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**MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**  
**LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR**

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2023	L\$182.7826/US\$1.00	L\$184.7211/US\$1.00

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

# The New Dawn

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VOL. 13 NO. 120      FRIDAY, JULY 14, 2023      PRICE LD\$40.00

# Nimbaians are not ungrateful

Pres. Weah      Elder, Maj. Gen. Albert G. Paye

# Southeastern health workers down tools

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# Continental News

## Scores found in Sudan mass grave, UN says

The bodies of at least 87 people allegedly killed by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Sudan have been found in a mass grave, according to the UN. The organisation said Masalit people were among those

Fattah al-Burhan, and the RSF, led by al-Burhan's former deputy, Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, known as "Hemedti".

The UN said at least 37 bodies were buried in the West Darfur region on 20 June, and another 50 at the same site the next day.

28 members of the Masalit community and injured dozens of civilians before destroying the town of Misterei in May.

An adviser to the RSF leadership, Mustafa Mohamed Ibrahim, told the BBC the clashes there were part of an ongoing civil war between Arab groups and the Masalit "which is old and renewed". Last month, the West Darfur governor was killed shortly after he accused the RSF of carrying out a genocide against the Masalit people.

The Masalit people once lived under a sultanate in West Darfur, most of which was incorporated into Sudan more than 100 years ago. They are predominately Muslims and have accused successive Sudanese governments of promoting "Arabism" - overlooking them for basic services such as education and health.

There are concerns that attacks by the RSF and Arab militias against the Masalit community could result in a repeat of the 2003 Darfur killings, when 300,000 people were killed by the Janjaweed militias, who later grew into the RSF.

The UN has already received reports of Arab militia targeting Masalit men and said the conflict has taken on an "ethnic dimension". BBC

## Rival leaders push their peace plans while Sudan burns

In a clear sign of their seriousness to end the escalating conflict in Sudan, four East African states, led by Kenya, are pushing for the deployment of a regional force to protect civilians and ensure that humanitarian aid reaches millions of people trapped in the war zone. But getting the agreement of the warring factions will be a tough call, as they have shown no interest in anything other than military victory since the conflict broke out in mid-April.

Meanwhile Egypt is hosting a summit of Sudan's neighbours to discuss ways to end the conflict between the Sudanese army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). The military, headed by Gen Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, controls most of eastern and central Sudan,

border to Chad. The RSF also ransacked the city of Zalingei, home to the Fur community, and encircled the two biggest cities in the region, al-Fashir and Nyala.

Many Darfuris fear this is the culmination of a long-standing plan to transform the ethnically-mixed region into an Arab-ruled domain. The urgent need in western Darfur is civilian protection. Ironically, the United Nations-African Union Mission in Darfur had exactly this mandate. But it was withdrawn two years ago in a decision that now seems terribly misguided. RSF forces are also besieging the capital of North Kordofan state, El-Obeid. Should they capture it, the military will survive only in pockets west of the River Nile. In South Kordofan, a rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North, waging its own insurgency for the past 12 years, has advanced towards the state capital, Kadugli,



Thousands have been killed in three months of fighting in Sudan

buried in a shallow grave just outside El-Geneina.

Fierce fighting between the RSF and Sudan's armed forces has been continuing since April.

But the RSF and their allied militias have denied any involvement in the recent fighting in West Darfur.

Thousands have died and millions have been forced from their homes as a result of fighting between Sudan's regular army, led by Abdel

Among those buried were women and children. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said he was "appalled by the callous and disrespectful way the dead, along with their families and communities, were treated".

He called for an investigation into their deaths and said the RSF was obliged to treat the dead "with dignity".

Earlier this week, the RSF rejected allegations from Human Rights Watch that they had killed

## Religious Leaders in Malawi Protest Same-Sex Marriage

Religious leaders in Malawi led street protests Thursday against same-sex marriage, as a Dutch citizen and a transgender Malawian challenge laws in Malawi's High Court against same-sex relations.

Hundreds of people in Malawi's commercial capital, Blantyre, gathered Thursday to protest what they call the potential legalization of same-sex marriage in the country. The protesters came from both of the country's major religions - Christianity and Islam. Archbishop Thomas Luke Msusa led the protests in Blantyre. He said same-sex marriages are a sin, and allowing such unions would lead to the extinction of the human race.

"If we change the way we live as a family, it means we will cease to exist," he said. "If we continue to marry a man

with a man, surely the offspring, no children will come, then no life in the world, no life in Malawi." The nationwide protests come as the Constitutional Court in Malawi continues to hear a case in which Dutch national Jan Willem Akstar and transgender Malawian woman Jana Gonani

argue that Malawi's anti-homosexuality laws violate their fundamental rights, including privacy and dignity. Homosexuality is an offense in Malawi and punishable by a maximum prison sentence of 14 years.



Protesters carry placards lauding marriages between a man and a woman



and is fighting to hold on to its bases in the capital, Khartoum. The rival RSF, led by Gen Mohamed Hamdan Daglo, known as "Hemedti", has made advances in Khartoum, where its fighters have been accused of murders, rapes and occupying and pillaging hospitals. The military bombs RSF positions relentlessly in the capital, reportedly causing widespread civilian casualties. Over the media horizon, horrifying violence rages in Sudan's western region of Darfur. The RSF has overrun most of the region. Along with their allied Arab militia, RSF fighters have driven out many thousands of ethnic Masalit from their historic homeland in western Darfur. They burned the palace of the sultan, the group's customary leader. When the governor, Khamis Abbakar, called it "genocide" men in RSF uniform abducted and killed him. More than 160,000 Masalit refugees have fled across the

as the military finds itself overstretched fighting the RSF. Suddenly, there is a flurry of diplomatic activity. But there is no agreement on who should be in the lead. Since the second week of the conflict, the US and Saudi Arabia have been convening ceasefire talks in the Saudi city of Jeddah. But hopes for a cessation of hostilities - the most recent over the Eid al-Adha holiday - have come and gone without a slackening in the pace of violence.

The US and Saudi Arabia say they will float a new proposal in the coming days. They have also made efforts to bring the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on board, which is significant because the UAE is seen as the major backer of the RSF and, according to some reports, continues to arm them. The UAE has not commented on the reports.

Just over a month ago, unimpressed with the low energy of the African Union (AU) in responding to the crisis, East African leaders launched their own initiative under the auspices of the regional body, Irgad. BBC

# EDITORIAL

## Creating space for women and people with disabilities

THIS JULY, THE United Nations High Commission for Human Rights Office is spotlighting Women's political participation globally, focusing on women and girls with disabilities as part of activities marking the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the 30th anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action for 2023.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ongoing just as Liberians are barely 90 days away from Presidential and Legislative Elections in October with very few female aspirants in the race, least to talk of people with disabilities.

AMONG SCORES OF aspirants for the Presidency, only two females have publicly expressed interest in joining the race for the nation's highest office with one female pronounced as running mate besides incumbent Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change. There is conspicuous absence of people with disabilities, including women.

UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR in Liberia, Christine Umutoni says while women's political participation rates are low overall, women with disabilities are even more underrepresented due to discriminatory norms and attitudes based on gender and disability.

THUS, PEOPLE CONSIDER them incapable of voting or holding office due to stereotypical characteristics ascribed to women and physical or intellectual disabilities.

SHE NOTES THAT this also contributes to a lack of access to polling stations, inaccessible voting material, and few women political candidates with disabilities.

"ELECTORAL PROCESSES SHOULD be inclusive and participatory, and any action to improve women's participation in political and public life must include women and girls with disabilities", Madam Umutoni underscores.

THIS OBSERVATION SHOULD ring bell to policymakers in Liberia, particularly people and institutions that are responsible for electoral matters, including the National Elections Commission on the need to go back to the drawing board to view the structure of our electoral system with a focus on creating space for women and people with disabilities.

SUCH EFFORT SHOULD go beyond just calling on male-dominated politicians and leaders of political parties to include women in their structure and activities to getting them on the ballots and campaigning for them to win.

WE SHOULD BE proud as Liberians for making history in 2005 by electing the first female President in Africa, Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. But there is more we can and should do for women's participation in politics, including those with disabilities.

WOMEN AND GIRLS are disadvantaged in so many ways, including cultural and religious norms in Africa that confine them to domestic roles such as wives, mothers and caretakers of the home with little regard for their potentials for public service. We need to strike a balance to bring equality and equity to the political landscape by encouraging and affording more opportunities for women (our daughters, sisters and nieces) to participate in politics, including those with disabilities.

# COMMENTARY

By Nani Jansen Reventlow

## Righting Imperialism's Wrongs, Past and Present

**B**ERLIN - At long last, European countries have begun to grapple with their colonial legacies. In the Netherlands, the government has issued an apology for the country's role in the global slave trade, and the king has "asked for forgiveness." The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples has urged Denmark to "address the negative impacts" of its colonization of Greenland. And in the United Kingdom, media outlets, the Church of England, and cities like Manchester have acknowledged the hard truth: their wealth and power were built on the backs of enslaved people.

While these efforts are rightly recognized as historic, they have also been criticized for a lack of consultation with affected communities and an apparent reluctance to provide meaningful reparations. In fact, these statements and apologies often sidestep the question of what reparations should entail, rendering them toothless gestures of pseudo-accountability.

To be sure, the discussions such public apologies spark help raise the public's awareness about the horrors of colonialism. The conversations they nurture are crucial, and the fact that they are occurring in Europe's most venerable institutions - royal palaces, museums, centuries-old foundations, businesses, and media conglomerates - is a testament to the relentless efforts of organizers and communities to keep history from being swept under the proverbial rug.

But we must be wary of what Georgetown University's Olúf' mí O. Táíwò calls "elite capture," whereby potentially transformative and liberating concepts are stripped of their radical content and appropriated by the political, social, and economic forces they target. In many ways, the reparations discourse is already being co-opted in this way.

While important, none of the recent acknowledgments and apologies seeks to tackle the living legacy of slavery, colonialism, imperialism, and the extractive capitalism that they underpinned. Official apologies can serve as a good starting point, but those in positions of power must not be permitted to use the process of reckoning with the atrocities of colonial plunder to evade real accountability.

Focusing solely on memorializing and apologizing for historical injustices without acknowledging their enduring effects risks perpetuating structural inequalities. Colonialism undergirded the international economic order. The over-policing of Black youth, disproportionately high mortality rates among non-white mothers, workplace discrimination, migrants' limited access to social services, and the necropolitics of "Fortress Europe" are all part of the legacy of the racist imperialism upon which Europe's wealth was built.

To address these systemic injustices, we must recognize that the emphasis on

financial restitution in current debates about reparations is a problem. If we are not careful, governments and institutions could use this money-centric definition of reparations as a cop-out. As we know from international law, countries often prefer to pay damages for their human-rights violations rather than take meaningful steps such as revising laws, policies, and practices.

This is not to downplay the vital role of wealth redistribution in building a just world. But financial settlements that seek merely to placate those who call for justice are not the same as redistributive policies that target systemic inequality. So far, European governments and institutions have been more than eager to blur the distinction between the two.

As Esther Stanford-Xosei and the Pan-African Reparations Coalition in Europe have argued, the financial aspect of reparations "will be meaningful only if it serves the holistic purpose and strengthens the integral whole of our self-repair process." In other words, any form of reparations must enable communities to reclaim power, dignity, and stewardship over their shared wealth and resources. If reparations are solely focused on the past, we risk neglecting the present and weakening their emancipatory potential. A more historically informed approach would view reparations as part of a larger project.

Much like the broader struggle for racial, social, economic, and climate justice, the purpose of reparations is to help build a more equitable world. The transition to such a world will not be costless and will undoubtedly require sacrifices. Reparations should ensure that these costs are distributed fairly rather than provide a monetary band-aid.

To bring about a more just future, we must first meet the most urgent needs of communities grappling with the lasting legacies of colonialism. This means dismantling the unequal power structures in our legal, education, health-care, and political systems, as well as our workplaces and public services.

By adopting a community-oriented approach to addressing structures of oppression, we can ensure that marginalized groups have equal access to essential public goods. But we must also be willing to challenge the inherently harmful and extractive systems that we often take for granted.

Simply put, we can no longer accept that any framework, institution, or process that affects marginalized communities is established or operated without their meaningful participation. Rectifying historical injustices is not just about righting past wrongs. To create a more equitable society, we must also address colonialism's ongoing effects.



# Lord, Let them leave us with your US30M story mehn

Dear Father:

Some conmen them really geh dry face for true ya. So, you wan tell us da some strangers just out of de blue skies came and offered you 30 million of Uncle Sam's money and you say, you just turned your blind eye to it, puaah. You weh leh money and power bad way leh da. Wait na de Old man had you under some kina spell!

For a second there, even my grandma Solace sef will na have believed da your orlor stori, stori. You better find somewhere to go sit down and shell your crocodile tears and stop disturbing us with your "Kweku Annasee" story.

Bor wait oo, you, yourself too ya, you expect da Old man who leh him tradition bisnay leh da to choose you as him running mate? Loka aye, cat really lick your face oo. So, da power na you want?

You better find something to do! You were playing de Old man, and de Old man wor also playing you too. The Old man na come on top na, den you wan us to feel sorry for you, with your 30 million "Kweku Annasee" story-lala. You better go and sit down with your papy somewhere else! It look leh your dry face na from round here ehn.

Da who my son telling to go sit down again my people?

Father, da na dis orlor conman, who here telling us how some strangers came out of the blue skies to offer him 30 million Uncle Sam's money and he allowed one eighty-year old papy to cajole him. You better stop looking at my face.

If de Old man na mean you with him vice running mate job and it hurting you, you better find different thing to say why you shell your crocodile tears. You think de Old man na know who to make him vice running mate and you come sit down there saying how you say, you na wan 30 million-complete vlah. You better tell your papy so your can find somewhere else to carry your level.

Hahaha, lol, I begging ya. So, where you think they can go right now? Father, de way they na spoiled everywhere right now. I think de man and him papy only geh one option na oo-de Footballer camp. You mean de Country Giant?

Yes, Father. Bor where else can they go? They can't go to Taxi Driver, becus him papy can't even stand him. Ehn, da de man papay and de Old man connived, they wanted Taxi Driver to rot in jail. SO noway, they will be able to go around him, since their relationship with de Old man na chakla beyond repair.

As for my Lawyer friend par, He na even want to hear de name. He say anybody who wor friend to Old rebel cannot even come near him. So, de only hope they geh right na, da de Country Giant.

They will stay long inside. You na know politics, you wan play with Old man leh da. You only know cheap propaganda, and geh Kapagee, da na politics. The Old man played real politics with you and your papy-your will respect the Old man ba.

For de Country Giant, de man wan chop second round so, anybody who come, he willing to take de person. He na care where you come from and what you did there. De only thing, he will na dash you with job.

The bad news is da, de Country Giant already fini drawing him line. You can't even come near him. So, just be going around with regret and your 30 million story.

## 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	<b>FRIDAY JULY 14, 2023 at 16:00 GMT</b>	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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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](mailto:secretary@cerraautomotive-lr.com) or +231 778 752 082 / +231777 589 204

#### VACANCY!! VACANCY!! VACANCY!!

##### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION

- Answering calls, messages and handling correspondence
- Maintaining diaries while preparing and collating reports (filing),
- Organizing meetings (producing agendas and taking minutes)
- Managing database, prioritizing workloads

##### REQUIREMENT

SHOULD BE COMPUTER LITERATE (MICROSOFT WORD & EXCEL)  
MUST HAVE A GOOD CONTROL OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE (COMPREHENSION)  
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

KINDLY SUBMIT ALL APPLICATIONS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

[info@cerraauto.com](mailto:info@cerraauto.com)

#### VACANCY!! VACANCY!! VACANCY!!

##### ACCOUNTANT POSITION

##### REQUIREMENT

- Fully qualified WITH A BACHELOR IN FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING
- Computer literacy is compulsory (proficiency in MS word, Excel, Outlook etc.)
- Ability to correspond & communicate independently with clients,
- A very good command of English, communication skills are essential.
- Ability to multitask & work under pressure.
- Minimum 5 years' experience

KINDLY SUBMIT ALL APPLICATIONS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

[info@cerraauto.com](mailto:info@cerraauto.com)

#### VACANCY!! VACANCY!! VACANCY!!

##### SALES & MARKETING POSITION

BE HUGELY PASSIONATE AND ENTHUSIASTIC. HAVE A GREAT ATTENTION TO DETAILS. CAPABLE OF MEETING MONTHLY/QUARTERLY TARGETS. STRONG NEGOTIATION SKILLS & A SELF MOTIVATED ATTITUDE.

##### REQUIREMENT

- EXCELLENT INTERPERSONAL AND PERSUASIVE SKILLS
- ATTENDING TO ENQUIRIES RECEIVED FROM ONLINE & OFFLINE PLATFORMS AND CONVERTING LEADS INTO BUSINESS
- APPLY CREATIVE MARKETING STRATEGIES TO INCREASE SALES OPPORTUNITIES
- PREVIOUS WORK EXPERIENCE IN A SALES & MARKETING RELATED JOB ROLE.
- A DEGREE OR EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATION WITH A MINIMM 6 YEARS EXPERIENCE.

KINDLY SUBMIT ALL APPLICATIONS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

[info@cerraauto.com](mailto:info@cerraauto.com)



## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **SOLICITATION NO:** VA-66923-000023
2. **ISSUANCE DATE:** July 12, 2023
3. **CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** July 26, 2023, 11:59 pm Local Time
4. **POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov
5. **POSITION TITLE:** Development Outreach and Communications Assistant
6. **MARKET VALUE:** 24,064.00 USD - 38,48.00 USD FSN- 8  
In accordance with **AIDAR Appendix J** and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.
7. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.
8. **PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia.
9. **ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.
10. **SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access.

## 11. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

### Basic Function of Position

The DOC Assistant will assist the Sr. Development Outreach and Communications Specialist in implementing the Mission's strategic communications plan and providing

branding and marking guidance to Mission staff and implementing partners. The DOC Assistant will be involved in the creation and dissemination of communications messages and planning outreach events. The position will require close collaboration with the USAID Liberia Technical Teams, Implementing Partners, other donors, the US Embassy Public Affairs Section, and also requires interaction with senior officials within the United States and Liberian Governments. The incumbent will demonstrate high-level organization, and writing skills, and initiative to ensure the timely and accurate development of communication products to highlight USAID's assistance to Liberia.

### Major Duties and Responsibilities

#### Provide branding and marking guidance

Manage all USAID Liberia's branding and marking efforts and ensure conformity with USAID Branding and Marking regulations; assist USAID staff and contractors in developing appropriately branded, high quality materials to promote USAID program to target audiences.

#### Developing content for and managing online sites

Develop content, including posts (success stories, project launches and closures, etc) photos, for online posting, and manage online platforms/websites, including regularly updating posts/contents, responding to comments/queries by visitors to online sites.

#### Assist with preparing written communications products

Gather information for, and contribute to, the development and maintenance of public relations/communications materials including briefing books, brochures, fact sheets, newsletters, press releases, media advisories, articles, and other communications products.

- **Supervision Received:** Supervision is provided by the USAID Liberia Sr. Development Outreach and Communications Specialist.
- **Supervision Exercised:** This is a non-supervisory position.

## 12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

## II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- a. **Education:** Minimum of University/college studies in Communications, Journalism, English, or a relevant field required.
- b. **Prior Work Experience:** Minimum of three (3) years of experience development work, public communications, or related field. Demonstrated experience in planning, organizational, and especially strong writing skills is also required.
- c. **Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
- d. **Language Proficiency:** Level III English ability (fluent proficiency) in English (reading, written and spoken) is required, (good working knowledge) is required.

## III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

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

## 1. Selection Process

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

## 2. Evaluation Factors

**FACTOR #1:** Writing sample on a development theme. No longer than 2 pages, double spaced, in Calibri size 12 font

**FACTOR #2:** Write 3 tweets on a development theme.

**FACTOR #3:** Write 2 Facebook posts, each with a photograph you took, on a development theme.

**FACTOR #4:** Submit 5 photographs that demonstrate your ability to professionally illustrate a development theme.

## 3. Basis of Rating

Applicants determined to be competitively ranked will also be evaluated based on satisfactory professional reference checks. The Applicant Rating System is as follows:

Evaluation Factors:

Factor 1	5 points
Factor 2	5 points
Factor 3	5 points
Factor 4	5 points
Written Tests	30 points
Interview	50 points

Interview performance will be based candidates' ability to:

- Express themselves clearly
- Grasp basic functions of the Development Outreach Communications Assistant and how to perform them

Total Possible Points 100 points

## IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-23-000023 - Development Outreach and Communications Assistant** [LiberiaHR@usaid.gov](mailto:LiberiaHR@usaid.gov)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Harper prison superintendent appeals for support

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

County.

Speaking to reporters over the weekend, Superintendent Harmon disclosed that since the facility was reconditioned and turned over by former Maryland

County senator H. Dan Morias, and international NGOs to it has been operating on later smoothly operate the prison funds generated during the facility in the county. opening ceremony.

He stressed that the prison facility has been the only means of keeping inmates from Grand Kru, Sinoe, and River Gee counties, respectively. Mr. Harmon called on national government through the Ministry of Justice to help ease the financial pressure facing the prison

Prior to reconditioning of the facility, the magistrate of the Pleebo Magisterial Court in Pleebo, Sodokan district, Maryland County had alarmed that the lack of prison in the southeast poses serious threat to community dwellers. Magistrate Mah pointed out that pretrial detainees were either held at Fish Town Correctional Palace in River Gee or Zwedru Correctional Palace in Grand Gedeh County due to the poor state of the prison in Pleebo.

He said though the roads are paved, a drive from Harper, Maryland to Fish Town, River Gee takes several hours and extending to Zwedru, Grand Gedeh County on a totally rough road takes nearly five hours. According to him, transportation fare per person is LRD3, 000 on a commercial motorbike and is between LRD1, 500 and LRD1, 800 on a public transport vehicle, which he noted is paralyzing the justice system and the rule of law. Magistrate Mah described the situation as something challenging hence, he seeks urgent intervention from government and partners.

He disclosed that during the turning over ceremony, a total of 17,000 Liberian Dollars and US\$100 were generated in a minirally. The money was used to purchase materials that are currently being used since the facility lacks computers, stationeries and cooking utensils, among others.

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through the Ministry of Justice County senator H. Dan Morias, and international NGOs to it has been operating on later smoothly operate the prison funds generated during the facility in the county. opening ceremony.

The prison and the home of the Speaker Bhofal Chamber's in Harper City suffered of 17,000 Liberian Dollars and US\$100 were generated in a from angry protesters in 2021, minirally. The money was used to purchase materials that are currently being used since the facility lacks computers, stationeries and cooking utensils, among others.

The Harper Prison is the only stationeries and cooking correction center in Maryland utensils, among others.

## House holds three companies in contempt

By Bridgett Milton

The House of Representatives has charged three companies with contempt for their failure to appear before it.

The contempt charge affects the management of Golden SIFCA, Cavalla Rubber Corporation (CRC), and the Maryland Oil Palm Plantation (MOPP).

The three companies were scheduled to appear before the House of Representatives Tuesday, 11 July 2023 to respond to a complaint from the Maryland County Legislative Caucus.

The Caucus accused the companies of alleged failure to comply with the contents of the respective Concession Agreements signed with the Government of the Republic of Liberia and their service delivery capacities in consonance with the laws and Constitution of Liberia.

According to Maryland Legislative Caucus, it wrote the plenary of the House of

Representatives to bring to the attention of members of the House the willful failure of the three companies to honor invitations (June 8, 2023, and June 27, 2023) extended them.

The Caucus complained that the invitations were intended for meetings to be held to provide information regarding the contents of their Concession Agreements signed with the Government of the Republic of Liberia and their service delivery capacities

with the laws and Constitution of Liberia.

The Caucus said the companies' action/inaction is construed as impediments to the functions of the Legislature (Article 44 of the 1986 Liberian Constitution).

The House voted to summon the three plantation companies to appear with their counsels following a motion from Rep. George Boley.



## Liberia's agriculture sector to benefit US\$7.8 million

By: Kruah Thompson

The agriculture sector of Liberia is set to benefit from a partnership agreement worth US\$7.8 million between the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and 11 prominent agriculture companies in the country. The signing of the grant took place recently in a brief ceremony held at Atlantic Foods Company (AFC) on Marshall Road in Margibi County.

The primary objective of the collaboration is to enhance and strengthen Liberia's agricultural sector by supporting production of key crops such as rice, oil palm, rubber, and other commodities. USAID Liberia Deputy Mission Director, Rory Donohoe, said the initiative is part of USAID's Agribusiness Incubator and Development activity, a five-year US\$20 million program aimed at enhancing the commercial agricultural sector in Liberia. The investment, according to her, leverages a total of \$13.3 million in private

The lack of infrastructure does not only restrict efficient transportation of agricultural products but also hampers productivity. As a result, farmers face difficulties in accessing markets and experience increased post-harvest losses.

Many still rely on traditional farming methods, which contribute to limited productivity levels. The lack of access to modern farming techniques, improved seeds, fertilizers, and mechanization tools further exacerbates the issue.

Additionally, the absence of sufficient extension services and knowledge transfer impedes farmers' ability to adopt improved practices, hindering their productivity and efficiency.

Land tenure issues pose another hurdle in Liberia's agricultural sector. Unclear land rights, overlapping claims, and disputes discourage long-term investments in agriculture. Without a well-functioning land administration system, farmers face insecurity and difficulties in accessing credit and making necessary investments,



capital from recipient companies. Additionally, the Deputy Minister of Public Affairs at the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs, and Tourism (MICAT) Jarlawa Topoe said Thursday at MICAT's regular briefing that these investments aim to rejuvenate the agriculture sector under the leadership of President George Weah. Minister Topoe added that the allocated funds from the USAID partnership will be disbursed among 11 agriculture companies, namely; AgroRetti, AL Global, Atlantic Foods Company, J-Palm Liberia, Kpailama, Libhana, Mahmonie, MicMork, Nimba Venture, SAP Liberia, and Wungko's.

However, the agricultural sector in Liberia faces various challenges that impede its progress and advancement. One major obstacle is limited infrastructure, including inadequate roads, storage facilities, and irrigation systems.

thereby hindering their agricultural activities. Another pressing issue is limited access to finance for smallholder farmers. They struggle to access financial services and credit due to factors such as the lack of collateral, high-interest rates, and limited financial literacy. This poses significant barriers for farmers seeking loans to invest in agricultural activities, purchase equipment, and obtain necessary inputs. Meanwhile, Minister Tonpo indicated that despite challenges faced by the sector, these investments represent a significant development for Liberia's agricultural landscape, and that partnership between USAID and the 11 agriculture companies further contributes to the positive advancements in the sector, offering hope for its continued growth and improvement.

In December 2022, the World Bank

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Gbah in Bomi gets township status

**-as House concurs with Senate**

The House of Bomi County. Addressing Representatives has legislative reporters concurred with the immediately after the House's Senate for the creation of concurrence on Capitol Hill,



Gbah Township in Bomi County. Bomi County Electoral District Gbah is situated within One Representative, Finda Zekpeh Clan, Senjeh District in Western Liberia.

In a communication Gbah Township. Tuesday, 11 July during the 17th Day sitting of the 2nd Quarter of the 6th Session, the Senate informed the House that it acted upon the legislation on Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

The Liberian Senate sought the House of Representatives' timely concurrence on the creation of said township in Senate when former Senator

Isaac Nyanebo of Grand Gedeh was removed from the position.

Representative Lansanah said to have such instrument passed by the Legislature during her tenure is an achievement for her and the district. The Act for the creation of Gbah Township was discharged from Senate committee room and reintroduced through the instrumentality of Representative Lansanah and Senator Edwin Melvin Snowe of Bomi County.

Representative Lansanah, who replaces Representative Snowe in House said upon her ascendancy, she was briefed by her predecessor Snowe that the creation of Gbah Township was a major challenge for the district.

She applauded members of the 54th Legislature for the passage, giving the area a township status, noting that the people of Gbah truly deserve township status due to their growing population.

"My late husband is smiling in his grave today, for the passage of this Act because it was his dream", she said in tears.

The instrument has been forwarded to the Executive Branch of government for signing into law by President George Weah and subsequent printing into handbill.

## ITC ends training on coffee farmer cooperatives

By Naneka Hoffman

International Trade Centre (ITC) in collaboration with the Farmers Union Network of Liberia (FUNL) has concluded a week-long training program on the importance of cooperatives for coffee producers.

The goal is to assist cooperatives in the process of creating coffee cooperatives in Liberia to boost revenue.

Speaking on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at the close of the exercise, in Gbarnga, Bong County, a coffee expert from Burundi, Ephrem Sabatigita, said Liberia has a very great potential for coffee production but to make the commodity marketable, there is a need to transition from farming associations into cooperatives.

Mr. Sabatigita explained that he was in Liberia to assess coffee production here and to ensure that farmers are educated on how they can develop their coffee farming businesses.

The Program and Project Director at the Cooperative Development Agency of Liberia, Harris Wennie, said the Agency is

working with ITC and FUNL to ensure that coffee farmer associations are transformed into cooperatives.

He welcomed the capacity building for farmers, especially the process of educating farmers on the need to transition to cooperatives, adding: "This is the only way that coffee farmers can get more money from their labour."

Mr. Wennie explained that the coffee market is volatile because many farmers sell their coffee to neighboring countries, receiving very little

profits. He noted that many coffee farmers in Liberia inherited those farms from their parents and have returned to active coffee farming. The training held from July 4 to July 12, 2023, in Bong, Lofa and Nimba counties ended on Wednesday. However, ITC and FUNL are collaborating with the CDA and the Ministry of Agriculture to establish three coffee cooperatives in Bong, Nimba and Lofa, respectively under the banner, ITC/ACP EU-funded Business Friendly Coffee project of Liberia.



## Liberia's future at stake

**Anti-corruption group warns over alleged corruption, illicit drug & impunity**

By Lincoln G. Peters

A group under the banner Anti-Corruption Campaigner has warned that Liberia's future is at stake due to the uncomfortable wave of alleged corruption, illicit drug, and impunity.

Addressing a major press conference Wednesday, 12 July 2023 in Monrovia, the group urged the collective efforts of all Liberians in ensuring that the future of Liberia is protected through a robust campaign awareness on corruption and drug abuse. The group chairperson Ms. Jessica A. Morris said that the ACC is deeply concerned about the rise in the rate of corruption, illicit drug abuse and impunity within the Liberian society.

She disclosed that a report

she lamented.

"The report speaks to the Liberian Government's inability to address the entrenched culture of impunity by not adequately funding public integrity institutions, not fully enforcing existing anti-corruption laws and policies, and not investigating properly to take drastic actions against officials accused of corruption," she stated.

She stated that as Liberia turns 176 years on Wednesday, 26 July 2023, the issue of corruption remains a major concern and problem that is yet to be resolved or has received little or no effort in combating it.

She further indicated that her group will embark on a major anti-corruption awareness on July 19, 2023 so as to awaken the consciousness of Liberians about the wave of corruption in



Atty. Garrison D. Yealue, Jr.,

from the Transparency International and the Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL), disclosed that Liberia is ranked on top of countries that are yet to make significant progress in the fight against corruption.

Based on the report from 3 February 2023, Ms. Morris noted that Liberia scored a total of 26 out of 100 and ranked 142 out of 180. "This ranking means that Liberia has now joined the list of countries that had significantly declined on the index while being placed among the worst declining countries globally,"

Liberian.

Ms. Morris added that going forward, they are calling on the Liberian people and every civil society organization to join the Anti-Corruption rally to be launched on the 19 July 2023.

She said the rally is to send a strong message across the country that there's a need to fight against corruption because the majority of the Liberian people are living in very depriveable conditions.

"We believe it will raise consciousness in the Liberian people to join the fight against corruption and impunity within the Liberian society."

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# Français

## Campagne électorale : Cummings promet une forte croissance économique

L'opposant Alexander B. Cummings, candidat potentiel à la prochaine présidentielle libérienne, promet aux

"Je tiens à dire aux Libériens que je suis ravi de l'opportunité de les servir en tant que leur chef", a déclaré M. Cummings.

"Nous utiliserons la période de

», a dit M. Cummings.

Il a exprimé son enthousiasme et sa gratitude aux partisans et sympathisants qui l'ont accompagné. C'est pour lui un signe d'amour. Il s'est dit ravi de l'achèvement de la première phase du processus de mise en candidature.

En outre, le leader politique de la CPP a exprimé son optimisme quant au résultat, affirmant qu'il ferait valoir ses arguments pour avoir la chance de donner aux Libériens la vie et les opportunités qu'ils méritent.

« Pour être vrai, le Libéria et les Libériens méritent mieux et un vrai changement est à venir », a-t-il déclaré.

M. Cummings a promis qu'à l'avenir, les Libériens devraient s'attendre à une campagne très vigoureuse et robuste, ajoutant que faire valoir ses arguments auprès des Libériens reste primordial.

Cummings a également commenté les élections qui viennent de se terminer en Sierra Leone, affirmant qu'il ne connaissait pas les faits concernant de nombreuses rumeurs d'irrégularités lors des élections en Sierra Leone.

Il a cependant déclaré que la CPP veillerait à ce que ses votes soient jalousement protégés pour obtenir le résultat nécessaire pour le peuple libérien.

« Maintenant au Libéria, ce que je sais, il nous faut être vigilants. Il nous faut demander des comptes au gouvernement pour que le résultat reflète la volonté du peuple », a déclaré M. Cummings.

## Éditorial

### Créer un espace pour les femmes et les personnes handicapées

En juillet, le Haut-Commissariat des Nations Unies des droits de l'homme a mis en lumière la participation des femmes à la vie politique à l'échelle mondiale. Il a mis un accent particulier sur les femmes et les filles handicapées. Son message s'inscrivait dans le cadre de la célébration du 75e anniversaire de la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme (DUDH) et du 30e anniversaire de la Déclaration et programme d'action de Vienne pour 2023.

Les Libériens sont à peine à 90 jours des élections présidentielle et législatives d'octobre, mais il y a très peu de candidates en lice. Nous parlons du moins des personnes handicapées.

Parmi les dizaines d'aspirants à la présidence, seules deux femmes ont publiquement exprimé leur intérêt à se joindre à la course au pouvoir, une femme étant déclarée colistière en plus de la vice-présidente sortante Jewel Howard Taylor de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir. Il y a une absence flagrante de personnes handicapées.

La coordonnatrice résidente des Nations Unies au Libéria, Christine Umutoni, a affirmé que si le taux de participation des femmes à la politique est globalement faible, celui des femmes handicapées l'est encore plus, et ce, en raison des normes et de l'attitude discriminatoires fondées sur le sexe et le handicap. Ainsi, les gens les considèrent incapables de voter ou d'exercer des fonctions. Il y a des caractéristiques stéréotypées qui sont attribuées aux femmes et aux handicapés physiques.

Elle a indiqué que ces considérations discriminatoires empêchent les handicapés physiques de se porter candidats aux élections ou même de se rendre dans les bureaux de vote pour voter.

« Les processus électoraux doivent être inclusifs et participatifs, et toute action visant à améliorer la participation des femmes à la vie politique et publique doit inclure les femmes et les filles handicapées », a souligné Madame Umutoni.

Cette observation devrait attirer l'attention des décideurs politiques au Libéria, en particulier des personnes et des institutions responsables des questions électorales, dont notamment la Commission électorale nationale, sur la nécessité d'examiner la structure de notre système électoral en mettant l'accent sur la création d'un espace pour les femmes et les personnes handicapées.

Un tel effort devrait aller au-delà du simple appel aux hommes politiques et aux dirigeants de partis politiques à prédominance masculine pour qu'ils incluent les femmes dans leur structure et leurs activités afin de les faire élire et de faire campagne pour qu'elles gagnent.

Nous devrions être fiers en tant que Libériens d'être entrés dans l'histoire en 2005 en élisant la première femme présidente d'Afrique, Madame Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Mais nous pouvons et devons faire plus pour la participation des femmes à la vie politique, y compris les femmes handicapées.

Les femmes et les filles sont désavantagées à bien des égards, y compris par les normes culturelles et religieuses en Afrique. Ces normes les confinent à des rôles domestiques avec peu de considération pour leur potentiel de service public. Il nous faut trouver un équilibre pour apporter l'égalité et l'équité dans le paysage politique en encourageant et en offrant plus

d'opportunités aux femmes (nos filles, sœurs et nièces) et aux



Libériens une bonne gouvernance, une croissance économique forte et de meilleures opportunités d'emploi s'il est élu président.

Le leader politique de la Collaboration des partis politiques (CPP), une coalition politique de l'opposition, a déposé mardi 11 juillet 2023, ses dossiers de candidature à Paynesville, comme l'exige la Commission électorale nationale (NEC).

Au cours d'un entretien avec un groupe de journalistes au complexe sportif Samuel Kanyon Doe, il a dit qu'il ferait une campagne robuste pour que les Libériens lui donnent la chance de les servir et de rétablir la bonne gouvernance.

campagne commençant le 6 août pour parcourir le Libéria de long en large afin de plaider auprès de la population pour nous donner la chance de la servir", a-t-il ajouté.

M. Cummings a félicité la NEC et ses responsables, affirmant que cela se faisait avec ordre et respect.

« Aujourd'hui, nous nous sommes inscrits auprès de la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) en tant que porte-drapeau et candidat de la CPP à l'élection présidentielle du 10 octobre 2023 », a-t-il déclaré.

Le leader politique de la CPP a affirmé que le voyage vers un véritable changement et une réparation du pays se poursuit. « Le Libéria doit changer. Le Libéria va changer. Je vous promets que nous GAGNERONS et ensemble, nous RÉPARERONS notre pays pour le bien de tous les Libériens parce que les Libériens méritent mieux

## Procès Scott : la cour suprême rejette une requête de l'accusation

Le juge associé de la Cour Suprême Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay a rejeté le bref de certiorari demandé par l'accusation dans l'affaire de meurtre en cours impliquant l'ancienne juge en chef Gloria Musu Scott et trois membres de sa famille.

En latin, certiorari signifie "être certain". En droit anglais, les documents juridiques (appelés writs) qui ordonnent à un tribunal de faire examiner une affaire par une juridiction supérieure commencent traditionnellement par la phrase Certiorari volumus, ou "Nous souhaitons être certains". Quiconque n'est pas satisfait de l'issue d'une affaire judiciaire peut faire appel à la Cour suprême pour obtenir un bref de

certiorari, bien qu'il soit extrêmement rare d'en obtenir un.

Le parquet, par l'intermédiaire du ministère de la Justice, avait déposé le 6 juillet 2023 une requête devant le juge en chambre, le juge Yammie

Quiqui Gbeisay.

La requête du parquet est intervenue un jour après l'expiration du délai (5 juillet 2023) qui leur avait été imparti pour présenter tous les éléments de preuve à la

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9





# Français

## Procès Scott : la cour suprême

défense.

« Le requérant dans ce qui précède donne le droit à une action en justice de demander à Votre Honneur et à ce tribunal la délivrance d'un bref de certiorari contre le juge Roosevelt Z. Willie du tribunal pénal 'A' qui a traité de manière irrégulière et étrange en ordonnant au parquet de présenter tous les éléments de preuve aux avocats représentant Mme Scott et d'autres bien avant le début du procès dans l'affaire », a dit l'accusation.

Dans la pétition du parquet, il a été révélé que l'ancienne juge en chef Scott et d'autres ont fait l'objet d'une enquête et ont été inculpées, arrêtées et placées en détention préventives par un grand jury spécial du comté de Montserrado à la fin du mandat de mai 2023.

La requête ajoutait que l'ancienne juge en chef et d'autres personnes avaient été inculpées pour crime de meurtre, de complot criminel et de faux témoignages.

Mais, prenant une décision sur la question, le juge associé Gbeisay a rejeté la requête du parquet au motif qu'il manquait de base légale. Il a aussi ordonné au juge de reprendre la compétence sur l'affaire.

"Par directive de son honneur, Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay, Sr., juge associé président en chambre, vous êtes par la présente mandaté pour reprendre compétence et procéder à l'exécution de

la décision sur la requête. Le juge a donc refusé de délivrer le bref demandé par le requérant », a exhorté le juge associé Gbeisay.

Pendant ce temps, l'équipe de défense de Mme Scott a reçu un avis d'assignation du juge de la cour criminelle A pour que toutes les parties comparaissent pour entendre la lecture du mandat du juge en chambre.

Selon notre correspondant, l'interprétation de cette action de la part de la chambre de justice, la décision de démenti rapide contribue à renforcer l'argumentation de l'équipe de défense et encore un pas de plus vers la justice.

L'équipe juridique de la famille de l'ancienne juge en chef a continuellement demandé à l'État de présenter les preuves qu'il prétend avoir en sa possession pour porter des accusations de meurtre contre la famille après la mort de Charloe Musu.

Mais à en croire certains experts juridiques, il est peut-être trop tôt pour que l'accusation commence à remettre en question la théorie ou le fondement de leur affaire, il pourrait également être trop tôt pour remettre en question la crédibilité de la police et sa capacité à rassembler un ensemble de preuves convaincantes pour obtenir une condamnation.

L'équipe de défense est apparue dans une humeur plus dynamique avec l'apparition de l'ancien juge en chef qui fait une apparition prose pour sa propre défense et celle des membres de sa famille.

## Le président iranien Raïssi entame sa tournée africaine pour développer le commerce et la diplomatie

Après un report de 24 heures, officiellement en raison de défis logistiques, le président iranien Ebrahim Raïssi entame mercredi 12 juillet sa tournée africaine de trois jours, allant au Kenya, en Ouganda et au Zimbabwe. Avec une délégation d'entrepreneurs, M. Raïssi doit rencontrer ses trois homologues, mais aucun autre détail sur son programme n'est connu. Cette première tournée en Afrique d'un leader iranien depuis onze ans constitue une nouvelle étape dans l'offensive diplomatique de Téhéran.

Selon l'agence officielle Irna, Ebrahim Raïssi, à la tête d'une délégation comprenant des hommes d'affaires, rencontrera lors de cette tournée ses homologues kényan William Ruto, ougandais Yoweri Museveni et

zimbabwéen Emmerson Mnangagwa. Cette tournée africaine reflète la volonté affichée par Téhéran de multiplier les partenariats politiques et économiques. Cela dans le but de contourner les sanctions occidentales qui lui sont imposées en raison de son programme nucléaire.

« C'est un nouveau départ avec les pays africains », a déclaré en début de semaine le chef de la diplomatie iranienne. Des pays qui, selon lui, sont « très désireux de développer leur relation avec l'Iran » sur les plans économiques et commerciaux. Mais pas seulement : à en croire Téhéran, ce rapprochement se fait également sur la base d'une « vision politique commune ».

Tenter de sortir d'une grave crise économique L'Iran, qui traverse une grave crise économique avec notamment une inflation record.

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



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 réfléchi, 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 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'allocution de l'opposant Ousmane Sonko hier soir qui appelait à sortir dans la rue pour « finir le combat ».

## 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 désolent-ils. 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. »

La Marine surveille l'application de cette mesure. En cas d'infraction, les pêcheurs risquent 1 à 5 ans de prison et/ou une forte amende.

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# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## FAO donates to FDA

By: Naneka Hoffman

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has donated supplies valued US\$10,000 to

people depend on such resources to meet their needs. Wildlife loss threatens and undermines the entire ecosystems and jeopardizes the well-being of all who depend on them, she

endangered, while nearly 30,000 more are considered as threatened or vulnerable.

She notes that based on these estimates, it is suggested that over a million species are threatened with extinction.

The FAO Resident Representative explains that the Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) had for the past 4 years supported and participated in the World Wildlife Day in Liberia and other activities with the hope to inspire actions intended to reverse the fate of key species of animals and plants.

She recalls that in 2021, FAO conducted bush meat value chain study in collaboration with FDA and the Ministry of Agriculture in nine counties and results showed that FDA and partners need to stand tall in planning long-term nationwide awareness for the protection of wildlife and educating forest dependents about wildlife diseases.

Deputy FDA Managing Director for Operations Joseph Tally assures that the forest is intact and wildlife in Liberia fully is protected.

Mr. Tally further assures FAO that materials donated will be utilized for the intended purpose.



the Forestry Development adds. Madam Tchicaya notes Authority (FDA). The supplies that this is a leading cause for include wildlife and laboratory closer contact between tools.

Speaking at African Plaza to increase risk of spreading during the donation on zoonotic diseases.

Thursday, July 13, FAO Resident Representative to Liberia, Mrs. Bintia Stephen for the Conservation of Tchicaya, said the continued Nature's Red List of threatened loss of species and degradation species reveals that about of their habitats threaten 8,400 species of wild fauna and humanity, because globally, flora are critically

## New PPCC boss vows to review procurement, concession agreement

By Lincoln G. Peters

The newly confirmed Executive Director of the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) has vowed to review every and all procurements and concession agreement documents.

At his induction ceremony Thursday, 13 July 2023 at PPCC's office in Monrovia, Mr. Bodger Scott Johnson pledged to mitigate and prevent corruption across all spectrums of government.

He said his leadership will enforce compliance and monitoring adequately and transparently in the procurement sector.

"Under my leadership, my able PPCC team and I intend to enforce compliance, monitoring adequately and transparently reviewing procurement and concession documents," he said.

He pledged to prevent

cumbersome from procuring entities and at PPCC.

"My goal is to improve the procurement process. And I certainly welcome the transition to E-procurement," he said.

The new PPCC boss said the primary objective of the institution is to ensure the economic and efficient use of public funds in public procurement.

He added that it is to ensure that public procurement and concession processes are conducted in a fair, transparent, and non-discriminatory manner.

He assured that the PPCC under his leadership will uphold these primary objectives by seeking close partnerships and collaboration with government-procuring entities and state-owned enterprises and partners.

"I am deeply honored by your confidence in my ability and capacity to lead this commission. I feel truly privileged to have the



Executive Director (PPCC) Mr. Bodger Scott Johnson

corruption in the procurement process, providing training and workshops on procurement across the government. According to him, they will enforce the PPCC Act across the national government, and they are also willing to work with every government institution regarding their procurement plan and implementation.

Mr. Johnson outlined that the three components in the procurement processes are people, process, and paperwork, adding that they will work to ensure that such principles are upheld and implemented.

He stated that people need training, explaining that the procurement process is long because of the lack of more compliance staff. Mr. Johnson noted that the paperwork is

opportunity to serve and work with all our partners for the next four years," said Mr. Johnson.

He thanked his predecessor Cllr. Roseline J. Kowo for her efforts and dedication.

The PPCC on Thursday, 13 July 2023 officially inducted Mr. Johnson as the new Executive Director to steer the affairs of the institution for the next four years.

Mr. Johnson was appointed by the Board of Commissioners of the PPCC succeeding Cllr. Jargbe Roseline Nagbe Kowo following the expiration of her tenure. The program was graced by several government and diplomatic partners who expressed confidence and trust in the new leadership.

But they urged the new head of the entity to maintain trust and confidence despite believing he can do better.

## You're not candidates yet - Aspirant warns colleagues

By Ramsey N. Singbeh, Jr, in Margibi

While some aspirants and their supporters are claiming candidacy in the midst of the National Elections Commission's ongoing candidate nomination process, a representative aspirant from Margibi County District#3, Dr. John Sulonta Smith, is seriously warning all aspirants to stop calling themselves candidates yet.

Dr. Smith, who is Chief Executive Officer of LULA Dream, says obtaining a certificate of nomination does not make any aspirant a candidate but only confirms that you have submitted all required documents.

He made the clarification in Kakata, Margibi County recently at Lango Lappaye High School Gala Anniversary.

Dr. Smith, who has also been certificated by the NEC explains: "Under the law of the Republic of Liberia, I'm not a candidate yet. Having a certificate of nomination does not make you a candidate. It says that you are confirmed that

you submitted all your documents." He disclosed that on 30th June 2023, he submitted all of his documents and was certificated but that does not give him a right to call himself a candidate yet.

According to him, there will be a provisional candidate listing that will be scrutinized to derive at the final candidate listing that will be officially announced by the NEC to give aspirants the right to now refer to themselves as candidates.

"None of us should call ourselves candidates; no, we still are in the process of being called candidates."

He said if there is a problem with anyone's documents, he or she will know after the candidate nomination process, saying for instance, if some tendered in his or her property value or tax clearance, the NEC has to first verify those before making determination.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Dr. John Sulonta Smith

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# Nimbaians are not ungrateful

Hierarchies of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) are confident that the people of Nimba County are not ungrateful to deny incumbent President George

with other compatriots." He suggested that they also supported the second term bid of President Sirleaf given the massive pavement they saw after decades of civil war. He added that Nimbaians

He noted that Senator Johnson is now asking for a whopping additional nine years amounting to twenty-seven years, which he claimed is outrageous at 70 plus years old. "For someone who got twelve years opportunity and an extended nine years to still believe that no Nimbaian deserves opportunity, but they should keep excelling at the detriment of other sons and daughters of Nimba is unthinkable."

He said if that's not being selfish, he wonders what it is because there is someone like Cllr. Tiawon Gongloe who has never had an elected opportunity of the people of Nimba County, though he was the first to declare his intention to contest for the presidency from Nimba.

"They claim he hails from the Mano-speaking tribe so he doesn't deserve a space on the table; an idea that is contrary to a reconciled or one Nimba." He hailed a few new breeds of Nimbaians who, according to him, see Nimba in a more united way like retired national youth and student leaders and statesmen: Nyan Twayen, Roland Duo, Teeko Yorlay, Sam G. Takruah, Sam Browne, Armstrong Gobac Selekpoh, Abigail Freeman amongst others.

"With this generation, I am certain that Nimba will rise above trivialities, divisions, threats, and intimidations; a one and prosperous Nimba is definitely sure." "Again, I am honored to state my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the loving and brave people of Nimba County for bestowing on me one of their traditional names SEHGRAN by the Chiefs, Zoes, and Elders of the land."

are grateful people and will show President Weah the same gratitude at the polls in October.

Koijee contended that Nimba Senator Prince Johnson cannot individualize the county and personalize the Nimba people.

Additionally, he suggested that to cling unto oneself as the sole owner of the people including their decision to choose good from evil is hypocritical. "The people are wiser and ready to take their future in their own hands thereby igniting a deep sense of reconciliation amongst the great sons and daughters of this great Nimba County."

He stated that if the issue is about jobs, it is indeed paradoxical as the messengers are wealthier in both property and cash than many Nimbaians combined. "And they became richer at the expense of the Nimba people to the point where they're opting to be extended following a protracted stay of eighteen years in power."

# Southeastern health workers down tools

By Kruah Thompson

Health workers from the southeast under the umbrella Southeastern Health Workers Network of Liberia have downed tools to draw attention to government's alleged failure to address salary disparities within the healthcare sector.

The network also seeks to highlight other pressing concerns, such as inclusion of volunteer health workers on payroll, constant salary deductions, low wages, motivational package for hard-to-reach counties in the region, and replacement of pensioned health workers.

It also emphasizes the urgent need to discontinue accepting SAAR Insurance for general health workers in the Southeast. According to the group, the insurance company has allegedly failed to provide adequate coverage for approximately 90 percent of its members in the region.

Comprised of health workers from five counties in the Southeast,

In a press release dated July 12, 2023, the network's leadership acknowledges that government, through relevant ministries and agencies, had pledged to address these concerns in June 2022.

It added that initially, when the go-slow action commenced about eight hundred health workers' names were released, and they received partial salary increments, leaving out the majority of health workers.

The network described the action as primarily motivated by the government's inability to replace ghost names identified during an independent verification conducted by its leadership.

"Colleagues have heavily criticized the network's leadership for the government's decision to provide only marginal salary increases to a few health workers", lamenting that the increment fell short of expectations.



Pres. Weah Elder, Maj. Gen. Albert G. Paye

Manneh Weah support for his second term bid.

The CDCians' confidence in Nimbaians grow stronger from a conversation between a Nimba elder, Maj. Gen. Albert G. Paye, commonly called Chief Zoekweh, and a top CDC official.

The ruling party official argues that Nimbaians will be seen in their support for President George Manneh Weah in the 2023 Presidential and Legislative elections.

Following the conversation, Monrovia Mayor Jefferson Koijee posted on his social media page bragging that Nimba will overwhelmingly vote for the CDC based on tangibles and increased job creation for Nimbaians since coming to power.

The post follows former Vice President Joseph N. Boakai's triumphant entry in to Nimba last weekend.

Koijee: "Nimbaians weren't ungrateful to Charles Taylor who they voted for overwhelmingly due to his stance to protect them along



namely; Maryland, Sinoe, River Gee, Grand Gedeh, and Grand Kru, the Southeastern Health Workers Network of Liberia aims to advocate for improved working conditions and equitable treatment.

Meanwhile, the Southeastern Health Workers Network is calling on all health workers across the Southeast to stay home in demand of better incentives and opportunities.

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## Liberia's agriculture sector

approved financing of \$30 million for the Rural Economic Transformation Project (RETRAP-AF), benefiting 36,000 households and increasing the total number of beneficiary households from 60,000 to 96,000.

Furthermore, in January 2022, the World Bank Liberia Country Office signed two financing agreements totaling \$50 million with the Government of Liberia.

These funds were intended to strengthen efforts to increase domestic food production and reduce dependence on imports, with a focus on supporting the production of

rice, legumes, and vegetables. In addition to the World Bank's investments, the African Development Bank Group approved \$3 million in mixed financing for the Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone project in Liberia. This financing includes a \$2.92 million loan and an \$80,000 grant sourced from the African Development Fund.

The project aims to build additional capacity along value chains, provide equipment for industrial skills training, and support project staff in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

Moreover, in January 2023, the African Development Bank Group approved a dual-currency Trade Finance Line of Credit for the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID). This credit line, totaling \$100 million, was to directly finance local corporates and be channeled through selected local banks for sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, and transport. The initiative benefited Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), local enterprises, cooperatives, and farmers in the West Africa region. Editing by Jonathan Browne

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## Judge Willie to interpret Justice Gbeisay's mandate today

**C**riminal Court "A" Judge Roosevelt Willie is expected to interpret the mandate of Chambers Justice Yarmie Quiqui Gbeisay today in the ongoing murder trial of former



Judge Roosevelt Willie

undo Judge Willie's decision granting defense lawyers' application for discovery. The state prosecutors did not want to be compelled to present the evidentiary materials they relied on to

Chief Justice Gloria Musu Scott and three other family members. On Wednesday, July 12, Associate Justice Gbeisay declined the request of State prosecutors to issue an alternative writ of certiorari as prayed for by prosecutors in the ongoing murder trial involving Cllr, Scott and family members. Prosecutors had requested that the Justice in Chambers

action on the part of the chamber justice, the swift denial ruling helps to strengthen the argument of the defense team and yet another step to justice. The legal team for the former chief justice family have continuously requested the state to bring forth the evidence the state claims to have in its possession to bring charges of murder on the family after the egregious and fatal bodily leading to the death of Charloe Musu. Legal pundits averred that it might be too early for the government lawyers to begin to question the theory or foundation of their case it might also be too early to question the credibility of the police and their ability to put together a cogent body of evidence to secure a conviction. The defense team appeared in a more buoyant mood along with the appearance of the former Chief Justice Gloria Musu Scott who is making an appearance pro se in her own defense and that of her family members. All four women accused women were brought in from the correctional center aka South Beach last Wednesday to listen to the Chambers Justice ruling.

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