

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

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

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

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023	L\$185.5313/US\$1.00	L\$187.3988/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

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

Vote #4
FIXING LIBERIA FOR ALL LIBERIANS

2023 CUMMINGS FOR PRESIDENT

VOL. 13 NO. 166 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 PRICE LD\$40.00

In Jessica's attempted murder saga: Speaker calls for justice



The killings must stop!



- Dr. Alan White asks U.S. for prosecution of those in ritualistic killings in Liberia

MoMo Waysay-Wasa 3
Da your time to win!

MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN

Join over 10,000 winners over the last 2 years!

Dial *156*2#

To buy a **50LRD** bundle and above to enter the draw!





Continental News

WHO: Hundreds of Children Die in Sudan Health Crisis

Measles, diarrhea and malnutrition, among other preventable diseases, kill about 100 children every month in Sudan where armed

Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday. The U.N. warning comes as Sudan's health sector is teetering on the brink of collapse, crippled by a severe lack of funding and essential

committing egregious acts of violence against civilians, including arbitrary detentions and killings. "The conflict has paralyzed the economy, pushing millions to the brink of poverty," Volker Türk, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, said last week. "More than 7.4 million children are without safe drinking water and at least 700,000 are at risk of severe acute malnutrition," he said.

Humanitarian appeal

In May, the U.N. appealed for \$2.57 billion in humanitarian assistance for 18 million people in Sudan. However, the situation remains dire, with aid agencies estimating that more than 24 million Sudanese are in urgent need of humanitarian aid. As of September 19, the appeal has garnered \$788 million, approximately 30% of the required funds, with the United States leading the list of donors with a contribution of \$472.5 million.

"The world has the means and the money to prevent every one of these deaths from measles or malnutrition," Filippo Grandi, the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, said in a statement on Tuesday.

"And yet dozens of children are dying every day – a result of this devastating conflict and a lack of global attention. We can prevent more deaths, but need money for the response, access to those in need, and above all, an end to the fighting," he said, according to the statement. VOA



Residents displaced by violent attacks squat on blankets in the village of Masteri in west Darfur, Sudan

conflicts have uprooted more than five million people from their homes, according to the United Nations.

Between May 15 and September 14, at least 1,200 children under the age of five died from a deadly combination of a suspected measles outbreak and high malnutrition in nine camps for internally displaced people in Sudan's White Nile state.

There have also been reports of cholera, dengue, and malaria cases emerging in various parts of the country, sparking concerns about the looming threat of epidemics.

"Children younger than five are worst impacted, accounting for nearly 70% of all cases and 76% of all deaths," the World Health

resources. "Health facilities are at breaking point, due to shortages of staff, life-saving medicine and critical equipment, exacerbating current outbreaks and causing unnecessary deaths," the WHO said. Ongoing armed hostilities between Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), which started in April, have generated and exacerbated humanitarian crises in the African country.

The conflict has taken an immense toll on Sudan's civilian population, with the Health Ministry acknowledging over 1,500 civilian deaths since the conflict started. However, aid agencies contend that the actual death toll far exceeds the officially reported figures. Both warring factions, the SAF and RSF, have faced accusations of

Concern over high teen pregnancies in northern Mozambique

More than half of girls between the ages of 15 and 19 in Mozambique's troubled Cabo Delgado province have already been pregnant, according to a study by the National Statistics Institute (INE).

Rampant insecurity is a fact of life for people living in the region, rich in oil, gas and rubies, that has suffered under a six-year jihadist insurgency.

The violence has forced more than one million people from their home, left 4,000 dead, and destroyed almost 200 schools.

Pregnant girls had previously been barred from going to school but Cabo Delgado's education director Ivaldo Quincardete says this was later changed amid

concerns over literacy levels. As many as 70% of women there cannot read or write.

He says the latest data is worrying and yet "another indication of the enormous

challenge facing the province".

Four in 10 girls in Mozambique, according to a government official, get married by the age of 18. BBC



Officials say they're worried by the findings (stock photo)

Mayor's house burnt down in Libya flood protests

The mayor's home in the Libyan city of Derna has been burnt down, as hundreds of protesters demanded answers for last week's catastrophic flood. They gathered on Monday night at the city's landmark Sahaba Mosque, many chanting for top officials in Libya's eastern government to be sacked. Derna's whole city council has now been dismissed.

Internet and telephone access have also been shut down and journalists ordered to leave in a media crackdown.

More than 10,000 people are officially missing after two old and dilapidated dams burst, flooding the city.

Figures given for the number of people known to have died have varied widely but the UN says it has confirmed close to 4,000 deaths. The UN now says one of its teams has been refused

by power struggles and currently has two governments - a UN-recognised one based in Tripoli, and another in the country's east backed by warlord Gen Khalifa Haftar. He has been calling the flooding a natural disaster but many Libyans disagree, saying the eastern government had neglected the dams despite prior warnings about their fragile condition.

Speaking from his hospital bed in Benghazi, 48-year-old Abdelqader al-Omrani told the AFP news agency that he and other people living near the dams had "warned the municipality and demanded repairs" after spotting leaks two years ago. "They [now] have our deaths on their conscience," he said.

Scientists from the World Weather Attribution group said Libya's conflict and poor dam maintenance had turned extreme weather into a humanitarian disaster, but noted that up to 50% more rain pounded eastern Libya because of global warming caused



Libya mayor's house set on fire

permission to enter Derna.

"We can confirm that search and rescue teams, emergency medical teams and UN colleagues who are already in Derna continue to operate," Najwa Mekki, of the UN's humanitarian body OCHA, told Reuters news agency on Tuesday. "However, a UN team was due to travel from Benghazi to Derna today but were not authorized to proceed," she added. The home of Derna's mayor, Abdulmenam al-Ghaithi, has become a focal point for people's anger.

Residents say they were not sufficiently warned by officials, who they believe must have known a huge amount of rainfall was coming. They say they were also given a stay-at-home warning rather than being told to evacuate, although officials deny this. Since the ousting of long-time leader Muammar Gaddafi, Libya has been riven

by human activity. On Tuesday, the day after the protests, a minister in eastern Libya's government announced that all journalists had been asked to leave Derna, and accused them of hampering the work of rescue teams.

"Have no doubt, this is not about health or safety, but about punishing Derna residents [Derna's residents] for protesting," said Emadeddin Badi of the Atlantic Council think tank, in a post on X (formerly Twitter). In addition to a large international aid effort, parts of Libya where, until recently, militias had been fighting each other are now sending volunteers and their own private vehicles with food, water, medicine and bedding.

But humanitarians warn of a brewing public health crisis and demonstrators say they need more aid. And with their most vital possessions washed away by the water, they also want processing facilities set up to replace lost passports and identity documents. BBC

EDITORIAL

Govt. must get to the bottom of the RIA drug bust

Ongoing investigation by the Ministry of Justice and the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency on the recent importation of several boxes of harmful drugs at the Roberts International Airport should not end up in another fiasco like separate consignments of cocaine valued at US\$100 million and \$45 million respectively that were imported in containers at the Freeport of Monrovia lately last year and early this year.

Methamphetamine is a powerful, highly addictive stimulant that affects the central nervous system.

It takes the form of a white, odorless, bitter-tasting crystalline powder that easily dissolves in water or alcohol.

Despite earlier denial by airport authorities that the boxes didn't contain harmful drugs, the Government of Liberia subsequently confirmed during the week that the consignment of boxes intercepted by a contingent of the Armed Forces of Liberia assigned at the airport actually contained illicit drug called Methamphetamine, not Moringa leaves, as the airport management had said.

Accordingly, the chief of security at the RIA Samuel Freeman, who reportedly took delivery of the consignment, has been suspended, pending full investigation.

However, given separate experiences from the cocaine case in which jurors found three key defendants not guilty and subsequently released by the court only for the government to go after them the next day without any trace of their whereabouts in the country will not be repeated.

Government stated in its statement that the Minister of Justice has, with immediate effect, ordered the Joint Security of Liberia including the LDEA, LNP and the NSA, to expand their investigations on the importation of Methamphetamine that is banned by the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crimes, UNODC.

The State wants all those involved with importation of the illegal drugs to be brought to justice, but given experiences of the past, we take this call with a pinch of salt, as there seems to be lack of political will to get to the root of the matter, which is not good for the image of our dear country. The youth of Liberia are drowning in addiction to dangerous drugs that are decimating their future.

THE LATEST DRUGS, and the previous consignments of cocaine were smuggled at the country's main seaport and airport separately. This is disgusting! There has been a collusion in making such illegal importation right before the eyes of relevant authorities.

IT IS IN this light that we call for a well-intentioned, thorough investigation to bring out the real culprits rather than a cosmetic exercise that will sweep the actual issues under the carpet, only to present to the public, meaningless and inconclusive findings.

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,

UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission.

Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 /

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

www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

COMMENTARY

By Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg

Protectionism Started the Geopolitical Fire

NEW HAVEN - It has been puzzling to see many prominent economists decry the Trump administration's tariffs as welfare-reducing protectionism, while approving of the Biden administration's even more drastic steps to reshore, friend-shore, and decouple from China. In a March 2018 Chicago Booth poll of economists, 100% of respondents opposed new US tariffs; but then a largely overlapping set of respondents were skeptical of global supply chains when asked in January 2022. Only two respondents (with me being one of them) disagreed that a reliance on foreign inputs had made US industries vulnerable to disruptions.

One exception to this broader pattern is Dani Rodrik, who argued in a recent commentary that the ramifications of geopolitics are much more severe than renewed protectionism. He makes an important point; still, one must remember that protectionism was a major catalyst for today's escalating geopolitical tensions.

The Trump tariffs both reversed a long-term trend toward trade liberalization and imposed real costs on the US economy by raising prices for US consumers and for US firms that use imported intermediate inputs from China. But Trump's policies had little impact on global trade overall. While trade between the United States and China declined, as expected, many other countries' exports - both to the US and to the rest of the world - increased. Trade flows were reallocated, not reduced.

But the belief in the benefits of international trade took a hit, as more people came to regard it as a zero-sum game. The Trump administration pushed the narrative that many of America's longstanding economic problems were due to trade with China. Inequality in the US had risen sharply, and younger generations were not doing as well as their parents. As if that was not bad enough, Chinese children did seem to be doing better than their parents. Surely, there had to be a connection between the two. If China was doing so well, America must be falling behind.

Initially, many criticized this narrative as populist pandering. But it gradually gained traction, and when COVID-19 struck, arguments in favor of protectionism and against China went mainstream. Suddenly, everyone agreed that the pandemic-related supply-chain problems were a result of international trade. Never mind that many of the bottlenecks originated domestically and had nothing to do with global supply chains; or that without imported masks from China, shortages of personal protective equipment would have been worse; or that, despite COVID-19 being the biggest global shock since World War II, the world economy proved quite resilient. The narrative was shifting toward blaming international trade, and particularly trade with China, for every problem in the modern economy.

Then came Russia's full-scale invasion of

Ukraine - the final straw. Though the aggressor was Russia, not China, it was now all too easy to imagine what would happen to the global economy if China invaded Taiwan. Concerns about geopolitical risks and national security came to the fore, lending momentum to calls not for just protectionism but for a broader economic decoupling from China.

Again, it is easy to blame the Russian invasion for ushering in a new cold war. But would we be where we are without the resurgent protectionism and calls for supply-chain resilience in recent years? By undermining the belief in international cooperation and pushing the narrative of trade as a zero-sum game, those policies and strategic objectives created some of the preconditions for today's economic warfare.

Whereas trade was presented as a zero-sum game in 2015-16, when Trump was elected, now national welfare is being framed in these terms. The issue is no longer just about tariffs and trade. Those are relevant only to the extent that they can be used to stop China from developing its technological capabilities. The primary concerns now, we are told, are "de-risking" and national security, rather than America's desire to maintain economic dominance.

But such justifications are problematic. Consider de-risking. It sounds prudent, but is it really about China? Global production of the most advanced semiconductors is concentrated within a single Taiwanese company (TSMC), which certainly does imply a high risk of disruption should the company suffer some shock. But such a shock need not come from a Chinese invasion; it could also take the form of a health crisis, a natural disaster, or even personnel issues. The root problem is not China, but high market concentration. The same kind of risk would still be salient if the company was based in the US.

While worrying about optimal diversification and de-risking makes sense, casting everything in geopolitical terms does not. When Trump recently vowed to impose massive new tariffs if re-elected, the international community rushed to condemn such policies. But tariffs matter less now, because the damage has already been done.

We live in a new era. As I noted in a previous commentary, drawing on work by economic historians, there are eerie parallels between the period leading up to World War II and recent developments in US trade and foreign policy. Protectionism is a problem, not just because of its impact on trade, but also because of its impact on international relations and geopolitics.

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

OP-ED

By Wangari Muchiri, Senyo Ador, Wangari Muchiri

Investing in Africa's Green Transition

BERWYN, ILLINOIS/NAIROBI - African leaders and global policymakers recently gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, for the inaugural Africa Climate Summit to discuss the challenges of funding climate solutions. The summit showed that private-sector investments, in particular, could go a long way toward accelerating the continent's energy transition.

Efforts are already underway to attract more foreign capital, especially from the United States. When US Vice President Kamala Harris visited Ghana, Tanzania, and Zambia earlier this year, she announced nearly 30 private-sector and philanthropic commitments to support climate resilience, adaptation, and mitigation across Africa. But the continent's needs are far from being met. An estimated \$700 billion will be required to develop green energy in Africa, and yet it received only 2% of the \$2.8 trillion invested globally in renewables between 2000 and 2020.

The main barrier to increasing green financing is risk perception: many private-sector actors are concerned about Africa's investment climate. It is no secret that many African countries are contending with inadequate infrastructure and bureaucratic red tape, both of which could deter foreign investors. But these countries are also working to remove such obstacles. Kenya, for example, is in the process of pursuing structural reforms to enhance private-financing mechanisms.

Moreover, the economic mismanagement and internal strife that have come to characterize some African countries are not representative of the entire continent. Africa is open for business. Countries such as Morocco and Kenya, in their efforts to spur the green transition and drive sustainable development, have introduced financial incentives, including tax breaks, and implemented policy reforms to attract and mitigate risk for private investors from the US and elsewhere.

Perhaps more importantly, Africa's energy sector has already put itself on the path toward a carbon-free future, rather than waiting on foreign capital. Kenya is one of the top global producers of geothermal energy, and Morocco is home to the world's largest concentrated solar power plant. Next year, Egypt is set to build a wind farm that could generate enough electricity to meet domestic needs and export to Europe and Saudi Arabia. Alongside large-scale projects, numerous privately funded micro-grids are supplying much-needed power to hospitals and even entire villages.

Many of these renewable projects have been funded by both the public and private sectors, although investment from the former tends to be higher. Africa's success in creating clean-energy markets, despite relatively low levels of foreign private investment, is a testament to local officials' dedication to building a more sustainable future.

With an abundance of solar, wind, geothermal, and hydro energy resources, Africa has immense investment potential and can offer reliable returns to private investors. And many African countries are eager to create the conditions that will allow investors to tap into their clean-energy markets. For example, in Namibia, which averages 300 days of sunshine per year, the state-owned power utility attracted foreign capital by authorizing independent power projects and holding solar-energy auctions at competitive rates.

Scaling up clean-energy investments in African countries will bring additional benefits, including more sustainable economies and faster progress toward development goals. The biggest benefit, though, is that clean energy addresses the root cause of climate change: burning fossil fuels. Africa is bearing the brunt of the crisis, despite accounting for the smallest share of global greenhouse-gas emissions. As a result, by 2050, global warming could cost the continent \$50 billion annually. It would be wiser to invest in renewables today, rather than pouring billions into adaptation down the line.

Until private investors recognize Africa's abundant renewable-energy potential, funding will continue to pour into oil and gas. Expensive fossil-fuel assets would serve only to increase African economies' dependency on volatile energy prices and imports and accelerate global warming.

There is another option: over the past decade, African countries have created sustainable and efficient clean-energy markets that protect investors and drive development on the continent's terms. Private investors in the US and elsewhere should take advantage of this momentum to capitalize on the growth potential of renewables, expedite the green transition, and create a healthier future for all.

ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

Liberia's 2023 Presidential Election: The Three Horse Race

By all accounts, Liberia's 2023 Presidential Election is a three-horse race. This is undebatable. Yes, on a crowded presidential field of 20 candidates vying for the nation's highest seat, incumbent President George M. Weah, former Vice President Joseph N. Boakai, and former Coca-Cola Executive Alexander B. Cummings remain the frontrunners, the rest are expected to make insignificant impacts.

The three men were listed among the top 5 earners in 2017, with Mr. Weah clinching the first round by 38.37%, figures which were not enough to see him over the finishing line. Liberia's electoral law requires that a candidate obtain 50 plus 1 percent of the votes to be declared winner.

The number acquired could only catapult Mr. Weah into a runoff against former Vice President Boakai who came second in 2017 accumulating 28.76%. Mr. Cummings settled for 5th place as a newcomer just months before the 2017 presidential race acquiring just 7.21% of the votes behind Nimba County Senator Prince Y. Johnson who came fourth garnering 8.22%.

The race in 2017 was more competitive compared to 2023. Though President Weah, most popular then and now was considered one of the favorites to win in 2017, Liberty Party Standard Bearer late Cllr. Charles W. Brumskine, father of Collaborating Political Party (CPP) vice Standard Bearer Charlyne Brumskine was the candidate to watch.

Former Vice President Boakai and his campaign team were at this time at loggerheads with outgoing President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf thereby weakening the former ruling party and rendering it incapacitated to produce a united front. Boakai's refusal to collaborate with Liberty Party Brumskine in 2017 was also a factor.

Hence, Ambassador Boakai was considered by many as a third choice. But he pulled a surprise over Cllr. Brumskine. The latter will file a lawsuit against the National Elections Commission at the Supreme Court for vote rigging and irregularities. The rest is history.

However, unlike 2017, this year's election appears less competitive in terms of the popularity of candidates in the race and their abilities to win voters over. This has placed Mr. Weah, Amb. Boakai and Mr. Cummings are far ahead of the rest.

Chances and challenges of the presumed frontrunners

Incumbent President Weah

Incumbent President Weah arguably remains a popular candidate in the race. His connection with young people, especially most first-time voters put him in a league all by himself. His Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) ability to organize rallies and publicize events has been exceptional compared to its two immediate competitors.

Mr. Weah and his CDC's slogan of "Change you can depend on", alongside WEAC fee payments and free tuition for public schools and universities, have resonated well with young people.

However, Mr. Weah faces a daunting task not just in securing a first-round victory but with the huge margins secured in 2017. President Weah's critics will acknowledge that he came into the 2017 race without any record to defend and therefore, his popularity was the only vehicle that drove him to the Executive Mansion.

In 2023, the variables have changed. President Weah now has a record to defend: a crippled economy, corruption and failed promises. These are holes that have crept into the President's popularity, and he must now ably defend against a raging opposition that continues to feast on his administration's failure.

But the President would boast in addition to WAEC and free public schools and universities the construction of hospitals, roads, and rural housing units, etc. These could well sweep him into his third runoff but with whom?

Amb. Boakai

Amb. Boakai stands a much better chance than he did in 2017. Now, that President Weah has a record to defend, and the former Vice President being seen as the most experienced Statesman puts him in a much better position to wrestle power from President Weah. Supported by a host of former government officials and surrounded by his kinsmen, Amb. Boakai looks the most likely alternative.

However, the former vice president comes into 2023 with too much excess baggage. The former vice President's alignment with US designee Sen. Johnson, a former warlord, has caused many of his supporters both local and international to rethink. Added to this is his inability to be decisive. Many blamed him for his failed leadership role which saw the CPP, Liberia's strongest opposition collaboration in recent history disintegrating right under his watchful eyes.

The former vice president's age is also a factor, particularly speculations surrounding his health, which has caused many to fear that electing him in office will be equated to electing Se. Johnson. Sen. Johnson has not even made it any easier for Amb. Boakai with his campaign pronouncements.

Mr. Cummings

Mr. Alexander Cummings looks the candidate rightfully suited to wrestle power from President Weah. His wealth of experience as an international business tycoon and ideas on how to fix Liberia's broken economy and get the private sector working is beyond measure. Cummings appears to be more connected with market women, youth groups, and businesspeople. Cummings also has a silent majority of supporters under his belt.

However, he has an excess baggage. His not taking no for an answer to contest as president has been viewed as arrogant and someone who is drunk with presidential ambition. His alignment with dozens of failed politicians from previous regimes to head his campaign team is negative. Many see his choices in terms of his political associates as errors of judgment that could affect his chances.

However, with less than 30 days to election, who knows anything can happen.


I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-23-000026
- ISSUANCE DATE:** September 15, 2023
- CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** October 2, 2023
- POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov
- POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Specialist (Agriculture).
- MARKET VALUE:** USD 35,104 to 56,160 [USD] equivalent to FSN- 10
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.
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five (5) 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.
- PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia.
- 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.
- SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility and computer access.
- STATEMENT OF DUTIES:**

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION -

The Project Management Specialist (Agriculture) will be based in USAID/Liberia's Economic Growth Office (EGO). S/he will participate in the planning, design, and management of new and existing agriculture projects. S/he will provide technical expertise and project oversight; lead in project performance monitoring and documentation of project successes; and support the Feed the Future Coordinator on local agriculture development matters and policies. The Project Management Specialist (Agriculture) will be required to travel within Liberia to perform analysis to inform activity and project designs; conduct site visits to assess activity implementation and meet with beneficiaries and stakeholders to assure that activity objectives are being met. During field visits to activity implementation sites, the Project Management Specialist (Agriculture) often will be housed in modest accommodations and at times may have to walk to reach certain beneficiary communities. The Project Management Specialist (Agriculture) will work under the supervision of the Senior Agriculture Development Specialist, or as designated by the United States Direct Hire (USDH) EGO Office Director.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES -
1. Technical Guidance -30%

- Serve as a strategic advisor and coordinator amongst the U.S. Interagency working in Liberia; other donors; partners; the Government of Liberia; and other stakeholders.
- Provide information and guidance on Liberian regulations and policies affecting agriculture and food security.
- Undertake research or gather and report on the situation affecting Liberia's crops and commodities. This also includes leading or engaging in problem analyses of agricultural value chains.
- Contribute to the development of EGO and Mission priorities, including the preparation of the Operational Plan (OP).
- Assist in the preparation of relevant sections of the Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) (including helping to facilitate and/or implement recommendations from analyses), the mission's Global Food Security Strategy Country Plan, annual Program Performance Report (PPR) and semi-annual Portfolio Reviews, as well as other relevant project documents and reports as needed.
- Support in the conceptualization, design, and drafting of EGO activities, as appropriate, by lending technical expertise that pertains to agriculture development, monitoring and evaluation protocols, localization, and sustainable livelihoods.
- Support USAID technical offices in the creation and implementation of strategies, including cross-sectoral or Mission-specific agricultural development strategies. This also includes cross-cutting priorities such as gender, youth, energy and road infrastructure, natural resource management, nutrition, agriculture policy and agriculture-related private sector development.
- Keep abreast of planned and ongoing projects of other donors and of the GOL, as well as coordination opportunities that will strengthen the impact of USG projects.

2. Project Management - 30%

- Serve as the Contracting Officer Representative/Agreement Officer Representative (COR/AOR) and Activity Manager for one or more of EGO agriculture and food security activities.
- Establish and maintain working files on agricultural development programs. Job duties include ensuring up-to-date maintenance of administrative files and records of relevant programmatic activities in collaboration with the EGO Program Assistant.
- Advise Implementing Partners (IPs) on the preparation of annual work plans, evaluations, and program modifications, and encourage timely submissions. Ensure coordination with and between both Mission M&E and IPs' M&E contacts.
- Schedule and coordinate visits to project implementation sites to assess project performance, including holding meetings with key programmatic partners, stakeholders, and beneficiaries in the field. Provide written field trip reports, as required, to monitor progress and to ensure work is progressing in accordance with program plans, Mission priorities and U.S. Government compliance considerations.
- Review financial invoices and/or vouchers, monitor pipeline, and calculate quarterly accruals.
- Maintain frequent communication with implementing partners to ensure proper implementation and to inform USAID leadership of successes, challenges, and next steps for activities.

3. Coordination - 20%

- Support in the coordination with stakeholders and act as the alternative point of contact for issues pertaining to agriculture in Liberia. Stakeholders include the USAID/Liberia Mission, the U.S. Embassy, USAID/Washington, and other regional West African countries, other parts of the U.S. government, international organizations, host country governmental ministries and agencies, NGOs, Community-Supported Organizations, and others in the country.
- Work with other parts of USAID, across the U.S. government, and with other donors to promote collaboration around agricultural development to increase the effectiveness of the programs overall.
- Represent and communicate with the U.S. Government activities, priorities, and strategies for agriculture development in coordination meetings with USAID staff, United Nations (UN), non-governmental organizations (NGO) partners and host country officials. Support in the coordination with all actors to address issues having an impact on agriculture in Liberia.
- Prepare for USAID/Washington Bureau of Resilience and Food Security staff as well as other U.S. Interagency staff monitoring trips to Liberia. Liaise with other Mission staff as needed to ensure country clearance, transport, and lodging arrangements are completed.
- Represent USAID/Liberia and EGO at required meetings, scheduled events, and conferences related to assigned program and project activities.

4. Monitoring and Reporting - 10%

- Report on general agricultural development issues, to include pest infestations; droughts; changes in crop yields; commodity price changes; changes in GOL expenditures in the agriculture sector; new or existing GOL policies affecting agriculture development; GOL actions on subsidies, price controls, land (re)distribution; and issues affecting agriculture-based communities.
- Monitor and report on implementation of agriculture development projects and programs, including progress and problems encountered. Carry out site visits to monitor project implementation, both in Monrovia and in the field. Prepare and distribute monitoring reports and follow up on any resulting recommendations.
- Provide oversight to field activities, including field monitoring, coordinating, and organizing field coordination workshops/events to strengthen collaboration between USG and other donor-funded agriculture initiatives.
- Track the performance indicators and results and coordinate the annual Operational Plan (OP) and Performance Plan and Report (PPR) preparation processes for the EGO.
- Backstop other EGO technical staff in researching data and running reports, as requested, for evidence-based programming.
- Perform a variety of research, reporting, briefing and analytical duties to provide programmatic and technical support for EGO's economic growth portfolio.
- Support and ensure compliance with Feed the Future reporting requirements across the USAID/Liberia mission.

5. Communication- 10%

- Maintain close working relationships with the USAID/Liberia Front Office and other USAID support offices (Controller's, Program, Executive Office (EXO), Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA) and take initiative in making any recommended changes to programming or approach.
- Maintain productive contacts and working relationships with both public and private institutions. Maintain extensive contacts with the GOL, NGOs, and other relevant stakeholders to follow trends in agriculture development in the country.
- Liaise with international donors, USG, NGO cooperating agencies and partners, and USAID/Washington specialists, e.g., in the Bureau of Food Security.
- Coordinate closely across the Mission to support project synergies and accelerate development advances.
- Supervision controls:** The Project Management Specialist (Agriculture) will work under the direction of the Senior Agriculture Development Specialist, or as designated by the USDH EGO Office Director. The Project Management Specialist (Agriculture) will develop a personal annual performance plan, in coordination with his/her supervisor, and will be evaluated annually based on the performance plan. The employee handles the work according to governing policies.
- Supervisory Relationship:** None

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Education:** Minimum of University degree (BA/BSc) in a relevant technical discipline such as: agriculture, agricultural economics, soil science, food sciences, natural resource management, or horticulture is required.
- Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of three (3) years of progressively responsible, professional-level experience in developing and/or managing agriculture, agricultural economics, and/or natural resources. Must have experience in project design, Project, and program planning, and/or implementation work, development related work, for donor agencies, GOL organizations, or private-sector institutions which include performance monitoring, and/or the analysis and interpretation of large amounts of data is required. Demonstrated experience in establishing relationships with key public sector, donor, and private sector stakeholders is required.
- Work/Residency Permits:** For applicants who are not Liberian Citizens, valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia are required. This information should be clearly stated in the application package.
- Language Proficiency:** English proficiency requirements by level IV specialization (speak/read): Proficiency in speaking and writing English Level 4 is required.

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

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

1. Selection Process

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

2. Evaluation Factors

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

FACTOR #1: Understanding of the Agriculture Sector of Liberia

In 500 words or less, describe the critical challenges in the agriculture sector of Liberia. How do you think these challenges can be addressed and what roles the different key stakeholders should play to change the narrative in the sector?

FACTOR #2: Technical Oversight and Project Management:

In 500 words or less, describe your experience in management of agriculture projects or contract administration including start-up, work planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and close-out of activities.

FACTOR #3: Knowledge Management and Relationship Development:

In 500 words or less, describe your experience managing relationships and coordination with the Government of Liberia and other key donors, international financial institutions, non-government organizations and local stakeholders. Give specific examples of your experience with knowledge sharing, consensus building and the coordination of activities.

3. Basis of Rating

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

Evaluation Factors	40 point
Factor #1	15 points
Factor #2	15 points
Factor #3	10 points

Interview Performance 40 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's ability to:

- respond in a clear and concise manner to a series of questions about the applicant's experience, skills, and goals as they directly relate to the position duties and responsibilities described above.
- Assess their communication skills.

Written Evaluation 20 points

Candidates selected for an interview will be given a 30 minute written exercise. The purpose of the written exercise is to evaluate the candidate's writing ability and assess their analytical skills.

Total Possible Points 100 points

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

- Eligible Offerors are required to complete and submit the form AID 309-2 (**Offeror Information for Personal Services Contracts with Individuals**) (please copy and search on your browser); and a current resume that provides detailed information as contained in the AID 309-2 form.
- Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-23-000026 – Project Management Specialist (Agriculture)** to LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

Applicants may apply 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:

- AID 309-2 Offeror Information for Personnel Services Contractors with Individuals form
- A current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, not to exceed 3 pages.
- 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.
- A supplemental document with a written response to the Evaluation Factors.

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

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

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

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

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

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Boakai sounds caveat

By Lincoln G. Peters

Opposition Unity Party (UP) Presidential Candidate Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai, says the UP will forcefully resist any

make it abundantly clear and assure you that any plans or attempts to thwart the will of the Liberian people by stealing these elections will be forcefully resisted by us, the

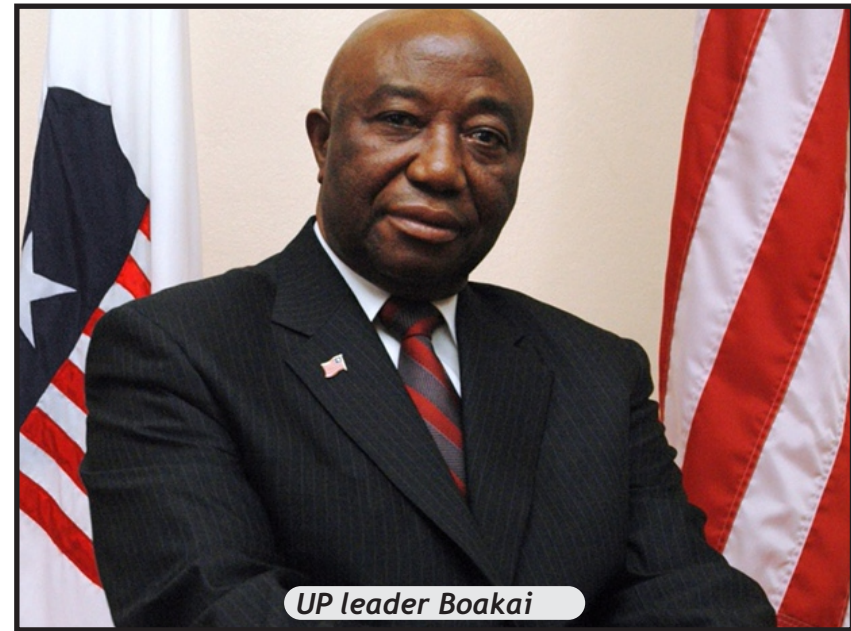
recent statements by some partners of Liberia, including the United States government on the need to safeguard the integrity of these elections. The opposition candidate notes that preserving the sanctity of elections is of paramount importance in upholding the principles of democracy and ensuring that the will of the people is accurately represented.

"While we welcome the imposition of sanctions on those who would attempt to thwart the will of the Liberian people, we call on ECOWAS, the United States, the European Union, the African Union, and organizations such as International Foundation for Electoral System (IFES) to fully, thoroughly and actively engage the process now to avert any threat that will undermine these elections by acknowledging and understanding the significance of identifying and combatting any attempt to undermine this fundamental aspect of our society."

Meanwhile, Amb. Boakai recognizes challenges that lie ahead, saying that the Liberian society faces many foundational challenges,

However, he welcomes

▶ CONT'D page 7



UP leader Boakai

attempt to rig the October 10th elections. In a statement to his supporters following official launch of UP campaign on Sunday, 17 September inside the Antoinette Tubman Stadium in Monrovia, Mr. Boakai said it's time the NEC and government be informed that any attempt to thwart the will of the people by stealing their votes, will be forcefully resisted.

people of Liberia, and the international community, which has invested so much in the peace and stability of this country. And as I said before, we will also leave no stone unturned to work with international prosecutors to expose and arrest those who would foster electoral violence and derail our hard-won peace", the former Vice President said.

"First and foremost, let me

CDC opposes bill on abortion

By Lewis S Teh

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) says it strongly opposes the New Public Health Bill on Sexual and Reproduction Health currently before the Legislature that talks about abortion.

CDC Secretary General, Jefferson Tamba Kojjee in a press conference at the Coalition's headquarters in oldest Congo Town at the weekend said the Coalition has already communicated with the Liberian Senate, making it clear that it will not support any Act of abortion in Liberia. "Let the senate be reminded that the CDC is not interested in anything that has to do with abortion; we stand against that bill", Kojjee, who is also mayor of Monrovia, said.

He argued that Liberians are religious people, who believe in reproduction, so the population of Liberia should not be reduced by any means or a bill.

He noted that the CDC government respects international partners and NGOs, but does not want Liberia to lose human beings just because of a Bill on Abortion. "We want to compete with Nigeria in terms of

population and CDC under President George Manneh Weah is trying to make sure that Liberians multiply more children to increase our population."

According to the ruling Coalition chief scribe, passage of the abortion bill will eliminate about 40, 000 babies every year, something, his party is against.

Kojjee promised that the CDC will ensure that the bill does not pass at the Senate; adding that the party has begun consultations with senators, including CDC lawmakers not to sign any bill on abortion in Liberia.



CDC Secretary General, Jefferson Tamba Kojjee

Court fines SG in Scott trial

-for attempting to influence justice

By Lincoln G. Peters

A court in Monrovia has fined Liberia's Solicitor General Cllr. Nyantee Tuan for attempting to interfere with jurors and disrobed him from the ongoing trial of former Chief Justice Cllr. Gloria Musu Scott.

Criminal Court 'A' Judge Roosevelt Z. Willie suspended the trial following chambers conference on allegation that Cllr. Tuan entered the premises of the Temple of Justice at 8:00pm with several police officers while trial jurors were being sequestered. Cllr. Tuan is fined an amount of US\$250.00 to be paid in the Judiciary's account within 72 hours or three days, effective as of the date of the ruling. Cllr. Scott and her family members Rebecca Youdeh Wilson, Gertrude Newton, and Alice C. Johnson are facing trial for murder, criminal conspiracy, and [providing] false reports to

trial at the Criminal Court 'A' in Monrovia based on the charges.

During a jury trial, it is illegal for either of the parties to interact with jurors while there is an ongoing trial.

Cllr. Tuan's illegal entry to the premises of the judiciary and attempt to interface with the jury could undermine the credibility of the prosecutors in the case.

His entry into the premises where the jury was being sequestered also violates Section 22.8 of the Civil Procedure Law.

The provision states in part that all the regular jurors comprising a jury shall be kept together from the time it is sworn in and affirmed until it renders a verdict and is discharged.

It adds that no juror, either regular or alternate, shall communicate with any person other than the constable or bailiff sworn to attend to them.



Former Chief Justice Cllr. Gloria Musu Scott

law enforcement officials.

They were sent to court Thursday, 22 June 2023 and subsequently after several months of police investigation about the murder of Cllr. Scott's daughter Charloe Musu. 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.

The defendants are accused of using a sharp instrument believed to be a knife to stab the late Charloe Musu.

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

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. The defendants are undergoing a jury

On Monday, 18 September 2023, a communication titled "Night Entry Of The Temple Of Justice Premises" was sent to the Court Administrator and forwarded to Criminal Court A'.

It informed the court to conduct an investigation and take the appropriate legal action, when said investigation was conducted. In the report, the Judiciary Security Officers stated that the Solicitor General Cllr. Nyanti Tuan had entered the Temple of Justice premises at 8:00pm. It added that Tuan deliberated with the Police Officer assigned at the Jury Quarter, but did not interact or interfere with any of the jurors. Cllr. Tuan has received several charges and fines for ethical breaches during court proceedings.

Reacting to the report, Cllr. Tuan told the Court that he visited the premises of the Temple of

▶ CONT'D page 7

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Starts from page 6

Court fines SG in Scott trial

Joint Security urges parties to adhere to campaign protocol

By Kruah Thompson

The Joint Security of Liberia through the Ministry of Justice is urging all political parties participating in the October's elections to strictly adhere to

The announcement was made on September 16, 2023, during a press briefing at the Ministry of Justice on 14th Street Sinkor in Monrovia, when the Communication Director of the Liberia Drug Enforcement

Agency (LDEA) Michael Geplay, about recent campaign misconducts in Monrovia, pointing that it is the Joint Security's responsibility to safeguard the security of the electoral process.

"The integrity of our democratic process relies on fair and respectful campaigning. We urge all political parties to respect the campaign protocol and maintain a civil discourse throughout this electoral season." Carter added.

The campaign protocol, which was collectively developed by political parties and electoral stakeholders, outlines rules and guidelines that parties must follow during their campaigns.

Mr. Carter said these rules are designed to prevent election violence, discrimination, and hate speech, fostering a healthy and constructive political environment. He emphasized that strict adherence to the protocol is essential not only for the success of the electoral process, but also for the peace and unity of the state. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



campaign protocol outlined by the National Elections Commission (NEC).

Political parties and their candidates are also reminded to prioritize principles of fairness and transparency by strictly adhering to all protocols established by the NEC.

and the spokesperson for the Liberia National Police (LNP) Moses Carter, jointly addressed the media, underscoring the importance of maintaining a peaceful and respectful electoral process.

Police spokesman, Moses Carter, voiced his concerns

Justice on the date as stated in the Investigative Report along with some officers of the Liberia National Police. However, he said he his visit was around 5:30-6:00pm, and not 8:00pm. According to the Solicitor General, he met with the Judiciary Security Services assigned at the gate and two of them escorted him to see his officers assigned at the Jury Quarter.

But he insisted that he did not interact or interfere with any of the jurors. According to him, his reason for coming and wanting to enter the Temple of Justice premises was to interact with his officers assigned at the Jury Quarter.

He said he did not interact neither nor did he interfere with any of the jurors.

"I met with the Judiciary Security Services assigned at the gate and two of them escorted me to see ... [the] officers assigned at the Jury Quarter, but

I did not interact or interfere with any of the Jurors," said Tuan.

"My reasons for coming and wanting to enter the Temple of Justice premises is to interact with officers assigned at the Jury Quarter but did not interact neither did I interfere with any of the Jurors."

According to him, he wanted to advise his officers for them to be vigilant and careful in their duty at the Jury Quarter.

He claimed that he did not want to experience the same situation that occurred with the 100 million dollars drugs case at Criminal Court 'C' wherein the government lost that case.

"I wanted to advise the officers for them to be vigilant and careful in their duty at the Jury Quarter because I did not want to experience the same situation that occurred with the 100 million dollars drugs case that was had in Criminal Court 'C' wherein the Government lost that case," said Cllr. Tuan.

Starts from page 6

Boakai sounds caveat

including political marginalization of citizens in decision-making process, economic inequalities, social injustice, corruption, hunger, disease, ignorance, insecurity, poor infrastructure, environmental degradation, youth unemployment, a drug epidemic, among others.

He says in the face of these challenges, he firmly believes that within every challenge lies an opportunity for growth, noting that together, they will confront these challenges head-on, with compassion and determination.

He assures that the UP will work tirelessly to create an inclusive society, where no one is left behind, where opportunities are abundant, and where the future is brighter for each generation.

"In tandem, we will improve agriculture production, improve our infrastructure, including roads, ensure law and order in our society, invest in the education of young people, improve health and sanitation, prevent the degradation of our environment, and develop its potential for tourism to arrest the dire political, economic and social challenges we face as a

country", he asserted. Boakai, who served as Vice President for 12 years under former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, also promises that transformation will be driven by the people, and therefore, education will be a major part of his agenda.

He believes that a well-educated society is a thriving society, vowing to invest in schools, teachers, and students to ensure the quality of education under a UP government is accessible to all.

He notes that by equipping minds of the young with the knowledge and skills they need, it will unlock their potentials, drive innovation, enhance their dignity and secure a prosperous future for Liberia.

"We will not allow the resources of this country to be mortgaged by a few people for their selfish interests. The people of this country and their government under our stewardship will be equal partners in the judicious exploitation of national resources for the good of the people. If there must be economic growth from the exploitation of our resources, that growth must be equal for our people and must come with development", he concludes. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

The killings must stop!

The U.N. former chief investigator for the special court of Sierra Leone, Dr. Alan White is requesting prosecution for ritualistic killings and despicable crimes against humanity in Liberia during war and in peace, saying "the killings must stop."

Dr. Alan briefed U.S. lawmakers in Washington Tuesday, 19 September 2023, giving historical accounts of recent killings and those carried out during Liberia's civil war for ritualistic purposes.

"Those involved need to be exposed and prosecuted for these heinous crimes. The killings must stop, and we hope that through legislature can effect change and stop this madness once and for all," said Dr. White.

Dr. White indicated that former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's administration was plagued with ritualistic killings, and the same problem continues under incumbent President George Manneh Weah's administration.

Unlike Sirleaf's administration, Dr. White said, there was no insider reporting on her direct involvement on ritualistic

killings.

However, he said he has received information that President Weah's administration is being linked to the ritualistic killings of children. He said sources have revealed that the police are only allowed to investigate these matters in a conspicuous but very superficial manner. Dr. White explained that notable of these cases is the incident involving victims Robert Blamo, Jr., 29, Siafa Boimah, 33 and Blama, who went missing after being hired by St. Moses Funeral Parlor proprietor Mr. Moses Ahoussouhe to undertake a contract in Bong Mines. Mr. Ahoussouhe was accused of hiring the three men on Saturday, 15 October 2020 to

travel to Bong Mines to do technical work for him at his diamond creek when all three of them went missing. They were alleged to have drowned when a canoe they were riding in had capsized.

Dr. White said Ahoussouhe (St. Moses) retrieved the bodies of the three young men but they were never returned to their parents. "He has close ties with the president and the Government of Liberia, and through the Ministry of Justice, he has contact as well. They failed to provide update or release the outcome of the investigation or report on the circumstances that led to the conclusion [that] they drowned," said Dr. White.

▶ CONT'D page 11



Alan White

Read the NewDawn everyday & Advertise with us!

Français

« Aucun lien de haut niveau » avec les médicaments RIA

Le gouvernement libérien a affirmé qu'une enquête active est en cours pour en savoir plus sur la drogue qui a été saisie à l'aéroport

le patron de la LDEA, a déclaré qu'aucun haut responsable n'était impliqué dans l'importation de la méthamphétamine saisie récemment au RIA.

vous avons déjà indiqué le destinataire d'origine. Nous avons contacté Kenyan Airways et le document que Kenya Airways nous a fourni est authentique. Le destinataire est Stephen Daniel. Aucun supérieur n'y est lié », a déclaré M. Zehyoue.

M. Zehyoue a expliqué que la valeur des dix caisses contenant 120 kilogrammes de drogue est de 880 000 dollars américains.

Plus tôt lors de la conférence de presse, M. Boakai Fofana, vice-ministre de l'Information chargé des services techniques, a expliqué que l'expéditeur de la substance contrôlée est un certain Hassan Omar, faisant référence à un document que le gouvernement a obtenu de Kenya Airways.

Il a ajouté que d'autres autorités peuvent également confirmer que la drogue devrait être reçue par Stephen Daniels.

La semaine dernière, le ministère de la Justice du Libéria avait confirmé que de la méthamphétamine, [drogues récréatives prises pour le plaisir plutôt que pour la médication], était présente dans le lot de cartons intercepté au RIA.

Par un communiqué du 12 septembre 2023, le Gouvernement libérien a

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



international Roberts (RIA).

Le chef de l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue (LDEA) et des responsables du ministère de l'Information, des Affaires culturelles et du Tourisme (MICAT) se sont adressés aux médias ce week-end pour faire le point sur la drogue. Ils sont catégoriques, aucun cadre du gouvernement n'est lié à cette drogue.

Lors de la conférence de presse, M. Michael Zehyoue,

Il a tenu à préciser que l'enquête est en cours et qu'un certain nombre de personnes suspectées sont interrogées. Parmi ces personnes figure bien entendu le chef de la sécurité du RIA, qui fit l'objet de suspension avant d'être transféré à la LDEA. Il y a aussi un certain Stephen Daniel, et Hinneh Kollie, un agent du département de sécurité du RIA.

« Donc, comme je l'ai dit, aucun haut responsable n'est lié à cette affaire de drogue. Nous

L'UP nie d'avoir produit une liste noire et accuse le pouvoir

Le principal parti de l'opposition, à savoir le Parti de l'Unité (UP), a dit ne pas avoir établi une liste contenant les noms de 67 personnes, dont des hommes politiques et des journalistes de haut rang, à qui il serait interdit d'occuper des postes de responsabilité si son candidat venait à être élu à la prochaine présidentielle.

Le Parti de l'Unité, dans un communiqué de presse qu'il a publié lundi 18 septembre, a décrit la liste qui circule sur les réseaux sociaux comme une création frivole de la part du pouvoir de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) pour distraire le peuple.

Le parti d'opposition accuse ses adversaires, dont notamment la Collaboration des Partis Politique (CPP) et la CDC d'avoir fait cette « liste noire » qui fait actuellement buzz sur les réseaux sociaux pour ternir son image.

« Le Parti de l'unité se distancie catégoriquement de ces mensonges malveillants orchestrés par la CDC à des fins de

propagande », a déclaré l'UP.

« Nous ne sommes pas surpris qu'un jour après que le peuple libérien ait défié des pluies torrentielles et se soit rassemblé pour affirmer son soutien à la candidature de S. E. Joseph Nyuma Boakai à la prochaine élection présidentielle, la CDC soit entrée dans un état de panique et, par conséquent, fait recours à une propagande désespérée pour entacher l'image démocratique du Parti de l'unité », a ajouté l'UP.

Selon l'UP, la seule liste noire qui puisse exister actuellement est celle créée par la CDC immédiatement après avoir pris la direction du Libéria et par laquelle

beaucoup de libériens se sont vus refusés de l'emploi à cause de leur appartenance politique.

« Les morts mystérieuses d'Albert Peter, Gifty Lama, Matthew Innis et autres sont tous des exemples clairs de ce que la CDC a fait et souhaite toujours faire pour dissimuler ses activités diaboliques contre les masses pauvres », a ajouté le parti.

Le Parti de l'unité a déclaré qu'en ce qui le concerne, tous les Libériens sont égaux et seront à ce titre protégés et inclus dans le nouveau

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



ECOWAS Amb. Josephine Kkrumah

Éditorial

L'Etat doit mener une enquête approfondie dans cette affaire de trafic de drogue

L'enquête que mène actuellement le ministère de la Justice et l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue pour faire la lumière sur l'importation récente de plusieurs cartons de drogues nocives à l'aéroport international Roberts ne devrait pas aboutir à un autre fiasco comme ce fut le cas dans les affaires des lots de cocaïne évalués respectivement à 100 millions et 45 millions de dollars américains importés dans des conteneurs au port franc de Monrovia l'année dernière et au début de cette année.

Les autorités aéroportuaires avaient initialement fait croire que les cartons ne contenaient pas de drogues nocives, mais des feuilles médicinales appelées Morigan. Mais elles se sont fait contredire par les autorités sécuritaires du Libéria qui ont confirmé que les cartons interceptés par un contingent des forces armées du Libéria affecté à l'aéroport contenaient bel et bien une drogue illicite appelée méthamphétamine.

La méthamphétamine est un stimulant puissant qui crée une forte dépendance et qui affecte le système nerveux central. Il se présente sous la forme d'une poudre cristalline blanche, inodore et au goût amer qui se dissout facilement dans l'eau ou l'alcool.

En conséquence, le chef de la sécurité de la RIA, Samuel Freeman, qui aurait pris livraison du lot, a été suspendu, dans l'attente d'une enquête approfondie.

Cependant, compte tenu des faits auxquels nous avons assisté dans une affaire de la cocaïne où trois accusés clés ont été jugés non coupables et ensuite libérés par le tribunal, puis poursuivis de nouveau par le gouvernement alors qu'ils étaient cette fois-ci déjà hors du pays, tout le monde est septique. On craint que cela ne se reproduise.

Les responsables de la Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA), par l'intermédiaire de son directeur général, Michael Zeyhou, ont déclaré que la drogue, évaluée à 37 millions de dollars, appartiendrait à un ressortissant kenyan non identifié.

En juillet de cette année, le gouvernement du Libéria a adopté une nouvelle loi sur les drogues, connue sous le nom de Control and Substance Act, afin de renforcer les lois existantes. En vertu de la nouvelle loi, la possession illégale de drogues ou le trafic de substances de contrebande constituent un délit ne pouvant donner lieu à une libération sous caution.

La nouvelle loi vise à restreindre, gérer, réduire ou éliminer l'importation ou l'exportation de drogues illicites. Il a cité les substances stupéfiantes et leur usage abusif et abus généralisé ainsi que la prolifération des substances de contrebande dans le pays. La loi indique en partie qu'un individu aurait commis une infraction s'il importait ou trafiquait intentionnellement ou sciemment des drogues ou des substances contrôlées au Libéria.

Il qualifie également de délit grave un crime au premier degré, passible d'une peine d'emprisonnement maximale de 10 à vingt ans pour les contrevenants graves.

Une enquête rapide et l'arrestation des coupables pourraient constituer un test décisif pour la détermination du gouvernement à lutter contre le trafic de drogues illicites.

C'est dans cette optique que nous appelons à une enquête approfondie et bien intentionnée pour identifier les véritables coupables. Nous ne voulons pas d'un exercice cosmétique qui balayerait les véritables problèmes sous le tapis, pour ensuite présenter au public des conclusions dénuées de sens et peu concluantes.

Français

Starts from page 8 « **Aucun lien de haut niveau** »

confirmé le public que le lot de contenant des plantes médicinales - conditionnées et sous forme naturelle - au RIA révèle la présence de méthamphétamine.

On pensait initialement que les caisses en question contenaient des plantes médicinales sous leur forme naturelle, bien qu'il y ait eu un tollé général contre cette version initiale.

Le ministère de l'Information de Monrovia a déclaré mardi 12 septembre 2023 que l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue avait mené une enquête approfondie, découvrant la méthamphétamine illicite, une substance connue pour son fort potentiel nocif.

Le communiqué indique que le ministre de la Justice Frank Musah Dean Jr. a pris des mesures immédiates en réponse à cette révélation alarmante.

Le communiqué indique que Dean a donné des directives à la sécurité conjointe du Libéria, notamment à la LDEA, à la police nationale libérienne (LNP) et à la National Security Agency (NSA), pour qu'elles intensifient leurs enquêtes sur l'importation de ces drogues dangereuses.

La méthamphétamine, communément appelée «

méthamphétamine », est un stimulant puissant du système nerveux central qui crée une forte dépendance. Selon les recherches, il s'agit d'une drogue synthétique qui affecte le cerveau et le corps, entraînant une vigilance accrue, de l'énergie et un sentiment d'euphorie.

La méthamphétamine est chimiquement similaire à l'amphétamine, un médicament utilisé pour traiter le trouble déficitaire de l'attention avec hyperactivité (TDAH) et la narcolepsie, mais la méthamphétamine est beaucoup plus puissante et présente un potentiel d'abus plus élevé.

La méthamphétamine est généralement vendue sous forme de poudre cristalline blanche, inodore et au goût amer qui peut être ingérée par voie orale, renflée, fumée ou injectée. Ses noms de rue incluent « meth », « crystal », « crystal meth », « ice » et « crank ».

Des recherches ont montré que la consommation de méthamphétamine peut avoir des effets graves et nocifs sur la santé physique et mentale d'une personne. Les effets à court terme peuvent inclure une augmentation de la fréquence cardiaque, une pression artérielle élevée, une diminution de l'appétit et un sentiment accru de bien-être.

Starts from page 8 **L'UP nie d'avoir produit**

gouvernement si M. Joseph Nyumah Boakai est élu président de la république.

« Aucun gouvernement n'a incorporé autant d'opposants que le gouvernement du Parti de l'unité quand il était au pouvoir. Il faut se rappeler les nominations de George Weah comme ambassadeur de la paix du Libéria, Nathaniel McGill comme ministre adjoint alors qu'il était encore secrétaire général du CDC, Samuel Tweah comme consultant au ministère des Finances et plus tard à la BAD et bien d'autres.

Contrairement à ce pouvoir qui a détourné les opportunités du peuple et en a fait des étrangers dans sa

propre économie, le Parti de l'unité a fourni une plate-forme permettant à chaque Libérien de participer à l'administration de ses propres affaires. Les entreprises libériennes étaient à l'horizon sous l'administration UP.

L'UP appelle la CDC à faire campagne sur ses états de service s'il y en a et à renoncer à toute propagande puérile qui a tendance à saper la paix et la stabilité du pays.

L'UP appelle tous les partisans, les membres des partis de l'Alliance et les partisans de la mission de sauvetage à poursuivre la campagne de porte à porte et à sortir en masse pour voter contre le gouvernement dirigé par la CDC le 10 octobre 2023. »

COMMENTAIRE

Par Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg

Le protectionnisme a allumé le feu géopolitique

NEW HAVEN (CONN.) - Il est déconcertant de voir comment nombre d'économistes de premier plan ont décrié les barrières douanières mises en place par l'administration Trump - un protectionnisme qui portait atteinte à la prospérité - puis ont approuvé les initiatives plus drastiques encore de l'administration Biden visant à relocaliser, à rapatrier dans des pays amis ou à découpler les productions américaines des productions chinoises. En mars 2018, dans un sondage de l'université Chicago Booth réalisé auprès des économistes, la totalité des personnes interrogées déclaraient être opposées aux nouvelles barrières douanières des États-Unis ; puis, en janvier 2022, une majorité de sondés, chevauchant largement l'échantillon précédent, affirmait douter de l'efficacité des chaînes d'approvisionnement mondiales. Seules deux personnes interrogées (dont je fais partie) ne partageaient pas l'analyse selon laquelle leur dépendance aux fournitures venues de l'étranger aurait rendu les industries des États-Unis vulnérables aux perturbations des marchés.

Dans ce tableau, Dani Rodrik, qui affirme dans une récente tribune que les conséquences de la géopolitique actuelle sont bien plus graves qu'un regain de protectionnisme, fait figure d'exception. L'argument est à considérer. Souvenons-nous néanmoins que le protectionnisme a été l'un des premiers catalyseurs de l'escalade des tensions géopolitiques que nous connaissons aujourd'hui.

Les barrières douanières de Trump ont inversé une tendance de long terme à la libéralisation des échanges et imposé à l'économie des États-Unis des coûts réels, puisqu'elles ont augmenté les prix pour les consommateurs et les entreprises des États-Unis qui utilisent des biens intermédiaires importés de Chine. Mais les mesures prises par Trump ont eu peu de conséquences globales sur le commerce mondial. Si, comme on pouvait le prévoir, les échanges entre les États-Unis et la Chine ont diminué, les exportations de nombreux autres pays - à la fois vers les États-Unis et vers le reste du monde - ont augmenté. Les flux commerciaux se sont réalloués, ils n'ont pas été réduits.

En revanche, la croyance dans les bénéfices du commerce international a pris un coup, et de plus en plus de gens le considèrent désormais comme un jeu à somme nulle. Selon le récit diffusé par l'administration Trump, un bon nombre des problèmes économiques qui handicapaient de longue date l'Amérique étaient dus aux échanges avec la Chine. Les inégalités s'étaient sévèrement creusées aux États-Unis, et les jeunes générations ne faisaient plus aussi bien que leurs parents. Et comme si ces déboires étaient insuffisants, les jeunes Chinois, semblait-il, réussissaient mieux, quant à eux, que la génération précédente. Les choses étaient sûrement liées. Si la Chine faisait si bien, l'Amérique devait alors rester à la traîne.

Au début, beaucoup critiquèrent ce récit, jugé démagogue et populiste. Mais il gagna progressivement en influence, et lorsque frappa le Covid-19, les arguments en faveur du protectionnisme et contre la Chine s'inscrivirent dans le discours général. Tout à coup, tout le monde tombait d'accord pour dire que les problèmes liés à la pandémie qui se posaient aux chaînes d'approvisionnement étaient une conséquence du commerce international. Peu importait que nombre de goulots d'étranglement eussent une origine intérieure et n'eussent rien à voir avec les chaînes d'approvisionnement mondiales, ou que sans masques importés de Chine, les pénuries d'équipements de protection individuelle eussent été pires, ou encore que malgré le choc causé par la pandémie - le plus important, mondialement, depuis la Seconde Guerre mondiale -, l'économie mondiale se fût avérée plutôt résiliente. Le récit rejetait toujours plus le blâme sur les échanges internationaux, particulièrement sur le commerce avec la Chine, quel que soit le problème de l'économie moderne.

Puis vint l'invasion brutale de l'Ukraine par la Russie - le coup de grâce. Bien que l'agresseur fût la Russie et non la Chine, il ne devenait que trop facile d'imaginer ce qui arriverait à l'économie mondiale si la Chine envahissait Taïwan. Les inquiétudes concernant les risques géopolitiques et la sécurité nationale occupèrent le premier plan, donnant d'autant plus de poids aux appels non seulement au protectionnisme mais à un plus grand découplage économique d'avec la Chine.

Une fois encore, il est aisé de rejeter sur l'invasion russe l'entrée dans une nouvelle guerre froide. Mais en serions-nous là sans la résurgence du protectionnisme et sans les appels à la résilience des chaînes d'approvisionnement entendus ces dernières années ? en sapant la croyance dans la coopération internationale et en donnant crédit au récit selon lequel les échanges commerciaux sont un jeu à somme nulle, ces politiques et ces objectifs stratégiques ont créé quelques-unes des conditions préalables à l'état de guerre économique que nous connaissons aujourd'hui.

Si les échanges commerciaux étaient présentés en 2015-2016, lorsque Trump fut élu, comme un jeu à somme nulle, c'est maintenant la prospérité nationale qui est dépeinte en ces termes. La question n'est plus seulement celle des barrières douanières et du commerce, éléments qui n'interviennent dans le débat que dans la mesure où ils peuvent empêcher la Chine de développer ses capacités technologiques. Les grandes questions, nous dit-on, sont aujourd'hui la réduction des risques (le de-risking) et la sécurité nationale, bien plus que le désir de l'Amérique de conserver sa domination économique.

Mais de telles justifications posent problème. Considérons la réduction des risques. L'initiative semble répondre aux exigences de la prudence, mais concerne-t-elle réellement la Chine ? La production mondiale des semi-conducteurs les plus avancés se concentre dans les mains d'une seule entreprise (TSMC), qui est taïwanaise, ce qui fait certainement courir un risque important de perturbation des chaînes d'approvisionnement si l'entreprise devait faire l'expérience de quelque choc. Mais un tel choc ne sera pas nécessairement une invasion chinoise, il peut aussi prendre la forme d'une crise sanitaire, d'une catastrophe naturelle, voire de difficultés personnelles. Le problème central n'est pas la Chine, mais la trop grande concentration du marché. Un risque de ce genre serait tout aussi préoccupant si l'entreprise avait son siège aux États-Unis.

S'il est parfaitement justifié qu'on s'inquiète de diversification optimale et de réduction des risques, tout traduire en termes géopolitiques ne l'est pas. Lorsque Trump, récemment, a promis, s'il était réélu, d'augmenter massivement les barrières douanières, la communauté internationale n'a pas tardé à condamner ce genre de mesures. Mais les barrières douanières n'ont plus aujourd'hui la même importance, le mal est déjà fait.

Nous vivons une nouvelle ère. Comme je l'avais noté dans une précédente tribune, m'appuyant sur le travail d'historiens de l'économie, l'évolution récente de la politique étrangère et commerciale des États-Unis évoque étrangement la période qui a conduit à la Seconde Guerre mondiale. Le protectionnisme est un problème, non seulement parce qu'il a des conséquences sur les échanges commerciaux, mais aussi parce qu'il retentit sur les relations internationales et sur la géopolitique.

Traduit de l'anglais par François Boisivon

Pinelopi Koujianou Goldberg, ancienne cheffe économiste du groupe Banque mondiale et ancienne rédactrice en chef de l'American Economic Review, est professeure d'économie à l'université Yale.

Read the
NewDawn everyday



Advertise with us!

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Crowd-Pulling Rallies in 2023: The New Phenomenon of Liberian Electioneering

By S.Karweaye

The theatricals for winning the hearts and minds of the Liberian voters are all around us. The perceptual game of showing strength in the number of supporters is an age-long effective game plan of the parties, and it is one strategy that cuts across mainly the ruling Coalition For Democratic Change (CDC) and the former ruling Unity Party (UP).

These two political parties are outdoing themselves in winning the popularity contests typified by pulling crowds with the most outrageous noises and boisterous displays in rallies on the streets, roads, stadiums, and other venues that can contain crowds. If pulling crowds is the determinant of election outcomes, the 2023 general elections would have been won and lost.

Politics all over the world feeds on numbers- crowds.



Liberia is no exception, and with what we have seen so far in the 2023 electoral campaigns, Liberian politicians are taking this to another level. Liberian politics feeds on a crowd fuelled by a panoply of factors, most importantly Money.

The crowd that congregates whenever there is a rally has more to do with economic reasons than belief in a cause or loyalty to a party.

The availability of young men and women for political rallies is due to the high level of unemployment, hunger, and abject poverty in the country. Although the crowd is an old phenomenon associated with politics, unemployment in Liberia has complicated the matter.



Unemployed youth is a fertile ground for political mobilization and they are ready to be hired; with their energies channelled to political causes that do not serve them any purpose or represent their views.

Another factor responsible for large crowds at political rallies in Liberia is the acute poverty pervading the land. Many Liberians who should ordinarily be engaged in productive activities are hired for between US\$2 to US\$10 to attend campaign rallies. These amounts depend on which region of the country the rallies are held in and whether the party involved is in power or not.

With 2.7 million (52.3%) Liberians being multidimensional poor, every dollar available for the next meal or to help pay school fees and the house rent is important and worth sacrificing time for. Most persons attending campaign rallies under the current dispensation are going for the day-paid job, and it has nothing to do with passion for any political ideal or candidate or even the hope of a better tomorrow, which ordinarily politicians trade in.

The next factor contributing to the growing crowd pulling at political party rallies is the significant erosion of our value system. Honesty, integrity, and self-respect are vanishing traits in Liberian society. Most participants in these rallies know the candidates and the parties are incompetent and the opposite of what they believe in and know, yet they openly identify with them in rallies when paid, even though many still vote otherwise.

Truth be told, most of our dominant political parties have no known ideologies, and attraction to them is often based on tribal, regional, parochial or mundane sentiments. This anomaly is counterproductive during electioneering campaigns when people see all political activities as making money, consolidating political capital, and gaining political patronage.

Some in the crowd want to have fun, love the atmosphere and fun activities during rallies, and want to participate. Although in the rally, out of curiosity or just having fun, this group will collect money or other provisions if provided.

Hunger has been weaponized in Liberia, and any political campaign rally that provides food will experience more crowd-pulling.

For a country blessed with so many food production endowments, the 2022 Global Hunger Index (GHI) scored Liberia at 32.4 indicating a 'serious' hunger problem in the country. Social media are awash with real-life videos of the fights for food and provisions in various rallies across the nation. It is embarrassing that hunger is linked with political campaigns in Liberia.

People are struggling to survive and live in the moment. Sadly, Liberians avoid rallies where candidates will elucidate policies to alleviate hunger. They want rallies where they are fed for the day and given money.

In the case of CDC, the party claimed to have hosted a one million men rally on September 7, 2023, as their core argument for a one-round victory in the 2023 presidential election even though at the height of George Weah's popularity in 2005, the CDC received 275,265 (28.27%) in the first round of the presidential election while in the second round, he lost with 327,046 (40.60%). Fast forward to the 2017 presidential election, CDC received 596,037(38%) of the popular votes in the first round while 732,185 (61.54%) of the popular vote despite boasting of another one million men campaign launched.

This one-round victory perception is crucial as portrayed by the CDC, especially for winning the election and managing the post-election conflicts that are often inevitable in Liberia politics, especially at the Supreme Court. However, it is evident that such crowd-pulling, no matter the visual power they portray, does not translate to voter loyalty or electoral victory.

Liberia has a history of voter apathy, where a significant number of registered voters fail to show up on election day. During the 2017 general elections, the country had approximately 2.1 million registered voters, however, turnout in the presidential election was 1,641,922 (75.19%) despite massive crowds pulling at political rallies during the campaigning period. In the 2014 Special Senatorial Election, it was 25.2% while in the 2020 election for the Liberian senate, out of 2.4 million registered voters, the turnout was 36% which means 64.42% of



registered voters never voted so large crowds at political campaign rallies usually do not translate to high voter turnout either.

In reality or by all sorts of axioms large crowds may not actually translate into an election victory in the elections. This is because the political leaves are already changing color and the wind feels different with the political quotient amongst the Liberia electorates. Therefore you cannot judge the popularity of any candidate by the large crowds around him or her. On October 10, 2023, Liberians will see whether those who have been attending rallies are true supporters of candidates or not. I rest my case.

In Jessica's attempted murder saga: Speaker calls for justice

The speaker of the House of Representatives, Dr. Bhofal Chambers, is calling for justice in the attempted murder case of young Jessica Lloyd.



attempted murder case of young Jessica Lloyd. According to report, an American national identified as Lucas Richard, recently attempted to murder Jessica Lloyd, after he slit her throat with a knife in Barnersville. Speaker Chambers intimated that the domestic violence meted against the young Liberian lady Jessica, contravenes the laws of Liberia including other international treaties. He maintained that prosecuting suspect Richard, will prevent such recurrence and protect the rights of all Liberians.

The Speaker made the comments Tuesday, September 19, 2023, after he visited and identified with victim Jessica Lloyd at the John F. Kennedy Medical Hospital. Meanwhile, the Liberia National Police-LNP, said it is investigating the American national on allegations of Criminal attempt to commit murder and aggravated assault.

The victim of attempted Murder, Jessica Lloyd, is currently undergoing treatment at the John F. Kennedy Medical Center in Monrovia. An American national, Lucas Richard, recently meted and inflicted bodily wounds on her in Barnersville.

The Honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives, Dr. Bhofal Chambers, visited and rendered financial support to her Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

Explaining her ordeal, Jessica revealed that Lucas had earlier picked her up from her home informing her that he wanted to go view a certain place on the waterside located in the Barnersville area.

According to her, when she and Lucas arrived at the waterside, some thugs were there who requested money. But he told them that he had missed the road to his destination. So,

they directed him to where he said he was going.

"But firstly, before we got down from the car, he took out

the knife and said 'you know I am afraid of snakes; so, in case we see snake, we can kill it. So, he got down from the car and put the knife in his pocket," Jessica narrated.

The victim said later on, Lucas walked her down into a bush off the main road claiming he wanted to urinate; she offered to hold their water bottle while he passed urine.

But she said after peeing, Lucas told her he had seen something under the bush like an animal and she should come nearer to see it. Jessica narrated further that being afraid, she only stood at a distance from behind him.

Jessica: "It's like when I was going to go closer, he was just going to kill me right there. When he finished peeing, I said wash your hands. He said thank you, but I want to use sanitizer. When we went a bit in front, he said he wanted to pee again in some kind of bush. He said stand behind me; you know these small children can be passing around. That's how I stood behind him but not too close. When he finished, we took the direction where the car was packed."

She stated that they then drove to the road leading to the Saint Michael School in Barnersville to get on the route towards Duala. The victim narrated further that after Lucas drove past all the crowded places, she told him they should just find a place around there and talk instead of going further.

The victim further explained, "then we came across a cemetery. He said sometimes in America we go at the cemetery to view graves, look at the names of

the people who have died and when they died. I said no; I don't want to go there; I'm scared of graves. So that's how we went in front small into a bush... So, he said the car tyre had problem and he wanted to change it." Jessica noted that she sat in the car while Lucas went to fix the tyre; but later he requested to get down and help him. Later, she said Lucas then gave her a tool and instructed her to try to loosen one of the bolts on the tyre ring while he unscrewed another.

"So, I was turning the screw. He said oh there's dirt in your hair and put his hand in my hair and opened it up... said he was cleaning the dirt. Then he hit it (Jessica's head). I heard booop... I fell on the ground and started jerking. When I woke up, he pushed me back on the ground," Jessica narrated.

She said after she fell to the ground, Lucas then took out the knife from his pocket and started cutting her neck, but she was not feeling the pain because he had apparently drugged her while in the car.

According to the victim, while cutting her neck, a young man who had been watching the suspicious scene came running towards Lucas with a stick causing him to get off her to flee for safety since the situation had gained the attention of angry mobs. However, Lucas told police investigation that he was not the one who harmed Jessica, whose pictorial evidence revealed he had traditionally married.

He said while he was yet changing his car tyre, a motorbike ran into Jessica who was standing on the sidewalk. But while reaching out to help the victim, the motorbike rider started shouting and calling crowd on him.

On Friday, speculations broke up that Lucas had since been extradited to the United States of America since US citizens are not allowed to be tried by other nations, but the Liberia National Police said it was still investigating the American national on allegations of Criminal Attempt to Commit Murder and Aggravated Assault.

The killings must stop!

Starts from page 7

Dr. White indicated that the aggrieved families believe that their children are being kept in a secret place to be used for ritualistic purposes. He said the family members sought the assistance of the international community including the U.S. Embassy and the United Nations, leading the UN to call on the Liberian government to investigate killings which had been reported to link to ritual practice. In 2021 alone, Dr. White said at least ten people were killed, reportedly linked to ritualistic killing or political motivation.

He added that they were either former officials or had links to former politicians. White noted that recent deaths involving some girls during President George Manneh Weah's 2023 political campaign outraged the citizens.

He said the allegation is that the killings were done for ritualistic reasons. He also referenced citizens' message to President Weah which was carried in the NewDawn newspaper's headline that no amount of money or rituals can help President Weah and his Coalition for Democratic Change from leaving office after the 10 October 2023 elections.

Dr. White said his organization will continue to work on these issues

in African countries, especially Liberia which experiences despicable crimes against humanity during war and in peace.

He recalled that during the 14 years civil war in Liberia, there were so many cases where gunmen, some of them child soldiers, ate victims' body parts. He stated that it was well documented that during Liberia's civil war, ritualistic killing was a



Alan White

common place, naming Gen. Butt Naked, now Evangelist Milton Blayee as of the notorious culprits.

According to Dr. White, Mr. Blayee testified before Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) that he ate children's hearts. He said Blayee indicated that human sacrifices were intended to ensure victories in battles.

Legal document: WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS (BY PUBLICATION) from the 13th Judicial Circuit Court for Margibi County, Liberia. It summons Mardea T. Chenoweth, Resident Circuit Judge, to appear before her court on August 22, 2023. The document lists the plaintiff as Amos Johnson of Montserado County and the defendant as Ms. Lucy Tartue and all other under her control. It includes a court seal and the signature of Edward N. Boakai, Clerk.

Legal document: COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME from the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court, Mont. Co., R.L. It grants a name change from Kofi Nana to Kelvin Kay Reeves. The document includes a court seal, the signature of J. Kennedy Peabody, Resident Judge Presiding, and a registration stamp from the Registrar of National Archives Center.

Liberian journalists commit

disinformation pose serious threats to democracy, as they have become instruments that can be used to manipulate public opinion, sow discord, and undermine the electoral process. "The debilitating impact of misinformation and disinformation on elections can

be seen in a number of recent elections around the world, particularly within our region, where lives were lost, properties destroyed, and the credibility of elections compromised. We have had four coups from post-election conflicts in the sub region and

Liberia must stem the tide", she emphasized. Liberians go to elections in October, which will be the third since the end for hostility in 2023, but the first without the presence of international peacekeepers. Story by Jonathan Brown

Liberian journalists commit to support peaceful elections

Journalists returning from a two-day ECOWAS Engagement with the Liberian Media have signed an eight-count joint resolution here, committing to writing, publishing and broadcasting

Participants of the two-day engagement came from diverse sections of the media in Liberia, including print, broadcast and online platforms, pledging to maintain a high standard of professionalism, objectivity and

passions, incite violence, promote hate or threatens the freedom of others to participate peacefully in the elections process”, the joint resolution further reads.

They pledge to diligently and professionally monitor all aspects of the electoral process, across the country with a view to ensuring that all actors in the elections act in accordance with established laws, regulations and international best practices on electioneering processes.

A total of 28 journalists from various media organizations, including state radio and the private media signed the resolution Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at close of the engagement in Monrovia.

Earlier on Monday, the Resident Representative of the President of the ECOWAS Commission in Liberia, Madam Josephine Nkrumah, said the world looks to Liberia to showcase its growing democracy in the impending Presidential and General Elections slated for October 10th.

Madam Nkrumah notes that misinformation and



common editorials in their respective media outlets on matters that are critical to free, fair and peaceful elections in Liberia come October 10th, 2023.

They also agreed to ensure that electorate in Liberia are well-informed thru robust voter education and dissemination of messages thru their respective platforms to ensure that citizens understand candidates and political parties' manifestos, campaigns, polling day procedures ahead of the elections.

impartiality in their coverage and reportage, especially during and after the electioneering period, as well as to broadcast and report news in such a manner that will undermine the ordinary Liberian's fundamental human rights, and shall not encourage the propagation of fake news, inflammatory statements and hate media practices.

“That we consciously agree to work against becoming channels and conduits for publication and broadcasting of materials that can inflame

MoMo Waysay-Wasa 3

Da your time to win!

Dial *156*2#

To buy a **50LRD bundle** and above to enter the draw!

HOPE
You Can Count On

Vote #18

WEAH TAYLOR 2023

@dahmetakeit

The New Dawn

TRULY INDEPENDENT

PRESS

WE DO GENERAL PRINTING SERVICES:

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

DIGITAL & OFFSET Printing

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