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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, JULY 07, 2023	L\$181.1527/US\$1.00	L\$183.4136/US\$1.00

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

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Mere political witch hunt?



P11

-Gloria Musu Scott's lawyers brand detention

Chief Justice Gloria Scott



P11

campaign for Weeah

CDC chairman Mulbah Morlu

-CDC urges appointed officials

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Continental News

Kenya Says Somalia Border Reopening Delayed After Attacks

Kenya said Wednesday it was delaying the planned reopening of its long-closed border with Somalia after a number of deadly attacks on its soil attributed to the Islamist

the deaths of eight police officers in Kenya in separate incidents near the border last month blamed on al-Shabaab.

"The government will delay the planned reopening of Kenya-Somalia border points until we

Mogadishu for more than 15 years.

The two nations had announced plans in July last year to reopen the border at talks between then Kenyan president Uhuru Kenyatta and his Somali counterpart Hassan Sheikh Mohamud but they never materialized.

But on May 15 this year, following a high-level ministerial meeting in Nairobi, officials from both countries agreed to the phased reopening of three border posts.

'Criminal elements'

Mandera was to reopen within 30 days of the announcement, followed by Garissa in 60 days and Lamu in 90 days.

However on June 13, eight Kenyan police officers were killed in Garissa when their vehicle struck an improvised explosive device.

On June 24, five civilians had their throats cut in an attack in Lamu near the Somali border. Some were beheaded.

Kenya has suffered retaliatory attacks on its soil by al-Shabaab since sending troops over the border into Somalia in 2011 to crush the al-Qaida linked jihadists. VOA



militant group al-Shabaab.

Interior Minister Kithure Kindiki said the phased reopening of border posts in Mandera, Lamu and Garissa along the lengthy frontier with Somalia would not go ahead as announced in May.

The decision comes after the murder of five civilians and

conclusively deal with the recent spate of terror attacks and cross-border crime," Kindiki said during a visit to the Dadaab refugee camp in far eastern Kenya near Somalia.

The frontier was officially closed in October 2011 because of attacks by al-Shabaab, which has been waging an insurgency against the central government in

Niger, China Discuss Uranium Mine and Other Deals

The West African nation of Niger and China have been discussing deals that include an industrial park, an oil pipeline and a uranium mine.

The Chinese ambassador to Niger, Jiang Feng, said China would build an industrial park that would impact industries including agro-food, manufacturing, mining and real estate, according to a tweet from Nigerien President Mohamed Bazoum's official account. It said the deal is a result of a China-Niger Investment Forum held in April.

"China does what it says and says what it does," said Jiang.

The tweet also mentioned that the Chinese ambassador recently visited the starting point of the Niger-Benin Export Pipeline and described it as "very impressive." With the China National Petroleum Corporation as the developer, the nearly 2,000-kilometer-long pipeline would allow landlocked Niger to ramp up its crude production and access international trade by way of a

terminal on Benin's coast, officials say. President Mahamadou Issoufou of launches, Sept. 17, 2019, a pipeline project to carry crude oil from southeast Niger to the port of Seme in Benin.

Days before comments on these deals, a delegation from the National Uranium Company of China, or CNUC, discussed the resumption of exploration and mining of uranium in Niger's northern regions nine years after

the project was abandoned because of poor sales of the commodity in international markets.

"Prices [of uranium] are now favorable internationally. It is for us to better develop this sector with all the partners, including the CNUC, who already have operating permits," said Ousseini Hadizatou Yacouba, Niger's Minister of Mines. VOA



Niger, China Discuss Uranium Mine and Other Deals - An open-air uranium mine is seen at a uranium mining facility in Arlit, Sept. 25, 2013. Niger and China have talked of deals that include a uranium mine, as well as an industrial park and an oil pipeline. er Deals

South Africa Gas Leak Kills 17 as Officials Suggest Illegal Mining Link

The death toll from a leak of poisonous gas in a South African shantytown rose to 17 on Thursday, as officials suggested the accident was probably linked to illegal mining.

Gauteng Province Premier Panyaza Lesufi, visiting the site of the disaster near Boksburg, east of Johannesburg, said investigations were under way to determine how the cylinder in which the unidentified toxic gas was stored had sprung a leak.

Initial investigations indicated the gas could be linked to illegal mining, a spokesperson for the Disaster and Emergency Management Services in Ekurhuleni municipality said.

South Africa has been plagued by illegal mining, mostly for gold or coal, for decades, robbing the sector and state coffers of billions of rand through smalltime

Lesufi described the scene as "heartbreaking", with the bodies of the victims who included a one-year-old child scattered nearby. He said the death toll had reached 17, with four people still critically ill in hospital.

Lesufi told reporters he shared local frustrations when told they were aware of illegal mining operations.

"This thing of illegal mining is completely out of control... we really need our police force to be given the necessary firepower to match... these illegal miners," he said.

Preliminary investigations showed the toxic gas was used by illegal miners to extract what they thought to be gold from the soil, the provincial government said in a statement.

Cyril Ramaphosa's office said the South African president had urged investigators to find the cause of the accident to avoid similar disasters in future.

A clip shared by Lesufi on social media showed several cylinders mounted on top of wooden tables



Police stand near a covered body in the Angelo settlement in Boksburg, South Africa, July 6, 2023

pilfering as well as networks run by organized crime.

"Whether the (suspected) illegal miners are among the deceased, that is not yet known," William Ntladi told broadcaster SABC.

Grieving locals described family members dying while trying to escape the scene of Wednesday's gas leak.

"I bumped into my cousin walking and crying and I asked him what's wrong. He told me that all his kids had died," said Felsa Nhamussa, who also lost her brother-in-law.

"When I woke up this morning, I came back to check what the situation is like, they told me that my brother-in-law was running away trying to escape and he fell and died."

in a shack covered with iron sheets. He shared an image of another cylinder, citing it as the source of the leak, without providing evidence.

Forensic workers in hazmat suits who combed the area on Wednesday night will continue their investigations and try to secure the area, Lesufi said.

"They've tried to ensure that those cylinders that are still there cannot either explode or they cannot harm people further. When I came here last night the smell was still up in the sky."

In May, a methane gas explosion in a disused South African mine killed at least 31 people believed to be from neighboring Lesotho, while a gas tanker explosion in December killed dozens of people in the same township as Wednesday's deadly leak. VOA

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EDITORIAL

Dreaming a new Liberia

Outgoing United States Ambassador Michael McCarthy, who ends his mission here in barely two weeks has projected a new Liberia in which the potentials of its citizens and resources would be utilized for future growth and prosperity.

Mr. McCarthy observed that if there is one reoccurring theme that unites every visitor to Liberia is the sense of the country's enormous potential with so many reasons for hope towards a forward march.

However, speaking last Thursday, June 29, 2023 in Monrovia at ceremony to commemorate America's 247th Anniversary Ambassador McCarthy underscored that Liberia can have a bright future if it so chooses but it will require substantial follow-through on issues he outlined, including peaceful, free and fair elections that are just two months away.

He added that one of the main goals of the U.S. Embassy Monrovia and the reason it continues to provide the country support across various sectors, including health, education, business and political leadership is to see a more prosperous Liberia.

But do Liberians realize their own potential and resources that God has endowed this country with and how to channel them in turning the wheels of poverty, disease, degradation and illiteracy around to enjoy prosperity and growth or do we prefer wallowing in the vices that have kept us in a vicious cycle of stagnation?

We believe the ambassador's remarks are a wakeup call to all Liberians to rise from their slumber and dream the kind of country they envisage for themselves in the next four decades or more to improve their personal and general wellbeing as a nation.

Envisioning for ourselves the kind of country we desire is the first step to making changes in our national life. Capacity may pose a challenge for now, but if we can only develop the youthful population that God has blessed the country with, a lot could be achieved to attain prosperity and growth that have eluded this country since the 70s and 80s.

As Liberia's traditional partner, we believe the United States is prepared to do much more in providing assistance only if we can get our acts together as a people, willing to make sacrifices. Prosperity and growth will not come wrapped in silver plate but hard work.

It goes beyond just changing leadership at the ballot box, but demonstrating love for country thru service.

With the return to the country of 13 Peace Corps Volunteers after three years absence because of COVID-19, Liberia stands to benefit if only we tap from their expertise in various sectors.

We believe strongly that the new Liberia that Ambassador McCarthy talked about is in reach if all Liberians put hands on deck and shun mediocrity, lip-service, greed and selfish bickering, putting interest of the common good in all that we do.

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COMMENTARY

By Tarja Halonen, Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim

Winning the Fight for Women's Land Rights

Women have cultivated and nurtured life on our planet for centuries. Yet while the world enjoys the fruits of their labor, they often have no say or control over the land they work.

To add insult to injury, the twin threats of drought and desertification - intensified by climate change - have reduced the amount of usable land, jeopardizing livelihoods as well as food production. Moreover, unsustainable farming is eroding soil 100 times faster than natural processes can restore it. The United Nations has classified up to 40% of the world's land as degraded.

Land degradation is a huge challenge, but the solution lies in the people most concerned about protecting this valuable resource: women. When given the chance, women are responsible stewards who use their extensive knowledge and skills to protect and restore the land in their possession. They have also proven capable of building resilience to droughts, which are becoming more severe and more common as temperatures rise.

As matters stand, women are rarely offered such opportunities. Discriminatory practices such as inadequate land-tenure systems, limited access to credit, unequal pay, low levels of decision-making autonomy, and sexual- and gender-based violence prevent their active participation in land management.

In Chad, the government excludes many women and girls from land allocations, leaving them with insecure tenure. Gender norms that devalue the contributions of women further reinforce their precarious position. The common expression "Mara sakit," meaning "She's just a woman," exemplifies this sexist dynamic.

The problem extends far beyond one country. Despite comprising nearly half of the world's agricultural workforce and producing up to 80% of food in developing economies, women own less than one-fifth of land worldwide.

More than 100 governments continue to deny women the right to inherit their husband's property.

This imbalance, coupled with the worsening climate crisis, leads to female agricultural workers bearing the brunt of land degradation.

They suffer from food and water scarcity and are often forced to migrate, which is a contributing factor to gender inequality and its expression through violence and discrimination against women and girls. Indigenous women and girls, people with disabilities, and women human-rights defenders are particularly vulnerable in such conditions.

Frustrated by their lack of agency in decision-making, women in some countries have started to fight for their land rights. Sierra Leone, for example, recently passed a new law that grants women the right to own, lease, or buy land in the country.

In Tanzania, women who have been given stronger land rights are earning up to 3.8 times more income and are also more likely to have individual savings. This highlights an important byproduct of equal land rights: economic security for women and girls. Giving women a greater say in land management can have cascading knock-on effects on household income, food security, and investment in children's education and health.

Equal land rights could also boost food security, as women invest more in agricultural technology, and use their indigenous traditional knowledge, that results in higher yields. In fact, if women farmers had access to the same level of resources as men, the number of undernourished people in the world could be reduced by as much as 100-150 million people.

To make this a reality, governments must remove the barriers that prevent women and girls from owning and inheriting land. More broadly, policymakers should involve women in decisions about land management, conservation, and restoration.

The private sector also has a critical role to play. By expanding access to credit, for example, financial institutions can make it easier for female agricultural workers to purchase the technology and inputs required to improve yields, protect soils, and guard against land degradation.

Yet the most important work, including raising awareness and campaigning for change, falls to local communities. Campaigns like With Rural Women for a Chad Without Hunger have pushed for land reforms and encouraged dialogue with authorities, putting affected women front and center.

The outcome in Chad is promising: after mobilizing more than 25,000 women in seven provinces between 2017 and 2019, 300 hectares of land were allocated to 18 women's groups.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification has placed gender equality at the core of its mandate - and for good reason. As the convention acknowledges in its Gender Action Plan, women play a crucial role in sustainable land management.

Consequently, securing women's land rights is not only the right thing to do; it will boost land-restoration efforts, develop long-term resilience to droughts, and create more equitable economies. Our planet, and the health of our societies, depends on it.

Letter to God

Lord, This election wahala

Dear Father,

Hmm, you know this election thing geh it own wahala too oo. I mean come to think of it. You geh the people who come to hustle for jobs calling themselves saviors and liberators and then the hustlers who come to hustle the hustlers.

You joking!

Father, this one da na fire coming from my mouth oo. To hustle for office in this our village, it na easy oo.

What do you mean?

Aah, you think people will just give you supports? Already they know that hustle you on and when you go to the Traditional Council or when you chop president you will na geh their time again, so they will make sure they “scrip” you well, well.

Tell me something!

Ooh Father, you na see how some people fix roads by force and organize community tournaments and all that just to show themselves to the people.

They are just starting.

But that it you talking slow like that. Wait until the ones who hustle the hustlers sure up. Ehn campaign will soon start, da the time you will see fun.

Ehn, you heard how 75 thousand Uncle Sam money disappeared the other from some kina rally planning. Da one small.

You know, the other day one of my friends who is also hustling to be elected to our Traditional Council was in my office to get some paperwork done. As my friend was about to leave, the phone began ringing endlessly. My friend too refused to answer.

So, I started wondering and later ask, why you na answering this person. Right there my friend, without saying anything answered the call.

You could hear the guy from the other side of the telephone trying to cajole my friend-saying how he wants to organize football tournament as part of his campaign plan for my friend and making all kinds of plans asking my friend to just show up.

You mean the person was trying to cajole your friend.

Oh, da the one you talking slow like that? When my friend got through talking, my friend turned to me and said you know why I didn't want to answer this guy? “No”, I replied.

My friend said in 2017 this guy asked me to give him 3,500 of Uncle Sam's money to organize a football tournament for me in my district. When I gave him the money, he disappeared. Now, another election time has come, and he is coming again with tournament story.

-See wahala. And that just to organize football tournament along oo.

And you know, my friend is the only person oo. Imagine the over 35,000 people that have come to hustle for our village job, think of

OPINION

By Gayle Tzemach Lemmon

The Energy Transition Is Fueling a Power Transition

In the battle to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions and avert the worst impacts of climate change, the world has a vast resource that remains largely untapped: women.

Preventing the catastrophic effects of climate change requires understanding what - and who - drives transformation on the ground. Investing in women, which means improving their access to education, economic inputs, and capital, gives governments a fighting chance of meeting their ambitious climate goals.

Several studies have shown how advancing gender equality can spur climate action. States with larger proportions of women in their legislatures are more likely to approve environmental agreements and treaties. And when more women are involved in group decisions about land management, the group conserves more. Moreover, it is estimated that boosting the productivity of women smallholder farmers could reduce carbon emissions by up to two billion tons by 2050.

The transition to clean power requires a transition in power. Or, put another way, changing power systems requires changing systems of power. Despite being responsible for half of the world's food production, women own less than 20% of the world's agricultural land. And although women comprise 45% of the agricultural workforce across developing countries (and 37% worldwide), they receive only 7% of investment in the sector. If they received the same access to productive resources as men, women in developing countries could increase yields on their farms by 20-30% and lift 100-150 million people out of hunger.

As matters stand, women and girls disproportionately bear the brunt of the effects of climate change. According to the United Nations, women comprise 80% of those displaced by climate change and are 14 times more likely to die in a climate-related disaster than men are. And by 2025, climate change could prevent at least 12.5 million girls from completing their education each year. As the Malala Fund has noted, “following climate shocks, stressed families often pull girls out of school to help with an increase in household responsibilities - such as fetching water and firewood - or to enter early marriage to ease the burden of scarce household resources.” In Botswana, an estimated 70% of children who dropped out of school during drought were girls, while in Ethiopia, child marriage increased by 119%, on average, in regions suffering the most from drought.

When extreme weather events rob family breadwinners of their livelihoods and their homes, they can no longer afford to have children studying instead of working; sometimes, girls as young as 11 or 12 become brides. That means squandered talent and lost potential, as well as early motherhood for many. Moreover, children with less education are less fluent in sustainable agriculture practices.

The good news is that investing in women and girls promises high returns in terms of fostering growth, building resilience, and strengthening adaptation efforts. But taking advantage of this opportunity requires a shift in imagination and a concerted effort to make women more visible - especially in policymaking settings. At the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Egypt (COP27), women made up less than 34% of country teams. In 2020, women led only 15% of environmental ministries in 193 countries.

Deploying capital to support women in agriculture, keep girls in school, fund women entrepreneurs, and support women-led emergency-information networks has long been recognized as essential to achieve the goal of inclusive economic growth. But it will also contribute to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions and keeping global warming within the 1.5° Celsius limit set by the Paris climate agreement.

Imagine a world in which women farmers have equal access to inputs, women have the funds to become clean-energy entrepreneurs, girls learn the skills required to take advantage of new green jobs, and women-led networks, such as Women Wetem Weta in Vanuatu, provide early disaster warnings to safeguard their communities. This is a world of “more for more”: more children are educated, more societies can sustain themselves, and everyone can enjoy greater prosperity, security, and stability.

To realize this vision, those in positions of power must seize this moment of peril and possibility to ensure that women and girls can fulfill their potential and, in doing so, support the shared fight against climate change and its effects. The energy transition is an opportunity for us all. Making the most of it will require investing in those who will drive it forward.

SALE!! SALE!! SALE!!

Vehicle AUCTION

Cerra Automotive is offering several **USED CARS** for sale through Auction process. Please note that the vehicles are sold on "as is, where is" basis.

ITEM	BID REF. AC-VEHAUC-008 VEHICLE PLATE	DESCRIPTION	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	VEICLE STATUS
1	A64274	2014 NISSAN PATROL SUV - JNITCSY6120586909	FRIDAY JULY 14, 2023 at 16:00 GMT	USED VEHICLE
2	A6189	2014 NISSAN PATROL SUV - JNITCSY6120586482		USED VEHICLE
3	A6960	2014 NISSAN PATROL - JNITCSY6120586880		USED VEHICLE
4	A64116	NISSAN PATROL SUV - JNITCSY6120585461		USED VEHICLE
5	A59097	2011 TOYOTA HILUX DOUBLE CABIN - HTFR22G606050357		USED VEHICLE
6	A6188	2014 NISSAN PATROL - JNITCSY6120585423		USED VEHICLE
7	A64593	2014 NISSAN PATROL - JNITCSY6120387843		USED VEHICLE
8	A62535	2008 TOYOTA PRADO - JTEBZZ29J00029773		
9	A54905	2008 TOYOTA HILUX PICKUP - AHTFK22G103037960		NO ENGINE

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Inspection of vehicles by interested partners will take place at CERRA AUTOMOTIVE office located in Congo Town, next to WAEC office, opposite Kailondo Filling Station, Monrovia Liberia. The vehicle can be inspected from Monday June 26 - July 6, 2023. The daily inspection's hours are, Monday to Friday 8:00 AM - 16:00 GMT.
2. Bids must be delivered to CERRA AUTOMOTIVE office in Monrovia in sealed envelope with reference CA-VEHAUC-008 only on or before Friday, July 7, 2023 at the hour of 16:00 GMT. The envelope should contain the bid, the contact information, name, phone number, and address. Late bids will be rejected. CERRA AUTOMOTIVE will take no responsibility for bids not delivered directly to CERRA AUTOMOTIVE office.
3. Cars are sold on "as is" basis. Cerra Automotive will not be liable to the purchasers for any defects on the vehicles after the bidding process is completed.
4. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives at CERRA AUTOMOTIVE office, Friday July 7 at 17:00 GMT. Only bidders who have submitted an offer shall participate in the opening of the bids coming along with their ID cards.
5. Winning bidders will be notified on July 10, 2023 via email/SMS message and will have 3 days to make payment. Failure to make payment will result in the next highest bidder being offered the vehicle(s). It is the responsibility of the winning bidder to process and pay the cost of (transfer of ownership) at the ministry of transport. The final date for payment by successful bidder is July 13, 2023. The vehicle will be picked after payment and change of registration documents.

For further inquiries, please contact the Administrative department at the below email and contact secretary@cerraautomotive-lr.com or +231 778 752 082 / +231777 589 204

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MUST BE ABLE TO MULTITASK AND WORK UNDER PRESURE (TIME FLEXIABLE)
MUST HAVE A CERTIFICATE OR FIRST DEGREE
MUST AT LEAST HAVE 3 YEARS OR MORE EXPERIENCE

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- A very good command of English, communication skills are essential.
- Ability to multitask & work under pressure.
- Minimum 5 years' experience

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- PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE IN A SALES & MARKETING RELATED JOB ROLE. A DEGREE OR EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATION WITH A MINIMM 6 YEARS EXPERIENCE.

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

IMO designates Liberian as auditor

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has confirmed the designation of a senior staff of the Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA) Mr. John F. Harvey, Jr. as auditor to provide expertise to the IMO Member State Audit Scheme (IMSAS).

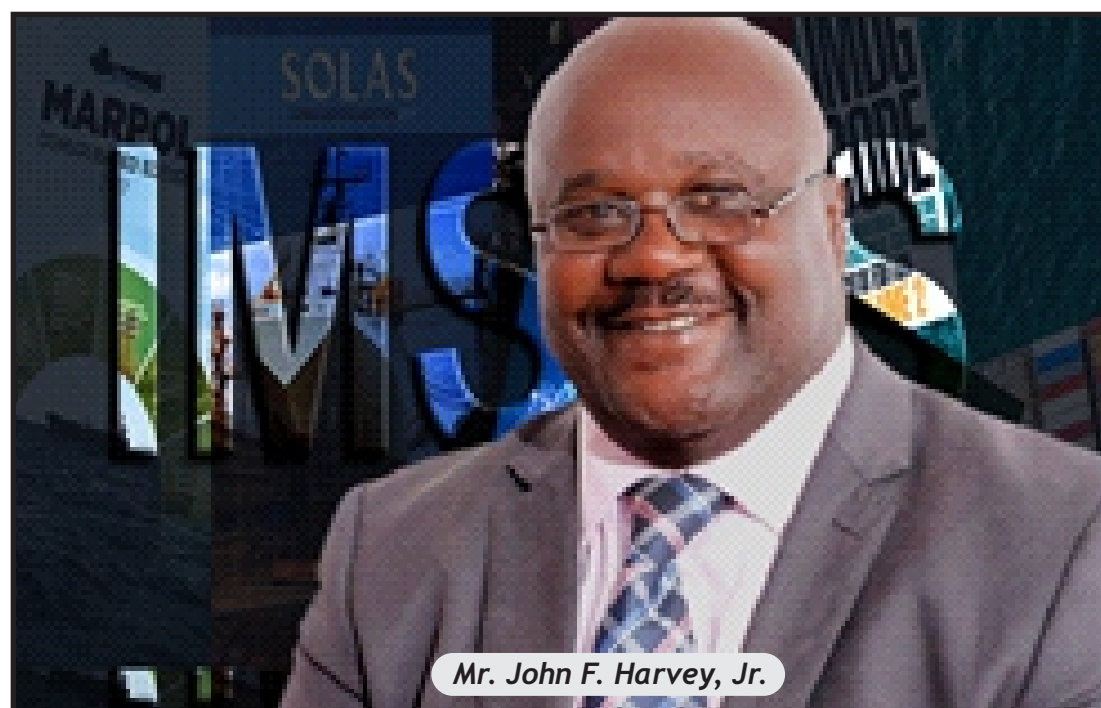
According to a press release, IMSAS is a mandatory scheme that seeks to ensure that member states of the organization are implementing instruments as well as improve their capabilities, at the same time contributing to the enhancement of global and individual Member State's overall performance in compliance with the requirements of the instruments to which it is a Party.

In a communication addressed to the Alternative Permanent Representative of Liberia to the IMO, Dr. Harry T. Conway, the Chief of the Department for Member State Audit and Implementation Support, Ms. Tatjana Krilic said Liberia's request to the IMO Secretary General to include Mr. Harvey in the pool of auditors is confirmed.

The IMO Member State Audit

personal qualities and qualifications should be taken into account: initiative, judgement, tact, sensitivity and the ability to maintain harmonious working relations when meeting intended or unintended obstacles during the audit, and when working in a multicultural environment; proven skills at managerial and/or senior level; demonstrated motivation and the ability to write clearly and concisely; full command of at least one of the six official IMO languages; in-depth knowledge of the functions of an Administration; good knowledge of the IMO's regulatory framework, including relevant instruments; and computer literacy".

The Commissioner and CEO of the Liberia Maritime Authority, Lenn Eugene Nagbe said this news comes as an authentication that Liberia's maritime regime is capable of producing flag state auditors that are up to international standards. More so, Liberia, through this selection, is demonstrating its active participation in assessing the



Mr. John F. Harvey, Jr.

Department head said the decision to confirm Mr. Harvey, Jr. follows a thorough evaluation and that his qualifications meet the criteria as set forth in sub-section 4.3 of the Procedures for the Audit Scheme, consistent with resolution A. 1067 (28) and as such he will be included in the pool of auditors.

"Further to your letter addressed to the Secretary-General, nominating Mr. John F. Harvey, Jr. as an auditor for inclusion in the pool of auditors, I can confirm that Mr. Harvey's CV has been evaluated and that he meets the criteria for auditors as set out in sub-section 4.3 of the Procedures for the Audit Scheme (resolution A.1067 (28)) and, as such, he will be included in the pool of auditors.As required of the Secretary-General by sub-section 4.4 of the Procedures for the Scheme, Mr. Harvey will be contacted during the planning of audits for which his expertise may be required," the IMO Official said. Sub-section 4.3 of the Procedures for the Audit Scheme states "when a Member State nominates an auditor, who shall have demonstrable auditing skills and techniques, as for example obtained from a management system auditor training course, ISM Code auditor training course or IMO Member State auditor training course, the following

implementation and enforcement of International Maritime instruments under the IMO Instrument Implementation Code (III Code).

According to Commissioner Nagbe, the selection of Mr. Harvey, an experienced Marine Engineer means Liberia is continuing to play leading role in the global governance of maritime industry and participating in the technical and operational aspects of the system.

The confirmation of Mr. Harvey's designation by the IMO coincides with preparation by Liberia to undergo the IMSAS Audit scheme to assess the country's effective implementation of IMO Instruments it signed on to. Liberia has requested to be audited in 2024.

Mr. John F. Harvey, Jr. holds a Master's degree in Maritime Education and Training from the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden; Bachelor's degree in Marine Engineering from the Maine Maritime Academy in Castine, the United States; and major in Mathematics from the University of Liberia. He currently serves as Director of Safety Inspection and Audit at the Liberia Maritime Authority. Press Release

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Methodist school seeks thorough probe

By Ramsey N. Singbeh, Jr. in Margibi

The George V. Gibson Memorial United Methodist High School in Kakata, Margibi County is asking the Ministry of Education to conduct further

The ministry fined the school on Tuesday June 27, 2023, for allegedly violating the “Teachers Code of conduct” and the 2022/2023 Academic Calendar.

for summer school or enrichment programs which means it has completed the academic year before the official timetable.

According to the ministry, fee attached for the enrichment program is very exorbitant for the students.

It said the Methodist School’s action undermines government’s efforts to provide quality education to Liberian children, most of whom are financially challenged.

The ministry therefore holds the school liable for breach of the 2022/2023 academic calendar and the violation of the teacher code of conduct.

The ministry says it discovered all of these violations when it had gone to the school to monitor its activities, noting that the administration took all of these actions in its personal interest.

In accordance with the official academic calendar for 2022/2023, final closing activities should begin from July 10-28, 2023 in three categories: Category one, promotion activities for grades 1-9 is from July 17-21, category two, promotion activities for grades 10-11 is from July 24-28 2023 while in category three, 12th graders’ promotion is pending on WASSCE results. . Editing by Jonathan Browne

Eight communities issued statutory titled land deeds

The Government of Liberia through the Liberia Land Authority (LLA) on June 23, 2023, officially issued statutory land-titled deeds and maps to eight customary communities in Nimba, Sinoe, Maryland, and Grand Cape Mount Counties under the project “Sustaining Peace and Reconciliation through Land Governance and Dispute Resolution Mechanism”, supported and financed by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (PBF).

The PBF project, under the Liberia Multi-Partner Trust Fund (LMPTF), is implemented by UNDP in partnership with UNWomen, WFP, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

The Chairman of the LLA Attorney J. Adams Manobah, Sr. at the official presentation ceremony held at the Peace

members for the smooth implementation and completion of the project, noting that, it is a clear demonstration of the LLA’s ability to do more if provided the needed technical and financial support adding that it is the desire of the LLA leadership to work tirelessly to ensure that communities are issued deeds for their lands.

“The LLA is thankful to the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund family for providing the fund. The law signed by H. E. President Dr. George M. Weah was never a mistake but hope that Liberians will never again be seen as squatters but as owners of their lands,” the LLA Chairman said.

He stressed that Liberia’s civil war was not just based on power but on land as well, adding, ‘We are aware that the implementation of the LRA rests on the shoulders of us all, hence it is



investigation into circumstances that led to imposition of 250,000 Liberian Dollars fine on the school for allegedly breaching education policy.

The ministry had mandated the school to pay the amount into government’s account at the Liberia Revenue Authority and immediately report official receipt to the Margibi County Education Office within 72 working hours (June 27-30, 2023) or risks having its operational license revoked.

The school did not pay the fine and it is said to be calling on the ministry to further probe all claims made against it.

communication dated June 27, 2023, written to the Principal of the George V. Gibson United Methodist High School, Abraham O. Karr, copy of which can be obtained through the Margibi County Education Officer Stephen Toe, the school is fined for concluding academic activities before the stipulated time set by the ministry.

The communication further explains that the school had already issued list of 12th graders for preliminary clearance during the time of the academic calendar when students are supposed to be in active classes as well as placement of list of students

LRA, Ecobank partner to simplify tax payment

LRA and Ecobank Liberia officials following the launch of the event at the LRA headquarters in Paynesville. The Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) and Ecobank Liberia have introduced a groundbreaking integration of the Liberia Integrated Tax Administration System (LITAS) with Ecobank’s banking platforms. This collaboration marks a significant milestone in the ongoing digitization and streamlining of tax payment processes in Liberia.

According to a press release, LITAS, a high-tech digital tax payment system implemented by the LRA, offers comprehensive support for taxpayer registration, online filing, and payment, allowing users to access real-time information on tax balances and transactions. The integration also allows taxpayers to now receive in a timely manner, their

electronic receipts after payment has been made. The integration of LITAS with Ecobank’s diverse platforms, including Omni and Omni Lite Mobile App, as well as in-branch services, signifies LRA’s commitment to enhancing customers’ convenience in their tax payment experiences, said Commissioner General Thomas Doe Nah during the launch on Thursday (July 6).

With this development, Ecobank Liberia joins GT Bank as the second commercial bank to have fully integrated their platforms with LITAS. LRA Commissioner General Nah commended both banks for their cooperative and professional partnership and extended an invitation to other commercial banks to join the initiative.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



LRA and Ecobank Liberia officials following the launch of the event at the LRA headquarters in Paynesville



Empire Hall in Gompa City, Nimba County, expressed thanks and appreciation to President George M. Weah, and the 54th Legislature for passing and signing into law the Land Rights Act of 2018. He said the signing of the act became a fundamental step in Liberia’s land reform.

Chairman Manobah in his official remarks on behalf of the Board of Commissioners and staff of the LLA called on Law Makers to always consider the Land Rights Act and the interest of communities when signing concessions which he said will buttress the efforts and commitment of the government to Liberia’s land reform. He called on the communities and county authorities across Liberia to continue to work with the LLA so that more communities can obtain statutory titles to their customary lands. Chairman Manobah praised the LLA technical team headed by Julius Kawa, Director, Land Policy and Planning, and the County Land Administrators (CLAs) across the four project counties who worked with other team

my hope that we all work to maintain the peace we now enjoy today and collectively seek the interest of the Liberian people as we drive towards Liberia’s land reform’.The LLA Boss further expressed thanks and appreciation to Superintendents and traditional leaders across the four project counties for their cooperation and support and to partners for providing financial and technical support to the project which is aimed at supporting the government of Liberia through the LLA implement the Land Rights Act and the Local Government Act (LGA) to uphold and protect community and women’s rights to land and to reduce inter-communal tensions and conflicts.

In his remarks, UNDP Liberia Resident Representative a.i. Louis Kuukpen, applauded the LLA and its Board of Commissioners under whose leadership such a great milestone was achieved, for driving the land reform process which is a direct demonstration of the government’s commitment to the Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD).

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Dr. Whapoe picks running mate -Vows to redeem, transform Liberia

By Lincoln G. Peters

The standard bearer for the opposition Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) and presidential hopeful Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe has picked the party

sympathizers, and well-wishers of VOLT, including women, youth and girls converged at the party headquarters in Old Road community for the grand pronouncement of Mr. Fahnbulleh as Dr. Whapoe's running mate.

Dr. Whapoe says he was

agriculture like me.

I am excited to announce to you Mr. Erasmus Daoda Fahnbulleh as my vice running mate in the upcoming October 10 Presidential and Legislative elections" Dr. Whapoe announces."

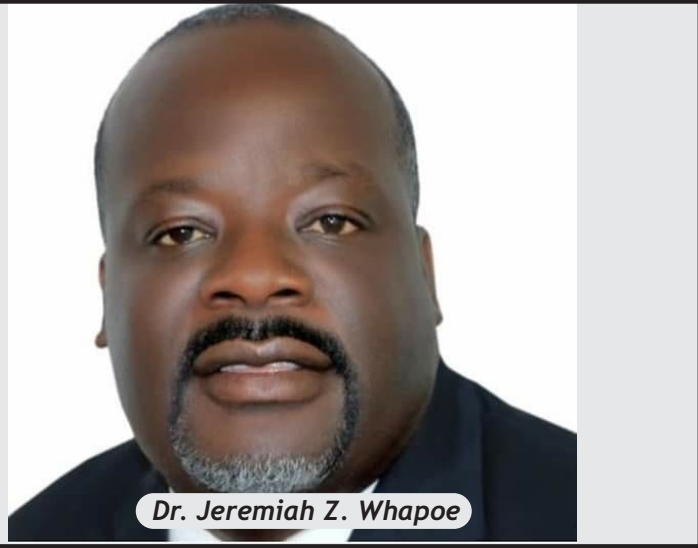
Both men are agriculturists, as Dr. Whapoe himself is a farmer that has cultivated farms in several counties across the country. He is optimistic the Whapoe-Fahnbulleh Ticket will defeat poverty and make Liberia self-reliance in food production through modernized farming.

"We have the Transformational roadmap to transform Liberia and make it respectable again. This country has lost sense of direction under this administration and so it's time for us to redeem and transform Liberia. I believe that with the help of my Vice President, we will make unity, development and religious tolerance [paramount] for all Liberians to live in peace and harmony", he adds.

In remarks, Mr. Fahnbulleh expressed excitement and appreciation for his selection by Dr. Whapoe as his running mate, stating that it's a privilege to transforming Liberia.

"I am excited to be selected here today as your running mate. I believe with teamwork we can redeem and transform Liberia. You have selected me because you see me as a helper therefore, I want to assure you that I will not disappoint you for the confidence reposed in me", he promised.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe

chairman Erasmus Daoda Fahnbulleh, as his running mate for the October elections.

Mr. Fahnbulleh, who hails Grand Cape Mount County, western Liberia, is a Muslim and Imam with a strong knowledge in agriculture, having worked in the county for the Ministry of Agriculture.

Dr. Whapoe describes the ticket for the presidency as "Transformational", noting that the collaboration will liberate Liberians from poverty through agriculture productivity.

On Thursday, July 6, 2023, dozens of partisans,

mandated and instructed by God to look in his house [party] and take someone who has a spirit of unity and self-sufficiency.

The presidential hopeful says he has also selected Mr. Fahnbulleh as a religious person to bring religious balance to the political space of Liberia, something he believes, will promote unity and togetherness.

"I am here today, to tell you that I will be on the ballot. My running mate is somebody you already know because he was chosen by God. My vice running mate is someone who has the heart of God and believes in

Gov't demands WAEC results before graduation

By Kruah Thompson

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism (MICAT), has announced that there will be no graduation for any school until the West African Examinations Council (WAECs) results are released.

MICAT Deputy Minister for Public Affairs Jalawah A Tonpo proclaimed on behalf of the Minister of Education Thursday, 6 June 2023 at a regular briefing that the results will be fully released at the end of July.

Mr. Tonpo disclosed that all schools will reopen on 5 September 2023.

Additionally, he emphasized that the Ministry of Education has also announced that no school should charge more than US\$100 or its equivalent in

Liberian dollars (LRD) for graduation fees.

"We will not put burdens on our families, our parents, or self-supporting students," he said.

Additionally, Minister Tonpo has announced the closure of all schools in the country during the election week and warned that schools within Liberian territory must abide by this policy.

According to him, they are doing this ahead of time so that

people can get prepared "because, by the time school reopens on 5, 2023, there will be no waste of time."

He said during the period of the election weeks, there will be no school. According to him, schools will reopen after the election weeks.

Additionally, Minister Tonpo expressed the hope that all administrators will comply with this regulation to ensure a smooth transition of the academic calendar.



Mr. Jalawah A Tonpo

Lonestar Cell MTN Unveils Waysay Wasa 3.0 Customer Reward Program with a Spectacular Event

Lonestar Cell MTN, a leading technology company, launched its highly anticipated customer reward program, Waysay Wasa 3.0, in a grand celebration that left the crowd of thousands in awe. The event took place at the Stephen Tolbert Estate Field in Paynesville and featured a captivating musical fanfare. Kicking off the event, Lonestar Cell MTN staff, accompanied by roller skaters and other participants, paraded from the company's headquarters to the venue, creating an atmosphere of excitement.

Thousands of attendees were treated to a captivating concert, featuring electrifying performances by renowned artists Kpanto, Tikun J, Anitram, King Dennis, as well as talented local up-and-coming musicians. The event was expertly hosted by the charismatic Angel Michael, with DJ Spesh providing infectious rhythms that kept the crowd energized throughout the day.

The primary objective of this event was to launch the third

bicycles, television sets, generators, cash prizes, and even an SUV.

The Momo Waysay Wasa 3.0 Raffle draw will span 12-weeks starting from June 30th and concluding in September. Each week, a computerized system, sanctioned by the National Lottery Authority, will randomly select winners from the pool of eligible entries.

To ensure a seamless process, Lonestar Cell MTN will personally notify winners via phone calls and officially announce them on the company's official social media channels. Winners can expect their prizes to be promptly dispatched, enabling them to experience the exceptional benefits of being a subscriber to Lonestar Cell MTN.

Christopher Ssali, General Manager of Mobile Financial Services, emphasized the broader impact of Momo Waysay Wasa 3.0. He stated, "With this program, we go beyond rewarding loyalty. We genuinely aim to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our subscribers through these prizes."

Lonestar Cell MTN continues to



edition of Waysay Wasa, which carries the theme "Da Yor Time to Win." Waysay Wasa 3.0 is a nationwide initiative that provides an opportunity for both existing and new subscribers, as well as sales agents, to enter an exciting raffle draw by simply dialing *156*2# to purchase data or voice bundles. Manju Konneh, Acting Manager, Product and Services emphasized that this three-month campaign exemplifies Lonestar Cell MTN's dedication to creating shared value among its valued subscribers.

"It's our way of expressing our gratitude to our loyal customers and giving back to the communities we serve," he said. This year's Waysay Wasa offers participants the chance to win a range of incredible prizes, including cutting-edge smartphones, bags of rice,

lead the telecommunications industry with its innovative customer-centric approach, and Waysay Wasa 3.0 serves as a testament to their commitment to enhancing the customer experience and fostering a sense of shared success. For more information about Waysay Wasa 3.0 and updates on winners, please visit Lonestar Cell MTN's official social media channels or contact our customer support team. -ENDS- About Lonestar Cell MTN: Lonestar Cell MTN is a leading telecommunications company, committed to providing exceptional mobile network services and innovative solutions to its customers. With a focus on customer satisfaction and community development, Lonestar Cell MTN continuously strives to exceed expectations and deliver cutting-edge technology to connect people and enhance lives.

Français

La CPP mettra fin aux excuses du CDC et de l'UP

Alexander B. Cummings offrira de meilleures alternatives aux Libériens, CDC d'avoir gaspillé les opportunités qui leur ont été offertes au cours des 20 dernières années.

de ces 20 années. Pourtant, ils continuent de donner des excuses sur les maladies et les séquelles de la guerre », a-t-il ajouté.

« Le rapport sur les perspectives économiques de la Banque africaine de développement sur la Côte d'Ivoire indique que le PIB du pays a augmenté de 7% », a déclaré Dumoe.

Il a comparé cela avec les affirmations du président Weah et du Parti de l'unité d'une augmentation de 4 % du PIB du Libéria.

Dumoe a déclaré que les pays voisins font des progrès significatifs pour améliorer leur propre pays tandis que le leader de l'UP Joseph Nyumah Boakai se bat la poitrine et se vante d'une augmentation de 4 %.

L'ancien candidat aux sénatoriales voit dans les prochaines élections une opportunité de redonner aux Libériens un nouvel espoir et une nouvelle direction pour le pays.

Dans un autre développement, M. Abdullah Kiatamba a fait part de ses inquiétudes quant à la capacité de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) d'organiser des élections libres et équitables.

Pour lui, la NEC n'a pas démontré sa volonté de traiter

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

La CDC met en garde les perdants aux primaires contre tout acte susceptible de la discréditer

La Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir a mis en garde les candidats perdants aux élections primaires contre la contestation de la volonté du peuple, sous peine de faire face à la colère du parti.

M. Jefferson T. Koijee, secrétaire général du parti au pouvoir et maire de Monrovia, a fait la mise en garde lors d'un entretien avec un groupe de journalistes après la primaire de la CDC dans la circonscription électorale n° 16 de Montserrado ce week-end.

« Nous voulons appeler le représentant vaincu Jimmy Smith à accepter la volonté et la décision du peuple, si non le parti prendra des mesures contre lui », a déclaré M. Koijee.

M. Smith, le représentant sortant de la CDC dans la circonscription électorale n° 2 du comté de Montserrado, a perdu le ticket du parti au profit de son rival lors d'une

primaire ce week-end.

Koijee a demandé à M. Smith d'accepter sa défaite et de cesser d'être ingrat envers le parti et les gens qui l'ont fait au fil des ans.

Le nouveau venu Kokulo Borvor a obtenu 382 voix en tant que

favori de la CDC, battant le représentant sortant Smith qui n'a obtenu que 21 voix.

Quelques minutes après l'annonce des résultats, M.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



M. Jefferson T. Koijee

COMMENTAIRE

Par Daron Acemoglu

Un communisme basé sur l'IA pourrait-il fonctionner ?

BOSTON - Friedrich von Hayek est avant tout célèbre pour son essai influent et polémique de 1944 intitulé La Route de la servitude. Ses travaux les plus reconnus en économie résident toutefois dans « L'utilisation de l'information dans la société », un article relativement court sur la manière dont la société utilise et acquiert des informations dispersées concernant les fondamentaux économiques, tels que les préférences, les priorités et la productivité.

Cet article formule une puissante critique de la planification centrale, en faisant valoir qu'aucune autorité centralisée ne saurait efficacement recueillir et traiter les « éléments dispersés d'une connaissance incomplète et fréquemment contradictoire que tous les individus séparés possèdent en partie ». Sans connaissance des préférences de chaque individu parmi des millions de produits, et encore moins de leurs idées sur la question de l'utilisation de leurs talents de la manière la plus productive et créative possible, les planificateurs centraux sont voués à échouer.

Par opposition, les économies de marché peuvent efficacement traiter et rassembler ces informations. Les signaux de prix transmettent de manière fluide des informations concernant les priorités et préférences des participants du marché. Lorsque l'étain se fait rare, son prix augmente, et Hayek explique que « Tout ce que les utilisateurs d'étain ont besoin de savoir, c'est qu'une partie de l'étain qu'ils consommaient jusqu'alors est maintenant utilisée de manière plus profitable ailleurs, et qu'ils doivent par conséquent économiser l'étain ».

Il ne s'agit pas non plus de traiter seulement des données existantes. Le système de marché, fait valoir Hayek, est également plus efficace dans la découverte - voire la production - de nouveaux signaux pertinents : « Les 'données' à partir desquelles se fonde le calcul économique ne sont pas et ne peuvent pas être, lorsqu'elles concernent la société toute entière, 'données' pour un individu ».

Si Hayek est célèbre pour avoir formulé une critique - basée sur l'information (ou les « statistiques ») - de la planification centrale, ses arguments constituent plus largement un appel à la décentralisation. « Si nous pouvons admettre que le problème économique central d'une société est celui de l'adaptation rapide aux changements [...], il s'ensuit que les décisions finales doivent être laissées à ceux qui connaissent ces circonstances », observe Hayek, avant de conclure « Nous sommes amenés à résoudre ce problème par un certaine forme de décentralisation » - c'est-à-dire par l'économie de marché et le système des prix.

Pendant des décennies, les arguments d'Hayek ont servi de base au rejet de toutes formes de régulation. Si la réglementation d'une activité économique (de type mesures régissant le lancement de nouveaux produits) ou des prix (de type plafonnements ou contrôle) interfère avec le fonctionnement du système des prix, elle entravera le processus décentralisé d'adaptation à un monde en perpétuelle évolution.

Seulement voilà, l'intelligence artificielle soulève aujourd'hui deux défis quant au raisonnement d'Hayek - notamment les modèles d'IA générative, capables d'encoder, de traiter et de déployer (via plusieurs centaines de milliards de paramètres) d'immenses quantités d'informations préexistantes.

Premièrement, compte tenu de la capacité de l'IA à absorber, organiser et interpréter des données à très grande échelle, on peut se demander si elle pourrait rendre la planification centrale plus efficace que les systèmes de marché d'aujourd'hui. Tel est l'espoir qui accompagne le « communisme fondé sur l'IA » (ou « communisme du luxe entièrement automatisé ») : l'IA confèrera aux planificateurs centraux les moyens de déterminer des répartitions économiques optimales et (supposément) solidaires.

Or, si le communisme fondé sur l'IA constitue une expérimentation intéressante, il ne représente qu'une critique superficielle d'Hayek. Même si une IA parvenait à effectuer l'ensemble des calculs et collectes de données que l'économie de marché permet déjà (et rien n'est moins sûr), la concentration du pouvoir dans les mains d'une autorité centrale serait extrêmement préoccupante.

La fameuse inéquité qui tua cinq millions d'Ukrainiens au début des années 1930 ne fut pas la conséquence d'un échec de Staline dans le calcul des répartitions appropriées. Au contraire, Staline disposait de suffisamment d'informations, et il les utilisa pour extraire autant de céréales que possible de la région (nourrissant des motivations politiques plus larges, et possiblement le souhait de dévaster l'Ukraine).

Par ailleurs, la critique hayékienne de la planification centrale s'étend au-delà de l'analyse des chiffres existants. Comme évoqué précédemment, elle se concentre principalement sur l'adaptation au changement, et insiste autant sur la création de l'information que sur son utilisation.

Français

Starts from page 8

La CPP mettra fin aux

être tendues et critiques.

De plus, M. Mo Ali a dit que le parti de l'unité a joué un rôle essentiel dans le développement du Libéria c'est pourquoi il reçoit plus de soutien pour gouverner le pays.

M. Ali pense que le soutien du Parti de l'unité à travers le pays augmente ses chances de remporter les élections d'octobre, ce qui est son objectif ultime.

Ali a déclaré que tout le soutien dont le Parti de l'unité bénéficie actuellement a une valeur significative, en particulier à un moment où le peuple libérien s'inquiète du fait que de jeunes perdent la vie à cause de la drogue.

les questions fondamentales soulevées lors des derniers élections.

Kiatamba a apprécié l'implication de la communauté internationale dans le processus électoral et l'a considérée comme une évolution positive.

Cependant, il a souligné la nécessité d'obtenir des assurances de la part de la commission électorale. Il a aussi souligné l'importance de leur engagement auprès du public.

Kiatamba a exhorté la communauté internationale à aller au-delà de l'ordinaire et à intensifier ses efforts, car les prochaines élections devraient

Starts from page 8

La CDC met en garde les

avait été rejeté par les citoyens du district n° 2 lorsqu'il s'était présenté sur le ticket du Parti de l'unité, mais c'est la Coalition au pouvoir qui lui a redonné de l'espoir.

Pour lui, M. Smith est en train de commettre une terrible erreur en discréditant la décision des mêmes personnes qui l'avaient élu.

Selon Kojee, la CDC n'impose pas de candidats à l'électorat, affirmant que le peuple a le temps et la possibilité de décider de qui ils veulent sur le ticket du parti lors d'une élection.

En même temps, M. Kojee a félicité Kokulo Borvor, le vainqueur de la primaire dans la circonscription électorale n° 2 du comté de Montserrado.

Il a également remercié le représentant Jimmy Smith pour sa participation pacifique et démocratique au processus, ajoutant que la décision du peuple est plus importante.

Pendant ce temps, Kojee a révélé que tous les candidats défaits aux primaires de la CDC à travers le pays sont automatiquement membres de l'équipe de campagne nationale du parti.

Smith a immédiatement suspendu son adhésion à la CDC par une communication écrite adressée au président du parti, Mulbah Morlu.

Dans sa lettre, le représentant Smith a allégué que le porte-drapeau de la CDC, le président George Manneh Weah, et les dirigeants de la CDC l'avaient trahi.

Selon lui, M. Weah est parvenu à un accord avec le caucus législatif du parti selon lequel tous les législateurs en exercice n'auraient pas été soumis à la primaire.

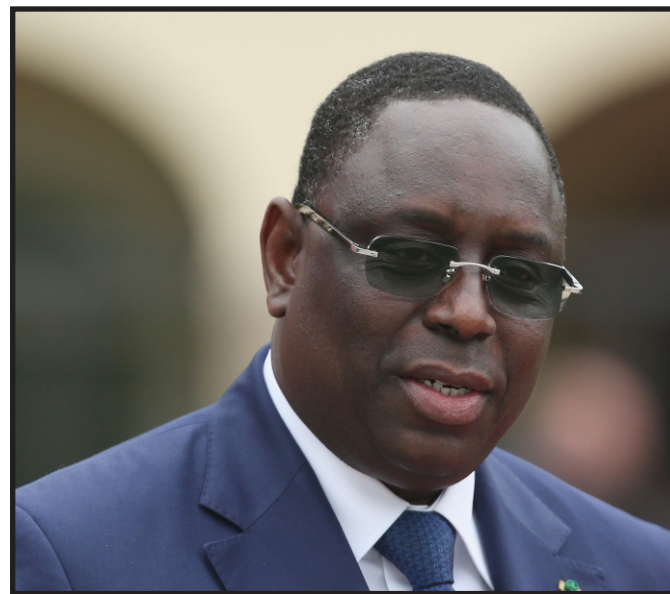
Il a ajouté qu'il avait été convenu que les législateurs de la CDC cherchant à être réélus lors des élections du 10 octobre 2023 devraient être considérés comme des candidats consensuels pour le ticket du parti.

Mais Kojee a rappelé au candidat battu que c'est le même parti qui lui avait permis de se présenter sur son ticket aux élections de 2017.

Kojee a fait valoir que Smith n'a aucune morale pour remettre en question les choix et les décisions du peuple.

Selon lui, le législateur

Sénégal : Macky Sall annonce qu'il ne sera pas candidat à un troisième mandat présidentiel



écrit ».

« Le Sénégal dépasse ma personne et il est rempli de leaders capables de pousser le pays vers l'émergence », a-t-il ajouté. « On a tant spéculé, commenté ma candidature à cette élection (...) Mes priorités portaient surtout sur la gestion d'un pays, d'une équipe gouvernementale cohérente, et engagée dans l'action pour l'émergence, surtout dans un contexte socio-économique difficile et incertain », a-t-il ajouté.

En préambule de cette déclaration, le président sénégalais est longuement revenu sur les violences - mot prononcé à maintes reprises - qui ont secoué le pays début juin après la condamnation de l'opposant Ousmane Sonko, et qui ont fait 16 morts. Ces derniers mois, des manifestants étaient descendus dans les rues pour lui demander de ne pas se représenter.

Macky Sall a donc beaucoup évoqué la sécurité et la paix dans son discours. Qualifiées d'« insoutenables » et « inexcusables », ces violences « ont mis à l'épreuve notre cohésion sociale », des « événements particulièrement graves », « occasionnant des morts et des blessés et la destruction massive de biens publics et privés », a déclaré le président. « L'objectif funeste des instigateurs était clair » : « semer la terreur et mettre le pays à l'arrêt », a-t-il également affirmé, parlant d'un « crime organisé contre la nation sénégalaise, contre l'État, contre la république ». Le président a aussi rappelé à plusieurs reprises que la violence n'était pas une solution, semblant répondre à l'allocation de l'opposant Ousmane Sonko hier soir qui appelait à sortir dans la rue pour « finir le combat ».

« L'État est resté debout après cette machination insurrectionnelle » « visant à détruire notre modèle de société », a-t-il poursuivi, adressant sa « compassion aux victimes de ces actes criminels ».

À la surprise générale, le président sénégalais ne sera pas en lice pour un second quinquennat pour l'élection prévue en février 2024. Dans un discours à la nation très attendu prononcé en direct sur la Radio-Télévision sénégalaise, le président sénégalais est également revenu sur les violences qui ont secoué le pays.

« Ma décision, longuement et murement réfléchie, est de ne pas être candidat à la prochaine élection [présidentielle] du 25 février 2024 », a annoncé ce lundi soir le président Macky Sall, et ce, a-t-il précisé, « même si la Constitution m'en donne le droit ».

Macky Sall, à travers cette déclaration, met un terme à suspens de plusieurs mois, voire plusieurs années, et déjoue les pronostics qui le voyaient concourir une troisième fois... mais pour un second quinquennat, subtilité qui selon lui l'autorisait à se porter candidat, ce que contestait fortement l'opposition. « J'ai un code d'honneur et un sens de la responsabilité qui me commandent de préserver ma dignité et ma parole », a-t-il développé pour justifier sa décision. Il avait en effet plusieurs fois affirmé que ce deuxième mandat, commencé en 2019, serait son dernier, rappelle notre correspondante à Dakar, Juliette Dubois. « J'ai une claire conscience et mémoire de ce que j'ai dit et

Le Côte d'Ivoire suspend les pêches artisanale et industrielle pour «repos biologique»

Cette mesure dure un mois pour la pêche artisanale et deux mois pour la pêche semi-industrielle. Le repos biologique vise à atténuer l'épuisement des ressources halieutiques. Une mesure similaire est observée au Ghana voisin, qui partage les mêmes secteurs de pêche. Reportage sur un quai de pêche de la capitale économique. Au quai de pêche « Vridi 3 Zimbabwe », les pirogues sont amarrées les unes à côté des autres. Les pêcheurs ne travaillent pas, assure Kenneth Teby, qui préside l'association des pêcheurs ghanéens de ce site : « Toutes les pirogues sont à l'arrêt. Elles sont garées. Tout le monde est à la maison. On attend l'ouverture de la mer. »

Les pêcheurs doivent se serrer la ceinture faute de revenus ce mois-ci. Mais c'est une mesure fortement utile, car ils constatent eux-mêmes une forte diminution des ressources halieutiques ces dernières années.

« On a 1 200 piroguiers et aujourd'hui, lorsque le piroguier arrive, il peut venir avec un sceau, ce



qui ne représente même pas cinq kilos, explique Yves Gnoukouri, le secrétaire général de l'Union des marins pêcheurs de Côte d'Ivoire. Avant il venait avec 15 assiettes, mais aujourd'hui, il n'y a pratiquement pas de poissons, se désolait-il. C'est dû à la pêche chinoise qui vient draguer dans les trois nœuds et détruit la faune aquatique des eaux de la Côte d'Ivoire. Donc en instaurant le repos biologique, nous pensons que le poisson va se reproduire. »

Selon le département des ressources halieutiques, les marées sont plus longues et on constate une baisse de 30 % des prises de débarquement ces dernières années. « Nous avons prévu un comité de suivi qui va évaluer les impacts, tant sur le plan biologique que sur le plan économique, explique le colonel Alain Kodjo, conseiller technique en charge de la pêche dans ce ministère. Mais il faut attendre un an, deux ans pour mesurer les impacts réels. »

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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Senate probes disappearance of NTA buses

By Ethel A Tweh

The Liberian Senate is looking into a claim about the alleged disappearances of the National Transit Authority (NTA) buses from the main streets of the Monrovia.

River Gee County Senator Jonathan Boye Charles Sogbie brought the matter to the attention of the Liberian Senate, saying the buses are

charged with the responsibility to provide affordable transport services for the citizens.

He suggested that it was based on this responsibility of the government's entity that the people and the government of India provided Liberia with 45 brand new buses to ease the high cost of transportation. But the River Gee County Senator noted that it has been

NTA about the whereabouts of the vehicles.

Senator Sogbie noted that the unavailability of the buses is causing inconveniences for students, struggling mothers, and fathers.

He said it is forcing them to wait and fight under the rain and sun to find a tricycle, motorbike, or taxicab to get to their various destinations.

He, therefore, called on the leadership of the Liberian Senate to probe the matter as it was his major concern to help address the transportation burden of the people.

Also speaking, Montserrado County Senator Abraham Darius Dillon said Mr. Sogbie's concern is grave and should be referred to the Senate Committee on Transport to report back to the plenary for appropriate action.

Sen. Dillon claimed that those in authority at the National Transit Authority are very cold with poor managerial skills to properly ensure the effective operations of that public



meant for public transportation of citizens here. Mr. Sogbie stressed that the NTA as an institution, is without an update from the

Police Commander, deputy wrapped in US\$5,000 bribery allegation

The Commander for the Women and Children Protection Service (WACPS) division of the Liberia National Police and his principal deputy are facing investigation in Monrovia for allegedly receiving US\$ 5,000 bribe to release a murder suspect, who is currently said to be at large.

Commander Jenkins N. Mangou and principal deputy Alexander Franklin are being investigation at the National Police Headquarters in Monrovia.

The NEW DAWN gathered that Suspect Abraham Mohammed, a Sierra Leonean, allegedly offered the bribe to enable hi escape Liberia.

A source told this paper that the two senior Police officers assigned in Ganta City, Nimba County allegedly received the money and allowed Suspect Mohammed escaped with his two children after reportedly killing his girlfriend at a local guest house in Ganta near Pearson community.

In early May 2023, the lifeless body of a woman believed to be in her early 40s was discovered in one of the rooms of F2 Guest House in Pearson community, Ganta City.

The victim had been taken there by Suspect Mohammed to spend a night.

The late Oretha Korwood, who hailed from Gbeyi-Guawin Town in Electoral District#9, Nimba County, met her untimely death when her Sierra Leonean boyfriend, Suspect Abraham Mohammed, allegedly murdered her in the guest house by using generator rope and other instruments.

The Management of the F2 Guest House in Pearson community, David Kenzie, following the discovery of the body, told reporters that Suspect Abraham Mohammed, entered the premises and provided fake information,

suspect spent the first night there and then killed the victim, said to be mother of his two children and left the corpse inside before escaping.

Kenzie, a former district education officer for Bain-Garr District, lamented that his staff had gone to clean the room the next day, but they met the room still closed, which led management to inform the police.

Since the incident in early May, Police in Ganta headed by Commander Archie Dennis and the Crimes Service Department launched an investigation that produced no update until the



including name and cell phone number, among others.

Mr. Kenzie explained that

latest information about the alleged bribery and compromise. Editing by Jonathan Browne

LCC, Presbyterians-USA dialogue on historical harm

By: Naneka Hoffman

The Liberia Council of Churches in collaboration with Presbyterian Church United States, has ended a one-day dialogue in Monrovia on historical harm and reparation relative to implementation of the TRC report.

Speaking on Wednesday, July 5, at the end of a one-day dialogue program on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 in Sinkor at the LCC office, the Co-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, Sharon Starling-Lewis, underscored a need for more discussion in order to determine the way through which Christian community in the United States can assist the Liberia Council of Churches in meeting some of the challenges aimed at serving justice for victims of the Liberian civil war.

Reverend Starling-Lewis welcomed the discussion between the Presbyterian Church-USA and the LCC, while hopping to working on some of the issues discussed such as what reparation looks like in Liberia as

"We are discussing the whole issue about the TRC report," he added.

He explained that they have just signed a memorandum of understanding with Civil Society Organizations in the country to initiate a joint action on implementation of the TRC recommendations of which reparation is a component.

According to him, they raised the issue of memorialization of people killed because of the Liberian civil war because this is an issue that has not been touched which the Council wants to bring to government's attention as it bad for the country.

"Generations growing up without seeing any respect for the dead and this brings in the question about what is the likelihood of them respecting the dead, there is also a possibility of continues conflict."

Also speaking, LCC President, Reverend Dr. Samuel Reeves and President of the Liberia Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, thanked the Presbyterian Church, USA for supporting the dialogue.

The one day engagement was



developing country.

She added that her delegation is very appreciative because the valuable thing they can offer is testimonies and stories narrated at the dialogue.

"The fact that we have been able to pray together, dream together and share our vision about what can be done," she said; adding: "We will continue to hold discussion and seek God's guidance in whatever direction this will lead us."

She pledged the Liberia Council of Churches of the Presbyterian Church-USA's continuous advocacies to seek support for some of the dreams of the Council. LCC General Secretary, Reverend Christopher Toe, appealed to the U.S.-based Presbyterian Church for assistance in implementing many of its programs.

Rev. Toe said the visit of the Presbyterian Church to Liberia comes at the time it is really needed because Liberia is heading to presidential and legislative elections.

held under the theme: "Historical Harm, Reparation and Orientation: Back to the Future", highlighting efforts aimed at implementation of recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, establishing a war crimes court and holding of violence-free elections.

The dialogue program was graced by Reverend Samuel Qiure, Bishop of the Liberia Annual Conference, United Methodist Church; First Vice President, LCC and Reverend Sanjee Abioseh Stepter, Second Vice President, LCC; a cross session of representatives from the National Muslim Council of Liberia, Civil Society Organizations, women and youth groups, and students, among many others. Other members of the Presbyterian Church USA eight-man delegation were Reverend Doctor Jermaine Ross Allam, Director, Center for the Repair Historical Harm; Miss Dayna Oliver, Associate for International Program Administration; and Dr. Elder Dianna Wright, Moderator, Ecumenical and Inter Religious Relations.

Mere political witch hunt?

campaign for Weah

Lawyers representing daughter Charloe Musu. The defendants are accused of using a sharp instrument believed to be a knife to stab the late Charloe Scott and her three family members have alleged that their clients' detention is a

Criminal Court "A" Judge Roosevelt Z. Willie denied a motion seeking to bail Cllr. Scott and her three family members to secure their release.

By Lewis S. Tho

With barely 90 days to Presidential and legislative elections, President Weah's ruling Coalition for Democratic Change calls on appointed officials here to go in trenches to rally support for President's reelection.

He maintains that the CDC government headed by President George Weah has demonstrated unmatched national growth and development in its first term than achievements of the UP.

The Weah administration that has been engulfed with rampant corruption, leaving three of its key officials sanctioned last year by the United States Government, says opposition politicians are seeking power to enrich themselves with state resources at the detriment of struggling citizens.

"Today we call on our officials; those that are appointed by President Weah to move into the trenches and rally support for the reelection of President Weah", says ruling party chairman, Mulbah Morlu.

Addressing a news conference Thursday, July 6, at the CDC headquarters in Congo Town, he threw jive at the former ruling Unity Party, saying what the UP failed to accomplish in its 12 years of leadership, cannot be achieved even if given state power again.

However, Morlu expresses confidence that President Weah will certainly win the October 10, 2023 elections in first round, because Liberians are resolved to reciprocate for development being carried out across the country.

Morlu continues that it will be very shameful for CDCians and patriotic Liberians who recognize the development of the country under the leadership of President Weah to sit supinely and watch the political battle without making their presence felt. "If we win by 60%, there is

He lauds the CDC 2023 Independent Primary Committee for smooth and democratic conduct of the party's primaries under the leadership of Secretary General Jefferson Kojee and



former Chief Justice Gloria Scott

'mere political witch hunt.' The defense lawyers alleged that the State is showing all signs that it does not have any evidence to proceed with prosecution.

Musu. Charloe's death in February this year shocked the country and heightened security fears.

Cllr. Scott and her family members Rebecca Youdeh Wilson, Gertrude Newton, and Alice C. Johnson are charged with murder, criminal conspiracy, and [providing] false reports to law enforcement officials.

She was murdered at Cllr. Scott's residence after the former Chief Justice reported to police authorities two separate incidents of alleged armed robbery attacks at her home in Brewerville.

They were sent to court Thursday, 22 June 2023, and subsequently detained at South Beach, a maximum prison in Monrovia, after several months of police investigation about the murder of Cllr. Scott's

Dozens of top lawyers, including impeached Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh, are defending Cllr. Scott and her accused family members in the alleged murder case.

On Tuesday, 4 July 2023,

The defense also cited the orders of Judge Willie, mandating the State to provide the defense team with all the species of evidence on or before Wednesday, 5 July 2023.

The defense team proceeded with a Writ of Certiorari before the Supreme Court to challenge the judge's order compelling them to provide the defense team with all the species of evidence.

Interestingly, the defense said, the judge's ruling has not been made available to the defense team.

It said the ruling formed a cogent part of the prosecution's writ filed before the Supreme Court.



CDC chairman Mulbah Morlu

nothing wrong with us pushing it to 70%," he adds. According to him, it will be too risky for Liberians to change national power from the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change to the opposition community.

underscores that those who emerged victorious bear the biggest responsibility of ensuring the re-election of President George Weah. Editing by Jonathan Browne

House wants Public Works investigated

-Over delay of Nickley Town Road

By Bridgett Milton

The House of Representatives has mandated its committee on Public Works to

Representative Jimmy Smith. According to Rep. Smith, on January 9, 2020, President George Weah broke ground for the construction of the Nickley Town-to-Rehab

when the contracting company started the project before abruptly discontinuing it.

Smith added that the prolonged delay has sparked speculations among the populace over completion of the corridor.

"We are grateful and happy that this road is included in the 2023 National Budget. This communication is based on concerns and inquiries from community leadership that though the road is included in the current budget, they are apprehensive about the completion of the road given that the budget is approaching its third quarter of implementation with no indication of progress on the road", the lawmaker added. Meanwhile, the committee is expected to probe the matter and report within one week.



Representative Jimmy Smith

investigate prolonged delay in pavement of Nickley Town-to-Rehab community Road along the Japan Freeway. The House's decision followed a communication from Montserrado County District Two

Community Road and made a five-month completion guarantee to residents of the area, but up till now, it is not completed. He said construction of the road did not begin until August 9, 2020,

Starts from page 6

LRA, Ecobank partner

Underlining the importance of modernization and improving customer experience in revenue administration, Commissioner General Nah expressed the LRA's commitment to digitalizing tax payment processes, with LITAS being a crucial tool in achieving this objective.

By simplifying tax payment through digital means, the LRA aims to eliminate cumbersome bureaucratic procedures, enhance compliance, expand the tax base and boost revenue growth into the billions. "We are taking our revenue to the billions; I can't tell you when we will get there, but I can assure you that the LRA will get there," the chief tax collector noted. Ecobank Liberia Acting Managing Director, expressed his enthusiasm for collaborating with the Government of Liberia through the LRA to facilitate seamless tax payment via the bank's platform. Thompson emphasized that Ecobank Account holders will now have the convenience of paying their taxes online from their offices, eliminating the need to visit banking halls solely for tax payment purposes. He acknowledged the significance of Ecobank's participation in this transformative trend, which will contribute to the efficient collection of the Liberia's revenue. The partnership between the LRA and Ecobank Liberia signifies a pivotal step towards the modernization of tax administration in Liberia.

Snowe wants election security budget increased

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Bomi County Senator Edwin Melvin Snowe has called on the Government of Liberia (GOL)

African States (ECOWAS) Parliamentary Committees on Political Affairs, Peace, Security, and African Peer Review Mechanism. His calls for budgetary increase for security come

any component covering security," Mr. Snowe said on a talk show Wednesday, 6 July 2023.

"So we need to invest in security as we proceed towards the election to counter threats of electoral violence," he pleaded.

The Bomi Senator warned that the lack of adequate funding for security will leave the security of the election at increasing risk.

Senator Snow prodded the government to provide special training for the security apparatus to resolve election violence.

During recent by-elections, Liberia witnessed a series of electoral violence.

On the other hand, Mr. Snowe has called on the National Elections Commission (NEC) to adopt an open media engagement to keep the public abreast with election-related activities.

He recommended that NEC develop a regular press briefing to avoid speculation on election matters.

He believes that this exercise will help the commission combat falsehood about the country's electoral process.



Rep. Edwin Melvin Snowe

to increase funding for election security to counter threats of electoral violence.

ahead of Liberia's crucial presidential and legislative elections this October.

Mr. Snowe chairs the Economic Community of West

"When I saw the election Budget for Liberia, I didn't see

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