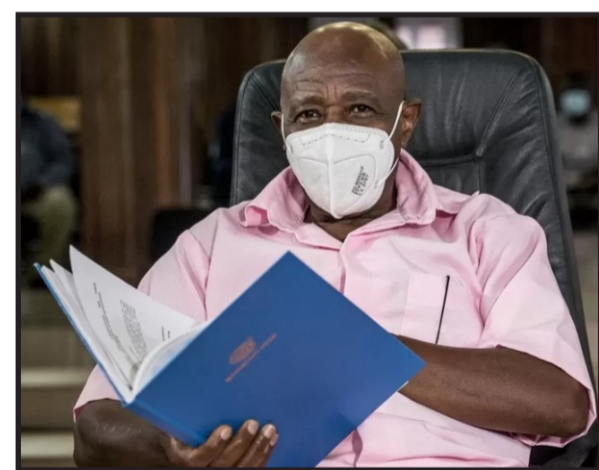
Paul Rusesabagina: Hôtel Un héros rwandais libéré

Paul Rusesabagina, un ancien directeur d'hôtel dépeint en héros dans le film hollywoodien Hotel Rwanda, a été libéré de prison à Kigali.

Il y a deux ans, il a été condamné à 25 ans pour terrorisme par un tribunal rwandais dans ce que ses partisans ont qualifié de simulacre de procès.

The Rwandan genocide lasted 100 days from April 1994, when 800,000 people, mostly from the Tutsi ethnic group, were slaughtered by extremists from the Hutu community.

Mr Rusesabagina - a hotel



manager at the time - protected some 1,200 people from the violence, after they sought shelter in the building.

Un porte-parole du gouvernement a déclaré que la peine de M. Rusesabagina avait été "commuée par décret présidentiel".

M. Rusesabagina, 68 ans, est crédité d'avoir sauvé quelque 1 200 personnes pendant le génocide de 1994.

Le président américain Joe Biden a qualifié la nouvelle de sa libération de "dénouement heureux".

"Paul's family is eager to welcome him back to the

United States, and I share their joy at today's good news," he said in a statement.

It has taken years of diplomatic pressure and talks brokered by Qatar for Mr Rusesabagina to be released.

Much of that pressure came from the United States, where he had lived since 2009. The Biden administration has said he was "wrongfully detained".

Mr Rusesabagina's family say the Rwandan government lured him from Texas, where he had permanent residency, back to Rwanda in 2020.

He left Rwanda in 1996. His story remained largely unknown for a decade, while he worked as a taxi driver in the Belgian capital, Brussels.

It was featured in a section of journalist Philip Gourevitch's 1998 book about the genocide, but it was the 2004 Hollywood movie, where he was played by Don Cheadle, that brought him global

attention. L'année suivante, il a reçu la médaille présidentielle de la liberté du président américain de l'époque, George W Bush, pour ses efforts. Mais il est devenu un critique féroce du président rwandais Paul Kagame.

Dans un message vidéo de 2018, M. Rusesabagina a appelé à un changement de régime, affirmant que "le moment est venu pour nous d'utiliser tous les moyens possibles pour provoquer un changement au Rwanda".

Il a été arrêté en 2020, lorsque, selon ses partisans, un jet privé qui, selon lui, l'emmènerait au Burundi, a plutôt atterri dans la capitale rwandaise, Kigali.

La vice-présidente américaine Kamala Harris en tournée en Afrique



La vice-présidente américaine Kamala Harris entame ce dimanche 26 mars une tournée d'une semaine dans trois pays africains. C'est une réaffirmation de l'intérêt américain pour le continent.

« Vous n'avez pas fini de nous voir en Afrique ». C'était le message du secrétaire d'État américain Antony Blinken à la fin du dernier sommet États-Unis/Afrique à la mi-décembre à Washington. Et en effet, après la secrétaire au Trésor, après la première dame Jill Biden, après le chef de la diplomatie américaine lui-même, et en attendant le président, c'est maintenant la N°2 de l'exécutif américain qui se déplace pour

assurer le suivi de ce sommet. Avec un message et une volonté : changer la perception et le discours sur l'Afrique en parlant d'autre chose que de crises et d'instabilité. Il s'agit d'un voyage résolument tourné vers le futur, la technologie et la jeunesse. Pour cette tournée, la vice-présidente va passer par des pays qui ne sont pas confrontés au plus difficile des enjeux de sécurité, de pauvreté ou de gouvernance.

Au contraire, l'administration insiste sur les qualités démocratiques des pays traversés : d'abord le Ghana, puis la Tanzanie, dont la première présidente a levé les mesures d'interdiction des partis d'opposition, et enfin la Zambie, où elle s'était déjà rendue plus jeune quand son grand-père indien y travaillait. À chaque étape, Kamala Harris rencontrera les chefs d'État, mais aussi les représentants de la société civile. Son entourage s'attend à un accueil chaleureux pour la première femme afro-américaine vice-présidente de l'histoire américaine.

La Cédéao en mission pour évaluer les besoins humanitaires du Burkina Faso

Depuis le 21 mars, une mission d'évaluation et de validation des besoins humanitaires de la commission de la Cédéao est en visite dans le pays. Avec environ 1 900 000 personnes déplacées internes, des écoles et des centres de santé fermés suite aux violences jihadistes, les pays a besoin de soutien pour venir en aide à ses personnes. La mission soumettra son rapport sur cette évaluation et validation des besoins humanitaires pour la prise de mesures pour aider le pays.

« La mission a été sur le terrain et a vu ce qui s'y passe. La situation est complexe et dynamique », explique le Dr Ugbé Sintiki, directrice des affaires humanitaires et sociales à la commission de la Cédéao

Les attaques des groupes armés ont provoqué des déplacements massifs des populations. Les chiffres sont en hausse. Le 31 janvier dernier, le Burkina Faso enregistrait plus d'un million 900 000 déplacés internes, selon le secrétariat permanent du Conseil national de secours et de réhabilitation.

Selon le Dr Sinitiki, la crise humanitaire s'aggrave. « Il y a des besoins en alimentation, eau potable, soins, toilettes, abris etc »



Elle assure néanmoins que le gouvernement du Burkina Faso et ses partenaires font beaucoup d'efforts pour les femmes, les enfants, les populations déplacées internes vulnérables, et l'ensemble des communautés qui les accueillent.

Après cette visite, un rapport suivi de recommandations sera soumis à la commission de la Cédéao et au gouvernement burkinabè. La directrice des affaires humanitaires et sociales a annoncé que la Cédéao « va continuer à rechercher davantage de ressources, avec d'autres partenaires, pour faire face à la situation humanitaire dans le pays ».

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

Institutionalized Children: Regulation of orphanages continued to be very weak, and many lacked adequate sanitation, medical care, and nutrition. The Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection did not monitor orphanages to ensure provision of basic services. Orphanages relied primarily on private donations and support from international organizations. Many orphans received little or no assistance.

ANTISEMITISM

There were no known reports of antisemitic acts against the country's small Jewish community.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

See the Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report at <https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>.

ACTS OF VIOLENCE, CRIMINALIZATION, AND OTHER ABUSES BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION, OR SEX CHARACTERISTICS

Criminalization: The law prohibits consensual same-sex sexual conduct. "Voluntary sodomy" is a misdemeanor under criminal law with a penalty of up to one year's imprisonment. The government enforced the law. Activists reported LGBTQI+ persons faced difficulty obtaining redress for crimes committed against them, including at police stations, because those accused of criminal acts used the survivor's LGBTQI+ status to justify their crime.

Violence against LGBTQI+ Persons: LGBTQI+ persons recorded instances of assault, harassment, and hate speech. The NGO Lesbian and Gay Association of Liberia reported 14 cases of abuse, including mob violence and assault. On July 13, local radio reported that several residents of Sinoe County threatened to kill "anyone involved with homosexuality."

LGBTQI+ victims were sometimes afraid to report crimes to police due to social stigma surrounding sexual orientation and rape, as well as fear that police would detain or abuse them because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

The LNP's Community Services Section claimed improvements in obtaining redress for crimes committed against LGBTQI+ persons as a result of human rights training. Police sometimes ignored complaints by LGBTQI+ persons, but activists noted improvements in treatment and protection after officers underwent training.

Discrimination: LGBTQI+ persons faced discrimination in access to housing, health care, employment, and education. There were several reports from activists that property owners refused housing to members of the LGBTQI+ community by either denying applications or evicting residents from their properties. In recognition of the problem, the Ministry of Health had a coordinator to assist minority groups, including LGBTQI+ persons, in obtaining access to health care and police assistance.

There were media and civil society reports of harassment of persons based on their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, with some newspapers targeting the LGBTQI+ community. Anti-LGBTQI+ hate speech was a persistent problem. Influential figures, such as government officials and traditional and religious leaders, made public homophobic and transphobic statements.

Availability of Legal Gender Recognition: The government does not allow individuals to change their gender identity marker on legal and identifying documents to bring them into alignment with their gender identity. The option of identifying as "non-binary/intersex/gender non-conforming" was not available.

Involuntary or Coercive Medical or Psychological Practices Specifically Targeting LGBTQI+ Individuals: There were no known reports of involuntary or coercive medical or psychological practices specifically targeting LGBTQI+ individuals.

Restrictions of Freedom of Expression, Association, or Peaceful Assembly: There were no legal restrictions on those speaking out on LGBTQI+ issues or on the ability of LGBTQI+ organizations to register or convene events, but few engaged in these permissible activities due to fear of verbal or physical abuse, as antigay sentiment is a regular part of political, social, and religious discourse.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Persons with disabilities could not access education, health services, public buildings, and transportation on an equal basis with others. The constitution prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities, but these prohibitions were not always enforced. Most government buildings were not easily accessible to persons with mobility impairment. The government did not provide information and communication on disability concerns in accessible formats. Sign language interpretation was often not provided for deaf persons in criminal proceedings or in the provision of

state services. Election ballots were not available in braille, but visually impaired voters could be accompanied by a sighted helper in the voting booth.

Persons with disabilities lacked equal access to social, economic, and political opportunities and were among the most vulnerable population groups in the country. Few children with disabilities had access to education. In 2019-20, less than 1 percent of students in public schools had a disability, suggesting that nearly all school-age children with disabilities were out of school. Some students with disabilities attended a few specialized schools, mainly for the blind and deaf, but only through elementary school. Persons with disabilities faced discrimination in employment, housing, and health care. According to the National Union of Organizations for the Disabled, persons with disabilities were more likely to become subjects of gender-based violence.

OTHER SOCIETAL VIOLENCE OR DISCRIMINATION

The law classifies violence by mob as a crime. Nevertheless, mob violence and vigilantism, due in part to the public's lack of confidence in police and the judicial system, were common and often resulted in deaths and injuries. Although mob violence sometimes targeted alleged criminals, it was difficult to determine underlying reasons for attacks because cases were rarely prosecuted.

The law prohibits "discrimination and vilification" of persons with HIV and AIDS, but the LDHS found no measurable change since 2007 in popular attitudes, which remained broadly discriminatory toward persons with HIV and AIDS.

Section 7. Worker Rights

A. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION AND THE RIGHT TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The law provides workers, except public servants and employees of state-owned enterprises, the right to freely form or join independent unions, bargain collectively, and conduct legal strikes or engage in "go-slow" (a protest by workers in which they deliberately work slowly). The law prohibits antiunion discrimination and allows unions to conduct their activities without interference by employers, parties, or government. The law provides that employers and workers may establish and join organizations of their own choosing, without prior authorization, and subject only to the rules of the organization concerned. The law provides that labor organizations and associations have the right to draw up their constitutions and rules on electing their representatives, organizing their activities, and formulating their programs. There is no minimum number of workers needed, and foreigner and migrant members are not prohibited, although a long approval process or denial on arbitrary grounds could be hurdles to registration.

The government's Labor Practices Review Board has the right to supervise trade union elections, which the International Confederation of Trade Unions termed an interference in a union's right to organize its administration. Trade and labor unions are registered with, and licensed by, the Ministry of Labor, which represents the government in the labor and employment sector. The ministry's Bureau of Trade Union Affairs & Social Dialogue coordinates activities of trade unions and employer organizations in the labor sector.

Public-sector employees and employees of state-owned enterprises are prohibited under law from unionizing and bargaining collectively, but they may join associations and process grievances through the Civil Service Agency grievance board. The law outlines the rules and regulations governing the conduct of the civil service as well as addressing issues affecting civil servants. Representatives from the Ministry of Labor, Labor Congress, and Civil Servants Association continued to argue the law conflicts with the constitution, which affords the right to associate in trade unions. Some public-sector associations, including the National Teachers' Association for public school teachers and the National Health Workers' Union composed of public health workers, declared themselves to be unions despite the law, and the Labor Congress and Ministry of Labor backed their efforts to unionize.

By law, parties engaged in essential services are prohibited from striking. The law provides that the National Tripartite Council (comprising the Ministry of Labor, Chamber of Commerce, and Federation of Labor Unions) shall recommend to the minister all or part of a service to be an essential service if, in the opinion of the council, the interruption of that service would endanger the life, personal safety, or health of the whole or any part of the population. As of year's end, the council had not

published a list of essential services. The act does not apply to public-sector workers, who are under the ambit of the Civil Service Standing Orders.

The law provides for the right of workers to conduct legal strikes, provided they have attempted and failed to resolve the dispute through conciliation within 30 days of the minister of labor receiving an application for referral to conciliation and have given the Ministry of Labor 48 hours' notice of their intent to strike. On matters of national security, the president may request the minister of labor to appoint a conciliator to mediate any dispute or potential dispute. The law prohibits unions from engaging in partisan political activity and prohibits agricultural workers from joining industrial workers' organizations. It also prohibits strikes if the disputed parties have agreed to refer the issue to arbitration, if the issue is already under arbitration or in court, or if the parties engage in essential services as designated by the National Tripartite Council.

Although the law prohibits antiunion discrimination and provides for reinstatement for workers dismissed for union activity, it allows for dismissal without cause if the company provides the mandated severance package. It does not prohibit retaliation against strikers whose strikes comply with the law if they commit "an act that constitutes defamation or a criminal offense, or if the proceedings arise from an employee being dismissed for a valid reason."

The government did not effectively enforce the law in every sector. The law does not provide adequate protection for strikers, and some protections depended on whether property damage occurred and was measurable. Penalties were not commensurate with those for other laws involving denials of civil rights. Penalties were rarely applied against violators. Administrative and judicial procedures were subject to lengthy delays or appeals and to outside interference, such as bribes, coercion, and intimidation by politicians. According to the International Labor Organization, most union workers in an enterprise must be represented to engage in collective bargaining.

B. PROHIBITION OF FORCED OR COMPULSORY LABOR

The law prohibits and criminalizes all forms of forced or compulsory labor, aside from compulsory prison labor, which does not qualify as forced labor, or work defined as "minor communal service." The government did not effectively enforce the law. Resources, inspections, and remediation were inadequate. Criminal penalties were not commensurate with those for other serious crimes, such as kidnapping. Prosecution and conviction rates for human trafficking increased during the year, and major labor unions noted that child labor abuse existed on some smallholder rubber farms. Gender-based violence on palm plantations, where the work force was dominated by women, continued to take place across the country.

Forced labor, including forced child labor, occurred. Families living in the interior of the country sometimes sent young women and children to live with relatives, acquaintances, or even strangers in Monrovia or other cities, with the understanding the women and children would pursue educational or other opportunities. In some instances, these women and children were forced to work as street vendors, domestic servants, or beggars, or were exploited in commercial sex. There were also credible reports of forced labor on small rubber plantations, family farms, and artisanal mines.

See the Department of State's Trafficking in Persons Report at <https://www.state.gov/trafficking-in-persons-report/>.

C. PROHIBITION OF CHILD LABOR AND MINIMUM AGE FOR EMPLOYMENT

See the Department of Labor's Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor at <http://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/c/child-labor/findings/>.

D. DISCRIMINATION WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION

The law prohibits discrimination based on race, religion, national origin, color, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation or gender identity, or HIV and AIDS status. It does not address refugee or stateless status. The law calls for equal pay for equal work. The government did not effectively enforce the law. Penalties were not commensurate with those for similar violations and were seldom applied. Mechanisms for receiving and acting on complaints were inadequate, and the government took no efforts to strengthen antidiscrimination regulations.

Liberia to benefit from US\$50Bn Carbon deal

Liberia is to benefit from the United Arab Emirates 50-billion Blue Carbon Initiative as a result of President George Manneh Weah's visit to the Gulf State.

A Memorandum of

create the right structure. The company will also promote and engage the local communities to implement capacity-building initiatives for enhancing forestry initiatives in Liberia and is to create synergies and identify projects for COP 28 to

into by the UAE-based Blue Carbon. It is a multi-ministerial and agency collaborative framework of the Liberian Government involving the Ministries of Finance and Development Planning, Justice, Agriculture, the Forestry



Understanding (MoU) to implement carbon removal projects in the forestry sector in Liberia has been signed under Article 6 of the 2015 Paris Agreement which represents an important step towards promoting sustainable forest management practices and fighting climate change across Liberia.

The MOU also aims at establishing a cooperation framework for the development of nature-based solution Projects in Liberia with Blue Carbon developing strategies to regulate carbon markets through transparency and audits for high-intensity carbon emissions throughout the country.

This important milestone MOU is in keeping with President Weah's advocacy at COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, and COP 27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt for under-developed countries like Liberia whose emission rates are very low to be highly supported by the industrialized nations whose emission rates are very high to continue to maintain their nature-based emission structures like the forest.

Blue Carbon will be responsible under the MOU to conduct feasibility studies, secure respective accreditation of the cooperation framework, and

be hosted in the UAE in 2023, including identifying forest areas and regions that can be utilized to earn carbon credits.

Finance and Development Planning Minister Samuel D. Tweah Jr. in remarks welcoming the signing of the MOU expressed his appreciation to Blue Carbon saying he is confident that the collaboration will help bolster Liberia's goals to achieving Net Zero Carbon Emission seamlessly.

He said Liberia under the leadership of President Weah has over the years been at the forefront of awareness about the importance of maintaining the forest ecosystem for long-term health benefits of the many forest communities in the country.

Speaking also during the signing of the MOU Sheikh Ahmed Dalmoq Al Maktoum said, Blue Carbon was excited and honored to enter into the agreement with Liberia. He said it marked another milestone for Blue Carbon to enable government entities to define their sustainable frameworks and help transition to a low-carbon economical system, thus reaching their Net Zero goals in compliance with the transferability of credits under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

This is the third agreement in recent months following Tanzania and Zambia entered

Development Authority, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Liberia Maritime Authority.

Blue Carbon is established under the vision of Sheikh Ahmed Dalmoq Al Maktoum, a member of the Dubai Royal Family and Chairman of the company. The Dubai-based company's mandate is to create environmental assets, and nature-based solutions and register carbon removal projects. It also serves as an enabler of blue and green economy operational frameworks, by deploying nature-based solutions in the context of de-carbonization using the latest technology and green economy principles.

Given that the UAE has declared 2023 the Year of Sustainability ahead of the country's staging of the COP28 climate summit, Blue Carbon aims to support innovation in the sustainability sector and accelerate the UAE's initiative of curbing carbon emissions.

Recently, the UAE invested more than \$50bn in renewable energy projects across 40 countries, and it plans to double that over the next decade. Blue Carbon is ready to honor this commitment through its inclusive, practical, and integrated approach to accelerate progress on climate action.

Starts from back page

Cummings reflects change

extended special thanks and appreciation to party officials including Nimba County Representative Larry Yonquoi, who also formed part of his entourage to Nimba County. He assured the people of Nimba County, that a CPP Government will pursue policies and programs that will better the lives of the suffering masses, vowing that he will lead by example, to restore hopes and good governance in Liberia.

He pleaded with the various groups not to be weary by the deplorable state of affairs and

urged them to muster the courage to register en masse and vote out the inept and corrupt administration of President George Weah come October 10.

Cummings reaffirmed the CPP's commitment to its agenda for REAL CHANGE that will better the lives of the millions trapped in extreme poverty. He said this will occur through the resuscitation of the ailing economy and the creation of more and better job opportunities for Liberians.

The CPP Standard Bearer earlier attended a memorial service in Beipa.

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Nimba backs Whapoe

Responding to the petition, Dr. Whapoe said he was excited that Nimba has resolved to make the next President of Liberia instead of giving their support and vote to people who don't care about them.

"I am excited to be heard today. I have heard your concerns and accepted your petition. As you have instructed and petitioned me, I will be contesting for the presidency of Liberia to transform this country, defeat poverty and strengthen agriculture and human

Liberia.

Explaining his vision, Dr. Whapoe indicated that he will transform Liberia through agriculture, and human capacity development. He believes that these are the only tools for defeating poverty and hunger across the country.

"Our dreams and goals are achievable. We are not disclosing plans that we can't implement. This confidence and trust you have given me today will open the door to true liberation, opportunity, and inclusivity," he noted.



capacity across the country," said Dr. Whapoe.

According to him, the President that Nimba County is producing is an elephant that the whole world will come and see and respect because he is a vision of a new

"We have the population and so it's time that we produce our own President. And so, I am excited that you have seen the light and we all will work to achieve that," he concluded.

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'Demeaning for Weah'

Ziankahn, Commerce Minister Mawine Diggs, and Information Minister Ledgerhood Julius Rennie.

Finance Minister Samuel D. Tweah and Liberia Maritime Authority Commissioner Eugene Lenn Nagbe formed part of the president's delegation to the U.S.

However, there have been rumors here that not all members of the delegation were allowed in the briefing with the CIA on Wednesday.

Addressing a forum over the weekend at the Center for the Exchange of Intellectual Opinion on Carey Street, Cllr. Gongloe said it was so demeaning for the president to be investigated as a suspect of international crimes. He claimed that the

Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Information is yet to address the public concern and speculation relating to the president's visit to the United States.

"Today, as enlightened as I'm, I don't know the purpose of the President's trip outside of the country. It should not be hidden and kept in secrecy because when it's in secrecy there is speculation," said Cllr. Gongloe.

"Today, the speculation is that our President is being investigated by the Central Intelligence Agency of the US," Gongloe alleged.

Gongloe contended that the reason associated with the speculation is that Liberia has been characterized as the central point for drug trafficking to the rest of the world.

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Yekeh vows to kill

businesses were forcibly closed, while vehicles and other properties were destroyed during a rock war between the two factions.

Many sustained injuries in the clashes, and normal business activities came to a standstill in the district for several hours before police could restore calm after firing tear gas.

Eyewitnesses said unknown men were armed with deadly weapons including cutlasses, terrorizing peaceful citizens during the violence. Many residents have expressed fears about living in the area.

Marketers were forced to abandon their goods to flee for their lives.

The Liberia National Police

(LNP) was compelled to use tear gas to disperse both members of the CDC Youth League, and Yekeh's supporters to calm down the tension.

Rep. Kolubah alleged that the police are unable to provide security for his safety, and he has reached the point to put up self-defense if anyone attacks him.

Cummings reflects change

- Nimba citizens

makes him the best choice for President.

Nimba citizens of District #8 have reaffirmed their support and vowed to mobilize their kinsmen to ensure the election of Mr. Alexander Cummings as the

Citizens lamented years of government neglect in ensuring better social services and infrastructures, including electricity and roads that will help better the lives of

Bearer can revive the deteriorating economic conditions nationwide.

Mr. Cummings accompanied by CPP stalwarts, over the weekend, visited several towns, including Kphen and Beipa where he met with elder Council, Concern Rural Women, Farmers Union, Motorcyclist Union, Business



next President of Liberia come October 10 General and Presidential Elections.

rural inhabitants and accelerate economic development.

Community, Marketeers Volunteer Teachers, retired civil servants and Student groups.

Tuniudi citizens said Mr. Cummings represents a true reflection of change. They declared that his enviable corporate world achievements and commitment to fight corruption in public service,

They stressed the need for youth and women empowerment to combat extreme suffering and poverty through a new order of government administration and believe only the CPP Standard

He expressed heartfelt gratitude for the warm reception accorded him and the increasing affirmation of support by Nimbians for his Presidential bid come October 10.

The CPP Standard Bearer

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