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

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-At closing rally



Pres. Weah



UP campaign turns bloody in Nimba

-Several persons hospitalized

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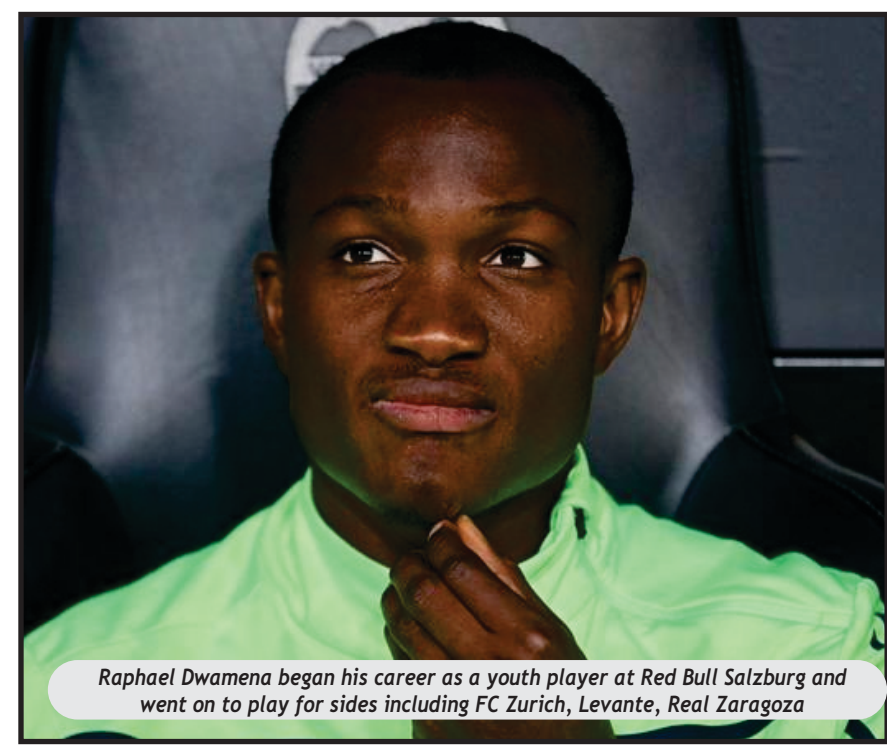
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Continental News

Raphael Dwamena: Ghana striker dies aged 28 after on-pitch collapse

Ghana striker Raphael Dwamena has died aged 28 after collapsing on the pitch during a league match in Albania. He was the leading scorer in the Albanian league this season with nine goals. He had won nine caps and scored two goals for his country. Saturday's match was



Raphael Dwamena began his career as a youth player at Red Bull Salzburg and went on to play for sides including FC Zurich, Levante, Real Zaragoza

Dwamena was playing for Egnatia against Partizani on Saturday. "Despite the immediate intervention of specialist doctors he unfortunately passed away," said the Albanian Football Federation (AFL). Dwamena was the leading

The Ghana Football Association (GFA) said it sent "our deepest condolences to his family at this difficult moment".

"He served his country well and showed class any time he represented Ghana," GFA president Kurt Edwin Simeon Okraku said in a statement.

In 2017 a proposed £14m move to Brighton fell through after Dwamena failed a medical. He went on to represent Levante in La Liga and also played for Real Zaragoza on loan.

In 2021 he collapsed during a cup match in Austria between his side Blau-Weiss Linz and Hartberg, but recovered and continued his playing career.

He reportedly had a heart operation and had an automatic defibrillator implanted. "Our thoughts are with his family and his loved ones in these difficult moments. His legacy in our club will last forever," Levante said on social media.

Zaragoza also paid tribute, saying: "We are devastated by the sad news of the passing of our former player Raphael Dwamena. You will always be in the memory of Zaragoza's fans. Rest in peace." BBC

EU Condemns Darfur Violence, Warns of 'Another Genocide'

The European Union (EU) condemned on Sunday an escalation of violence in Sudan's Darfur region, warning of the danger of "another genocide" after conflict there between 2003-2008 killed some 300,000 people and displaced more than 2 million.

A war since April between Sudan's regular army and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary has destabilised the western region and reignited long-simmering

"The international community cannot turn a blind eye on what is happening in Darfur and allow another genocide to happen in this region."

On Thursday, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said approximately 700 people were reportedly killed in West Darfur after clashes between the Sudanese army and RSF in El Geneina on Nov. 4 and 5.

The RSF said last week it had taken control of the army headquarters in West Darfur's capital of El Geneina.



This picture taken on Sept. 1, 2023, shows a view of destruction in a livestock market area in al-Fasher, the capital of Sudan's North Darfur state

feuds there.

The EU's chief diplomat Josep Borrell cited in a statement witness reports that more than 1,000 members of the Masalit

Reuters has reported that between April and June this year, the RSF and allied Arab militias conducted weeks of systematic attacks targeting the Masalit, El Geneina's majority tribe, as war

Ugandan army officers sacked for cowardice in attack on Somalia's Bullo Marer Atmis base

A Ugandan military court has found two officers guilty of cowardice as Islamist fighters stormed an African Union base in Somalia in May.

Majors Zadock Abor and John Oluka ran away after they came under attack by al-Shabab in Bullo Marer, south of the capital Mogadishu.

At least 50 Ugandan soldiers were killed, officials say.

Uganda is part of the African Union force helping Somalia's government fight al-Shabab, an al-Qaeda affiliate.

The attack on Bullo Marer was one of the deadliest for the African Union force, Atmis, since it launched a new offensive against al-Shabab last year.

Uganda's president, Yoweri Museveni, criticised his military for its response. The Ugandan military court sitting in Mogadishu heard that the officers had been given warning of an impending attack but failed to act to deter it.

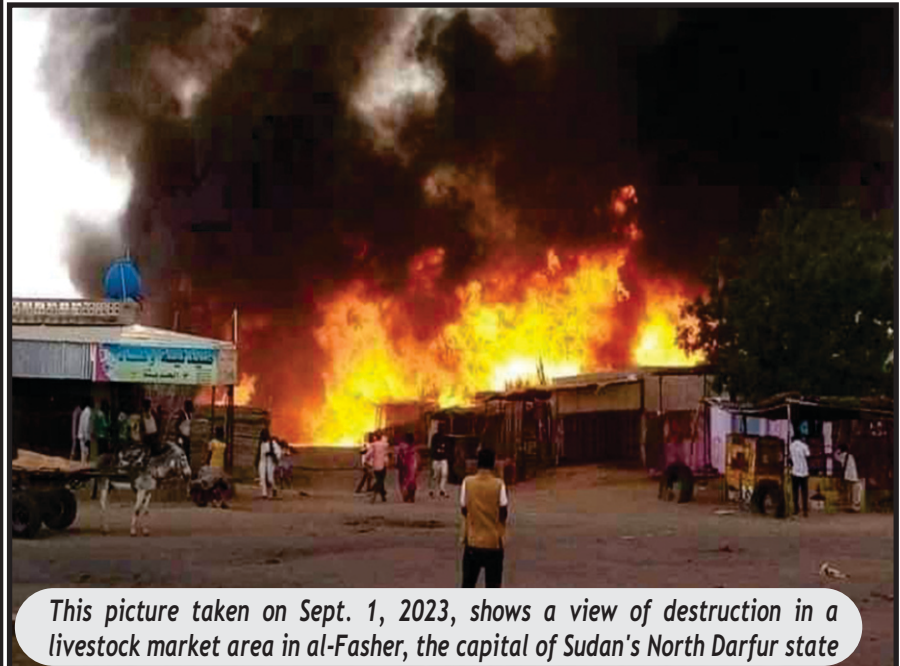
As al-Shabab gunmen stormed the base, they failed to rally their troops and instead ran away to another base.

Both officers have been

dismissed from the army.

Four non-commissioned officers were also found guilty of failing to protect military equipment. The 19,000-strong African Union force was sent to Somalia in 2007 and helped force al-Shabab out of many cities. It is scheduled to transfer security responsibilities to Somalia's government forces and leave the country next year.

However, the offensive against al-Shabab has stalled and the group still controls many rural parts of the country. BBC



This picture taken on Sept. 1, 2023, shows a view of destruction in a livestock market area in al-Fasher, the capital of Sudan's North Darfur state

community were killed in Ardamta, West Darfur, in just over two days during attacks by the RSF and affiliated militias.

"These latest atrocities are seemingly part of a wider ethnic cleansing campaign conducted by the RSF with the aim to eradicate the non-Arab Masalit community from West Darfur, and comes on top of the first wave of large violence in June," Borrell said.

flared with Sudan's army.

In public comments, Arab tribal leaders have denied engaging in ethnic cleansing in El Geneina, and the RSF has previously said it was not involved in what it called tribal conflict.



The 19,000-strong African Union force is due to leave Somalia next year (file photo)

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EDITORIAL

Police should arrest Electoral supervisor Cece Munah Nimely

National Elections Commission electoral supervisor in Pleebo Sodoken District, Maryland County, Cece Munah Nimely, should be apprehended by now, for questioning in connection with a purported leaked audio making rounds in Monrovia that links her to making confession to ballot stuffing against Representative Bhofa Chambers during the 10 October elections.

In the purported audio, Madam Nimely is heard plotting to stuff ballot papers in favor of the declared winner of the district seat, Anthony Williams, who contested against Rep. Chambers, the current Speaker of the House of Representatives.

“I’m going to steal ballot papers since the people do not know how to vote so my attention was, I gave him the ballot papers then he gave it to the people”, Madam Nimely is heard hatching her plot in the purported leaked audio. She adds: “Anything that is supposed to happen passes through the Supervisor and the Presiding Officer, you know how that whole thing looks, the tallying? The thing then we can take from in the field, da it then can put in da system, and nobody change it.”

In the audio, she is also heard explaining that tallying of results from Old Sodoken were delayed to execute the plot against the Speaker.

Speaker Chambers has formally complained to the National Elections Commission, and the NEC is currently hearing the case.

While we do not in any way seek to pass judgment in this matter, our honest recommendation is that the Police should call in the accused for interrogation which will enhance the ongoing hearing.

From all indications, we think she should be given an opportunity to exonerate herself from all accusations and to uphold the integrity of ballots cast at Old Sodoken polling center on October 10, 2023.

This is also necessary to help calm tension that is building up in the district, ahead of the presidential runoff election slated for Tuesday, November 14. Already, supporters of Mr. Anthony Williams are threatening to vote against the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change next Tuesday, if the NEC reversed the poll result in the district in favor of Speaker Chambers, a staunch partisan of the CDC.

The authenticity of the leaked audio is totally something else that we leave up to the NEC hearing officer, but to buttress the exercise, it is important that Madam Cece Munah Nimely is brought in for questioning for her direct role as electoral supervisor.

Lest we are misunderstood, the NEW DAWN does not in any way seek to prejudice the ongoing hearing but to have the NEC bring all sides on board for the sake of transparency and peace without bowing to pressure whatsoever.

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COMMENTARY

By J. Bradford DeLong

The Attention Economy Goes to Court

BERKELEY - The Google antitrust trial has finally shown just how much the world’s dominant search engine is willing - and able - to pay to be the default on smartphones and other devices: \$26 billion in 2021 alone, \$18 billion of which went to another tech giant, Apple.

While Google has long tried to guard this number, it was always known to be large - and so it is.

What is Google paying for? When you set up a new iPhone, Apple could prompt you on which search engine to use as the default in its Safari web browser.

But it doesn’t; it simply selects Google automatically. Of course, one can go into “Settings” and change the default with a few taps of the screen (other options include Yahoo, Bing, DuckDuckGo, and Ecosia).

But almost nobody will bother with that. So, Google transfers billions of dollars to Apple every year to minimize the chances that iPhone search-engine advertising revenue will flow to any company other than Google.

There are several different positions one could take on this issue. You could say that Google is the malefactor.

But you also could say that Apple is. After all, instead of requiring users to choose, it gives Google an unfair advantage in exchange for a hefty fee. Perhaps Google is really the victim.

Since it has the best search engine, companies that want to maximize the value for their customers ought to choose it anyway.

But rather than making Google the default for free, Apple is extorting it with the threat of selling that status to a higher bidder.

It is arguably leveraging its single-buyer power to restrain trade and distort competition.

Or, you could say that this is just business-as-usual in the attention economy. By making enormous investments and displaying unmatched creativity and ingenuity, Apple has emerged as the premier supplier of hardware and software value chains.

Thanks to its efforts, we now have the iOS platform, a powerful engine of human liberation that has furnished us with extraordinarily valuable access to information, communication, and entertainment technologies.

Not only should such ingenuity be rewarded financially; but such rewards should serve a larger purpose, by incentivizing other current and future

innovators to focus on creating products and services that are genuinely useful, rather than on pursuing socially damaging activities such as cryptocurrency grifts. The iPhone is one product that Apple can sell.

But it can also sell iPhone users’ attention to companies that are willing to pay for it.

Why shouldn’t Apple charge what it wants for providing that service?

Finally, one could argue for users to be prompted with a choice, in the interest of ensuring a level playing field among search engines.

If Google has the best search engine, it might end up with a 60% share, whereas each of the other four might secure 10%.

But what if users who are not fully informed or really paying attention opt for an inferior service unwittingly? The overall real-world user experience will have been degraded in the interest of an abstract “level playing field.”

Each of these positions can be plausibly argued, and high-priced lawyers and economists have already been paid large sums of money to hone those arguments and provide supporting evidence.

When it comes to determining which opinion is most faithful to the facts or logically compelling, the devil is in the details. After all, the issue is complex. How does human attention work, exactly, and who should have the right to capture it, direct it, or harvest it for data?

In early-modern Poland, nobles had the right to control their serfs and harvest the wealth generated from their labor in the fields.

When serfs tried to run away, Cossacks would hunt them down and bring them back for a small fee. It is not surprising to see some commentators referring to our current era as a dawning age of “techno-feudalism.”

Still, this does not strike me as the right term, and I worry that it will lead us to adopt the wrong analogies in trying to understand precisely how the attention-information economy works.

My problem is that I cannot think of a better metaphor. Devising one may be the first step toward accurately assessing the world we have wrought.

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OP-ED

By Peter Sands, Justin Vaisse, Marisa Peyre

To Prevent the Next Pandemic, Follow the Science

BRUSSELS - Science is crucial to improving pandemic preparedness and prevention. It not only deepens our understanding of pathogen transmission and containment but also provides us with the flexibility required to adapt to changing circumstances. Relying on scientific evidence enables us to contain risks at the local level, minimize the delay between early warning and action, ensure the effectiveness and reliability of control measures, and expedite the development and deployment of safe treatments, thereby safeguarding public health.

The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the critical role of science-based policies in addressing global health crises. It taught us the importance of establishing robust early warning systems, basing decisions on data, and fostering multidisciplinary collaboration. It has also highlighted

the need for flexible strategies, equitable health care, widespread vaccination access, and mental health support.

Trust in science and expertise has been and remains vital for implementing effective control measures. Policymakers must heed the lessons of COVID-19 and focus on building resilience and fostering international cooperation in preparation for future pandemics while maintaining public confidence in science and experts through clear communication. Recognizing social, economic, and geopolitical contexts has proven to be just as essential

to the management of public-health crises as understanding biological factors. Therefore, adopting a holistic approach that aligns with the One Health approach is critical to devising preventive policies.

Effective prevention, preparedness, and response require continuous collaboration and coordination among scientists, policymakers, health-care professionals, and the general public. To mitigate the impact of pandemics, we must remain committed to science-based decision-making, regularly reviewing and adapting our strategies.

This requires a multi-faceted approach that bridges the gap between science and policy and engages all relevant stakeholders. We must ensure that scientific research and data are transparent and accessible to policymakers. Promoting open-access publication and fostering data sharing among researchers is no longer sufficient; we must translate data into comprehensible and actionable insights.

To implement such a strategy, policymakers should focus on seven key priorities. First, they must promote an evidence-based culture that roots decisions in scientific research and data, and encourages policymakers to consult scientific experts and consider their recommendations.

Second, participatory approaches are crucial for garnering and sustaining public support for science-based policies. By creating platforms and promoting methodologies that encourage open dialogue, scientists can build bridges between policymakers, civil society, and the broader scientific community.

Third, it is essential to organize regular briefings and meetings where scientists can update policymakers on the latest research findings and emerging threats. These briefings should be concise and focus on actionable insights.

Fourth, experts should focus on improving scientific literacy among policymakers. This could be facilitated through training programs, workshops, and educational materials designed to simplify complex scientific concepts.

Fifth, scientific modeling and scenario planning can help policymakers understand the potential implications of different decisions. These models could provide a basis for formulating effective strategies and optimizing resource allocation.

Sixth, it is crucial to conduct regular risk assessments based on scientific evidence to identify potential pandemic threats. These assessments should consider biological, social, economic, and geopolitical factors.

Lastly, policymakers must recognize the complexity of today's emerging threats. With public-health risks becoming increasingly intertwined with climatic, environmental, and social crises, the multidisciplinary and multisectoral One Health approach holds the key to tackling interconnected emergencies.

If there had been greater investment in scientific research, international cooperation, preventive measures, health infrastructure, and equitable response strategies before the outbreak of COVID-19, the world would have been better prepared. With this in mind, we have identified several principles that will enable us to prepare for future pandemics.

We call on policymakers and researchers worldwide to establish interdisciplinary One Health committees or task forces that bring together policymakers, experts, scientists from various disciplines - including the social sciences - and other stakeholders. These committees would be responsible for analyzing scientific evidence, proposing strategies that are both relevant and adaptable, and providing guidance to decision-makers.

To enhance preparedness and responsiveness during crises, we advocate the development of country-level mechanisms that would facilitate discussions between scientists, decision-makers, and the general public. This would encourage information-sharing and help raise awareness of potential risks.

We also recommend developing indicators that reflect social and economic health at the local level. Policymakers must consider these indicators, along with potential externalities and other factors that may precipitate public-health emergencies. In times of uncertainty, the precautionary principle should guide decision-making.

We propose implementing adaptive strategies that incorporate the latest scientific knowledge. These plans must be regularly assessed and improved to reflect new findings. A systematic approach to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response could help identify which measures are effective and which require adjustment.

Actively engaging with the public and the media will be crucial to fostering an understanding of the science behind public-health measures and ensuring that the right messages are communicated clearly and effectively. Moreover, empowering communities by involving them in the development of prevention solutions should be a high priority.

International scientific collaboration and coordination are imperative. By building on past and present innovations, we can maximize the use of resources and benefit from a global pool of expertise and data.

Long-term funding also is vital for science-based decision-making. Investment in research, surveillance, and preparedness must be maintained over time, rather than solely in response to a pandemic. By adjusting funding mechanisms to allow for flexibility in backing intersectoral projects, we can tailor objectives to local needs.

Incorporating science-based solutions into decision-making is an ongoing process that requires collaboration, trust, and a steadfast commitment to using the best available evidence to shape policies and actions. To ensure the efficacy of pandemic prevention strategies, mechanisms for monitoring and adjustment must be established.

The sixth annual Paris Peace Forum on November 10-11, particularly the session "From Science to Policy: How to Inform Decision-Making on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response?" will provide policymakers and donors with an opportunity to reflect on the hard-earned lessons of the past three years and confront these pressing challenges head on.

This commentary was jointly written by the PREZODE consortium, international scientists, decision-makers, civil-society organizations, private actors, and international donors.

It is signed by: Magda Robalo, President of the Institute for Global Health and Development, former Minister of Health of Guinea Bissau; Papa Seck, Senior Advisor to the President of the Republic of Senegal; Marie-Ange Saraka-Yao, Chief of Resource Mobilization and Growth, Gavi,

the Vaccine Alliance; Brigitte Autran, member of the Committee for the Monitoring and Anticipation of Health Risks (COVARIS); Jens Nielsen, CEO, World Climate Foundation; Eloise Todd, Executive Director and Co-founder of the Pandemic Action Network; Jean-Luc Angot, Special Envoy for the Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence initiative (PREZODE); Elisabeth Claverie de Saint-Martin, President and CEO of the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD); Philippe Mauguin, CEO of INRAE; Valérie Verdier, CEO of the French National

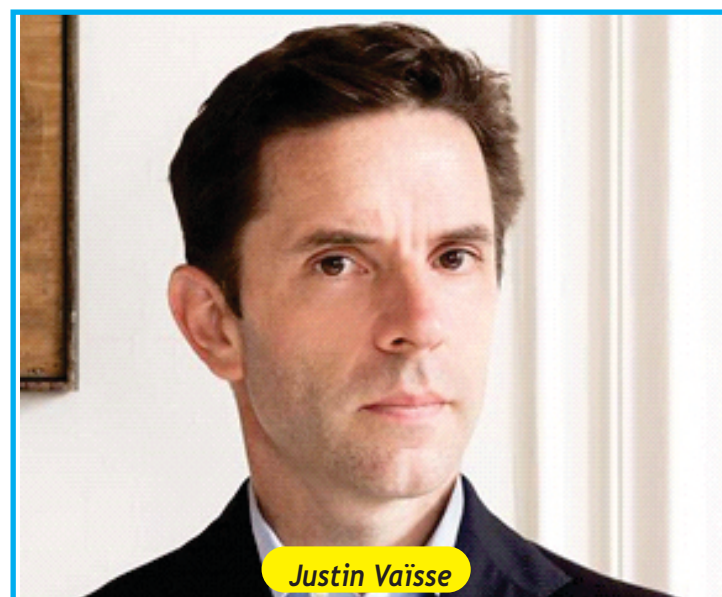
Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD); Musso Munyeme, Professor of Veterinary Public Health, Department of Disease Control, One Health Coordinator (ACEIDHA), The University of Zambia; Osman A Dar, One Health Project Director, Royal Institute of International Affairs; Cheryl Stroud, Executive Director of the One Health Commission; Thi Phuong Vu, Viet Nam One Health Partnership Secretariat; Manuelle Miller, Vice-President of VSF-International; Pham Duc Phuc, Coordinator at the Vietnam One Health University Network (VOHUN); Zeev Noga, Secretary General of PREZODE; Agnès Soucat, Director of Health and Social Protection at the French Development Agency; Thierry Lefrançois, Consultant at One Health at CIRAD, member of COVARIS; and more.



Peter Sands



Marisa Peyre



Justin Vaisse

ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

Liberia's archrivals meet again

Preparations are far advanced at least according to the National Elections Commission for the Tuesday, November 14, Presidential runoff between incumbent President George Weah and former Vice President Joseph N. Boakai.

Though many have considered the November 14 Presidential runoff as a rerun of the 2017 Presidential runoff between the two most popular presidential rivals in recent Liberian history, much has changed since the two men met in 2017.

In 2017, President Weah was at his highest popularity ratings with no incumbency records to defend, while Amb. Boakai had the burden of defending his party's 12-year record in power, most of which he distanced himself from.

Thus, unlike 2017, both candidates are now running on equal terms with President Weah hoping to maintain the presidency for another six years' term defending his current record, while Amb. Boakai would argue that Weah's six years of administering the nation's affairs have made things worse off than how the UP left it.

Whatever, the forgoing debate, the question that voters would answer on Tuesday is whether their lives have been better off than 12 years ago, the answer to this question is expected to be translated into votes on Tuesday. Another question which the results will show whether Liberians want to have an octogenarian president or continue with Weah to get him over his second and final term.

In 2017, Mr. Weah secured votes well ahead of Amb. Boakai clinching 38.37%, in the first round and 61.54% in the runoff. Amb. Boakai on the other hand accumulated 28.76% of votes cast in the first round and 38.46 in the runoff.

However, both men ran neck-to-neck in the October 10, 2023, presidential polls with incumbent President Weah securing 43.80% of the votes about 7.20 percent shy of securing a first-round victory. The same could be said of Amb. Boakai obtained 43.50% of the votes.

The October 10, presidential results of the two candidates only shows how fierce this runoff would be. Both candidates have so far received endorsements from the camps of the other 18 defeated presidential candidates who participated in the first round of elections. But with the very low percentages of votes obtained by these defeated candidates, it remains to be seen how these endorsements will translate into votes.

However, the stakes remain high in this election and both sides are hoping to clinch victory amidst various conspiracy theories ahead of Tuesday's vote. But what are their chances? 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 his fierce rival.

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, but did not secure him a first-round victory.

Mr. Weah faces a daunting task not just in securing 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, some created by men and women he has placed in authority, 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 have well swept him into his third runoff, and he must now finish the race.

At the end of the first round of voting, Mr. Weah changed his campaign strategy by knocking on voters' doors, particularly in his own district where he had never won before.

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 Statemanager puts him in a much better position to wrestle power from President Weah. Supported by a host of former government officials including defeated presidential candidates in the October 10 polls, 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.

But some say the issue of Sen. Prince Johnson could be put away within the first six months of Amb. Boakai's regime, that is if he plays his cards well and works with the United States Government.

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 Sen. Johnson. Sen. Johnson has not even made it any easier for Amb. Boakai with his campaign pronouncements prior to the October 10 polls.

However, he has remained quiet during the runoff campaign which ended Sunday, November 12.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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ECOWAS rejects UP's bribery claim

Starts from page 6

on the people of Liberia to disregard such falsehoods allegedly perpetrated by individuals who may seek to derail the positive democratic gains made by Liberians.

"The ECOWAS Observer

Mission wishes to assure the good people of Liberia of its complete neutrality towards the contestants in the November 14 Presidential run-off poll," the statement noted.

The Mission further reaffirms its total

commitment to a credible, inclusive, and peaceful electoral process in Liberia, by its mandate under Articles 12 and 13 of the ECOWAS Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance.

End of 'juvenile reckless governance'

Starts from page 7

devastating.

Amb. Boakai said Liberians have resolved to remove President Weah and his CDC, and nothing can change it.

Amb. Boakai noted that since the announcement of the campaign for the presidential run-off, his supporters have been intimidated by CDC.

The opposition politicians pointed out that they have outlined these violations to narrate the fear that has gripped President Weah and his party and to state their confidence in winning the election.

Boakai disclosed that the CDC knows that change is inevitable and it is now imminent. According to him, the day of reckoning is near

for President Weah and his co-conspirators.

Amb. Boasted that the Unity Party and its Allies were mature and responsible enough to understand the reckless misadventure of President Weah, his government, and his Party.

"We call on all Liberians to remain emboldened in the face of these acts of lawlessness designed and implemented under the watchful eyes of Mr. Weah," he noted.

Mr. Boakai also called on all partisans, rescue missionaries, and supporters to remain calm and peaceful as they approach the day of reckoning for President Weah.

"Please turn out in your

numbers on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, and troop to the polls to vote out this lawless and corrupt leadership. Please vote # 1," Boakai pleaded with Liberians.

"By voting against Mr. Weah and his CDC you are helping to remove a failed and inept government. By voting for the Unity Party, you want to assure the future of hope and promise for our country and generations to come."

By voting Joseph Boakai, Jeremiah Kpan Koung, and the Unity Party, you are saying no to juvenile delinquent leadership in Liberia," he stated.

Several injured in campaign violence

Starts from page 10

planned to disrupt and prevent Koung from campaigning.

"As a result of this brazen disregard for human lives, about 7 persons were wounded and several vehicles damaged," said Amb. Boakai.

"Our investigation conducted so far suggests that this callous act of lawlessness was masterminded and orchestrated by President Weah and his operatives hoping that they can instill fear in the People of Nimba and the Liberian Populace," Amb. Boakai noted.

On behalf of the UP, Amb. Boakai wished all those injured in the attacks a speedy recovery, describing them as true heroes.

He said their sacrifices will not be in vain, calling them true patriots with a

cause to defend.

"We condemn this gross violation of our laws and call on the Government of Liberia to act swiftly in bringing the violators to justice," Boakai urged.

"We call on our international partners to take note of these gross breaches of international laws. We intend to register our position through the appropriate legal channels," he continued.

Responding to the Unity Party accusations, CDC campaign chairperson and Maritime Commissioner Mr. Eugene Nagbe refuted the allegations.

According to Mr. Nagbe, the violence was allegedly masterminded by Senators Johnson and Koung against CDC's peaceful supporters.

"We want to make this very clear that Senator Prince Johnson and Jeremiah Koung attacked

and wounded our peaceful supporters in Nimba County," Mr. Nagbe alleged.

"We want the international community to take a careful look at what Senator Johnson and Koung [are] doing to our people in the county. We condemn this, we caution them to desist," he stated.

Nagbe stated that the action by the Unity Party and Senator Johnson was a scare tactic to instill fear in the minds of the People of Nimba not to vote for a developmental candidate as President Weah. Nagbe said Senator Johnson is insignificant to the development agenda of Liberia and nothing should stop the people of Nimba County from

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US reiterates pursuit of visa restrictions

Head of ECOWAS EOM meets with various stakeholders ahead of runoff

-Ahead of presidential runoff

The U.S. Embassy in Monrovia has reiterated threats of visa restrictions for those believed to be responsible for, or complicit in, undermining democracy in Liberia, including through the

The U.S. Embassy in Monrovia is aware of a video circulating on social media purporting to show Chairman Oscar Bloh of the Elections Coordinating Committee (ECC) engaged in discussions in a political party office. The ECC

to be responsible for, or complicit in, undermining democracy in Liberia, including through the purposeful spread of mis- or disinformation. As a result of this incident, we are actively exploring using this visa restriction authority because we view this as an example of impeding election observation efforts needed to ensure transparency.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is proud to have been supporting the ECC since 2011 to provide objective and evidence-based observation of Liberia's electoral procedures. ECC has been a trusted partner and a leader in Liberia's civil society community for over a decade. USAID stands by ECC and their commitment to promoting a free, fair, and peaceful electoral process.

USAID has no intention of reducing or stopping funding to the ECC based on a misleading video. The U.S. Embassy is confident in ECC's ability to report fairly and accurately on Liberian elections, including the upcoming presidential runoff.

The U.S. Embassy encourages all Liberians to take the time to check their sources of information carefully. The future of the country is in the hands of the Liberian people. Please exercise your voice and your right to vote by going to the polls on November 14.



purposeful spread of mis- or disinformation.

In a statement issued by the United States Embassy on Friday reaffirming support for the Elections Coordinating Committee (ECC), U.S. Charge D'affaires Catherine Rodriguez reminded Liberians of the announcement by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken of to slap democracy underminers in Liberia with visa restriction.

Full statement below:

has publicly clarified that it is not Oscar Bloh in the video. Local Voices, a U.S. Embassy-supported factchecking organization, has also confirmed that it is not Oscar Bloh in the video.

The United States is committed to supporting and advancing democracy in Liberia and around the world. As announced by Secretary of State Antony Blinken on September 27, 2023, the United States may pursue visa restrictions for those believed

ECOWAS rejects UP's bribery claim

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) election observation mission in Liberia has rejected Unity Party (UP) spokesman Mo Ali's claim that the mission has been influenced financially to sanction rigged election results. Through a statement issued in Monrovia, the ECOWAS Observer Mission noted with regret, "a reckless statement made by Mo Ali, National Campaign Spokesperson of the Unity Party, on his Facebook post of November 10, 2023."

The regional bloc noted that it has been accused by Mr. Ali that the ECOWAS Observer Mission has been influenced by USD 150,000 to declare a purportedly rigged election as transparent, free, and fair. "The ECOWAS Observer Mission takes strong exception to this scurrilous statement, which puts at risk the safety and physical integrity of the ECOWAS Observers from across West Africa who have come to accompany the good people

of Liberia in this pivotal election," the statement said.

The ECOWAS Observer Mission calls on the leadership of the Unity Party to denounce the statement made by its National Campaign Spokesperson that seeks to denigrate the image of ECOWAS.

"The ECOWAS Observer Mission challenges Mo Ali to prove this scurrilous accusation or publicly withdraw it immediately and tender an unqualified apology," ECOWAS has demanded.

It warned that failing this,

the ECOWAS Observer Mission and the ECOWAS Commission reserve the right to employ all necessary measures to hold him personally accountable for his utterance.

The ECOWAS Observer Mission urges all citizens of Liberia to deepen the positive outcome of the 10 October 2023 elections by remaining focused on living up to their civic responsibilities towards the 14 November 2023 Presidential run-off.

In this regard, the ECOWAS Observer Mission said it counts

▶ CONT'D page 5



Prof. Attahiru Jega, Head of the ECOWAS Electoral Observation Mission (EOM), who arrived in Monrovia, Liberia on Thursday 9 November 2023, met with some actors and stakeholders involved in the Presidential Runoff Election. The election is scheduled to hold on Tuesday 14 November 2023.

On Friday, November 10, 2023, Prof. Attahiru Jega met successively with Mr. Frank Musa

member of the ECOWAS Council of Wise.

Addressing the ECOWAS observers, Prof Attahiru Jega urged them to carry out their tasks within the confines of the extant electoral legal frameworks and accordance with international standards. He also urged them to avoid interfering in the electoral process and to use the skills and tools acquire through their training. Finally, he asked them to



Dean Jr, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Liberia, Mrs. Davidetta Browne-Lansanah, President of the National Electoral Commission (NEC), some civil society actors and the ECOWAS Technical Team.

In his meetings with these actors, Prof Attahiru Jega discussed on the preparation towards the polls and challenges for a peaceful, free, transparent and credible electoral process.

In the morning of Saturday, November 11, 2023, Prof. Attahiru Jega met with ECOWAS Short-Term Observers in the presence of Dr. Abdul-Fatau

make possible recommendations to improve the electoral process and the ECOWAS election observation mission.

Ambassador Josephine NKRUMAH, while addressing the observers earlier, described the current political and electoral context under which the polls will be held. She also gave a background on the electoral campaign atmosphere ahead of the polls. She further briefed the observers on the NEC's deployment plan of electoral materials and security arrangement for forces on the ground.



Musah, ECOWAS Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Mr. Abdou Kolley, Director of the Cabinet of the President of the ECOWAS Commission, Ambassador Josephine NKRUMAH, ECOWAS Resident Representative in Liberia, members of ECOWAS Parliament, member of the ECOWAS Permanent Representative Committee and

Dr Abdul-Fatau Musah, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of ECOWAS, expressed satisfaction with the high profile of ECOWAS Electoral Mission observers. While enjoining them to be objective and impartial in the course of the Mission, he urged the observers to submit timely report from their observation in the field to enrich the overall report of the Mission.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

EU deploys 36 Short-Term Observers -bringing total number to around 90 for run-off election

The European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) to Liberia deployed on Sunday 12 November 36 Short-Term Observers (STOs) to all 15 counties of the country.

had already deployed 20 Long-Term Observers for the second time covering all 15 counties for the run-off Presidential Elections.

On Election Day, in teams of two, EU observers will follow all

preliminary statement of findings in a press conference shortly after run-off Election Day. A Final Report offering recommendations to enhance future electoral processes will be presented after completion of the entire election process.

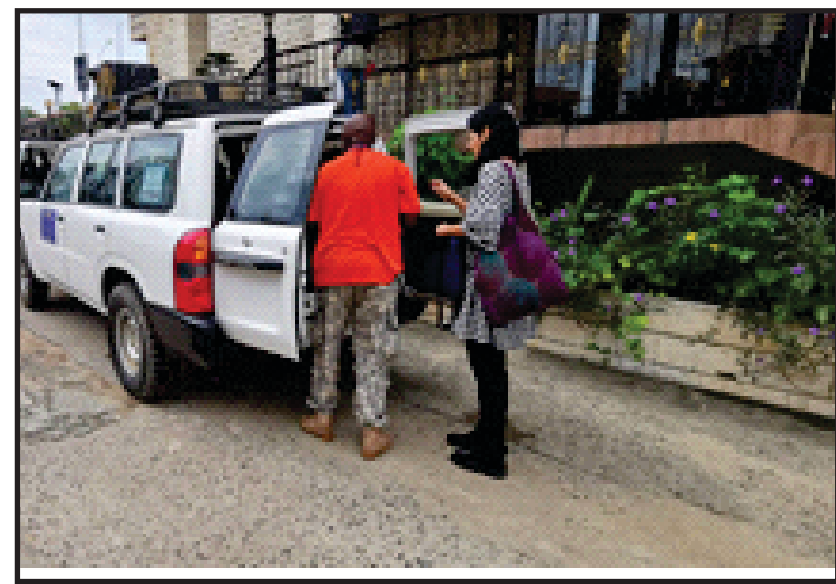
The EU has an established methodology for observing elections. Observers do not interfere in the electoral process and have no authority to change or correct any shortcomings. All EU election observers are bound by a strict code of conduct and ethical guidelines that guarantee their neutrality and impartiality.

The EU EOM evaluates according to international standards and operates in accordance with the 'Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation' adopted at the United Nations in 2005 by a number of international bodies involved in election observation.

The main objectives of EU Election Observations are the support of the democratic process in partner countries, to enhance public confidence in the electoral process and to strengthen respect for human rights and the rule of law. -Press release

election-related activities at various polling places and voting precincts across the 15 counties. They will observe the opening of polling places and will assess the electoral environment in which the run-off Presidential Elections take place. After the closure of voting, EU observers will also follow the counting, result-tabulation process until publication of results.

The EU Election Observation Mission will present its



A Delegation of 6 members of the European Parliament headed by Mr Leopoldo Lopez Gil and around 8 diplomats from EU Member States accredited in Liberia will also be integrated in the mission. EU Election Observers come from the 27 different EU Member States, as well as Canada and Norway, bringing the total number of EU Observers on run-off Election Day to around 90.

On 31 October, the Mission

End of 'juvenile reckless governance' --Boakai terms CDC regime

By Lincoln G. Peters

Opposition leader Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai says the pending 14 November presidential run-off "is the end of juvenile delinquent leadership and reckless governance," a stark attack against his rival President George Manneh Weah's rule. "For Liberians, this election, it is the end of juvenile delinquent leadership and reckless governance," the opposition Unity Party (UP) presidential candidate said at a press conference on Sunday, 12 November 2023.

"It is an end to lawlessness and industrialized corruption. It is the end to the tears of our mothers, relatives, and friends who continue to weep for their children and loved ones who were the victims of disappearances and mysterious murders," Amb. Boakai continued.

For many parents, he stated, it is the end of the

drug epidemic and the Kush invasion.

The Unity Party standard bearer will be challenging Mr. Weah of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) on 14 November 2023, marking their second time meeting in a run-off.

They earlier battled in a presidential run-off in November 2017, but Mr. Weah won as an opposition leader at the time.

20 presidential candidates inclusive of Mr. Weah contested the 10 October 2023 polls, but none of them obtained the required 50 percent plus one vote to be

declared a winner.

Mr. Weah and Amb. Boakai made it to the run-off with each obtaining a little over 43 percent of the total votes cast.

Ahead of Tuesday's polls, Boakai addressed a press conference at his Paynesville residence Sunday, 12 November, warning that "Elections rigging will be devastating and unimagined against President George M. Weah."

The former Liberian Vice President dared the ruling CDC to tamper with the votes, saying if the ruling party rigs the election, the consequences on President Weah will be

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Accountability Lab Liberia Intensifies Civic and Voters' Education ahead of Presidential runoff

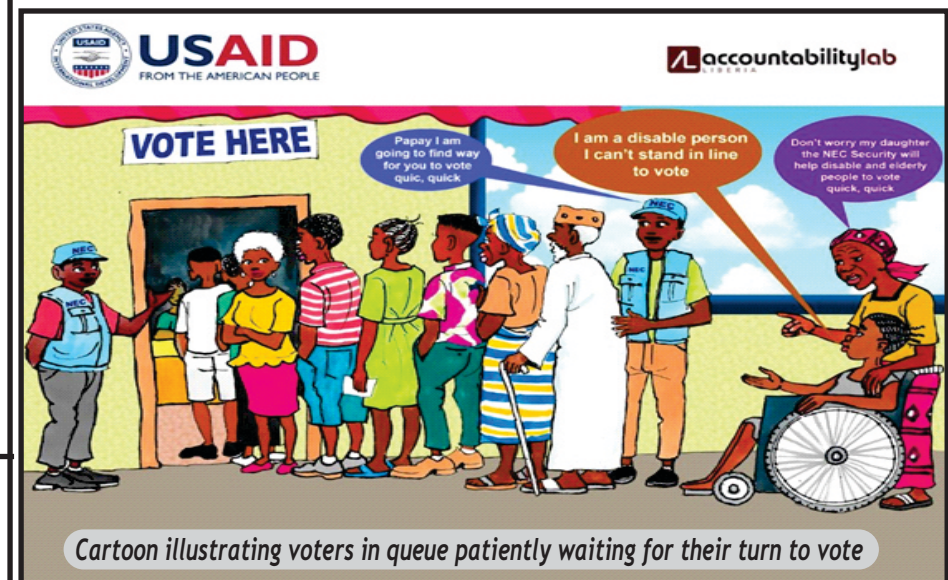
Ahead of the Presidential runoff polls on November 14, 2023, Accountability Lab (A-Lab) Liberia is beefing up its Civic and Voter Education messages aimed at encouraging citizens to vote peacefully.

As part of the voter education exercise, Accountability Lab (A-Lab) Liberia is also engaged in educating voters how to avoid invalid voting and as well as discourage them from selling their voting cards.

With support from USAID Liberia Civil Society Activity (CSA) project, AL Liberia produced 10 radio dramas, six jingles, three short videos, two hip-hop songs, cartoon sketches, and four podcasts. Some messages are also featured on the organization's social media platforms, including YouTube, Twitter(X), Facebook (Integrity

The messages are airing on national radio stations in Montserrado, Margibi, Bong, Nimba, Lofa, Sinoe, and Grand Gedeh counties in simple Liberian English and popular Liberian dialects; in Kpelleh, Bassa, Mandingo, and Vai.

The messages have reached over 40,000 social media users and over 200,000 people in the targeted counties covered by radio. I. W. Lawrence Yealue, II, Accountability Lab Liberia's Country Director, re-emphasized that the project's goal is to promote non-violence and educate the Liberian electorates, particularly women, youth, and first-time voters, to actively participate in the electoral process, and intentionally counter the very high number of invalid votes (of over 114,000) recorded in the October 10 voting exercise, and the increasingly disturbing rumor of voting cards selling



Cartoon illustrating voters in queue patiently waiting for their turn to vote

Icon Liberia Page), and WhatsApp. The two Hipco Songs, "Your Vote Your Power" and "Don't Let Me Down" can be heard on Audio Mack.

A-Lab launched the Civic and Voters' Education for Nonviolence and Electoral Security through Youth and Women Participation before the October 10th Presidential and Legislative elections.

throughout the country.

In addition to the ongoing messaging, A-Lab said it will engage the young people on street corners through musical jamborees and youth intellectual center discussions. The engagement also includes Vox Pop, radio talk shows, and publication of cartoon sketches, and podcasts with distinguished Liberian intellectual. -Press release

UP campaign turns bloody in Nimba

Starts from page 11

investigation. Meanwhile, responding to the Unity Party accusations, CDC campaign chairperson and Maritime Commissioner Mr. Eugene Nagbe refuted the allegations.

According to Mr. Nagbe, the violence was allegedly masterminded by Senators Johnson and Koung against CDC's peaceful supporters. "We want to make this very clear that Senator Prince Johnson and Jeremiah Koung attacked and wounded our peaceful supporters in Nimba County," Mr. Nagbe alleged. "We want the international community to

take a careful look at what Senator Johnson and Koung [are] doing to our people in the county. We condemn this, we caution them to desist," he stated.

Nagbe stated that the action by the Unity Party and Senator Johnson was a scare tactic to instill fear in the minds of the People of Nimba not to vote for a developmental candidate as President Weah.

Nagbe said Senator Johnson is insignificant to the development agenda of Liberia and nothing should stop the people of Nimba County from going in their numbers on 14 November 2023 to vote for a candidate of their choosing. - Editing by Jonathan Browne

Français

Présidentielle libérienne : La NEC mise en garde contre la fraude électorale

L'ancien ministre Libérien des Finances, Milton Nathaniel Barnes, a émis une

gestion similaire à celle des élections de 1926 ou 1985 serait lourde de conséquences. "Madame la Présidente de la

feu le président Samuel Kanyon Doe.

M. Barnes, tout en reconnaissant la crédibilité et le professionnalisme de Mme Brown-Lansanah, a souligné l'attente du peuple libérien envers une gestion impartiale de l'élection.

"Seul un camp peut émerger victorieux de ces élections, et le peuple libérien espère que le processus sera libre, équitable, transparent et crédible pour accepter les résultats", a-t-il insisté.

Exhortant le peuple libérien à exercer son droit de vote dans le calme, il a exprimé sa conviction que les résultats reflétés sur les feuilles de dépouillement, dûment signées et estampillées, ne différeront pas de ceux annoncés par le Conseil des commissaires de la NEC.

L'enjeu de la crédibilité électorale, selon M. Barnes, repose sur la gestion efficace des bureaux de vote, et il a formulé l'espoir que le personnel de la NEC, les vérificateurs de votants, et les émetteurs de bulletins respecteront scrupuleusement les règles électorales.

"Si une occasion se présente pour l'un ou l'autre camp de tirer profit de manière déloyale, avec la complicité du personnel de la NEC et/ou de ses responsables, la situation pourrait engendrer un chaos

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Le Ministre des Finances se penche sur le reportage de qualité et la désinformation

Le Ministre des Finances et de la Planification du Développement, Samuel Tweah, a mis en avant la nécessité impérieuse d'engager une conversation franche avec les médias, soulignant leur engagement inébranlable à garantir un reportage de qualité et la diffusion d'une vérité objective afin de renforcer la stabilité nationale.

Lors d'une conférence de presse conjointe organisée par le Ministère de l'Information, des Affaires Culturelles et du Tourisme le mercredi 8 novembre au complexe ministériel Ellen Johnson Sirleaf à Congotown, le Ministre Tweah a exprimé ses préoccupations quant à l'état actuel des affaires médiatiques au Libéria. Il a mis en lumière l'exploitation par divers individus de plateformes telles que la radio et les médias sociaux pour diffuser des informations non vérifiées.

Il a souligné l'importance cruciale de promouvoir une information précise et fiable auprès de la population.

Tout en reconnaissant l'existence de vérificateurs de faits, le Ministre des Finances s'est dit insatisfait de leurs temps de réponse pour contrer la désinformation.

Il a défié les vérificateurs de

faits d'adopter une approche plus rigoureuse et rapide, tout en soulignant la nécessité d'une plateforme adéquate pour informer promptement le peuple libérien lorsqu'une information fautive circule.

Le Ministre Tweah a souligné qu'une partie

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Éditorial

La police devrait arrêter la superviseure électorale Cece Munah Nimely

La Commission nationale des élections (NEC) devrait maintenant appréhender la superviseure électorale de la Commission électorale de Pleebo Sodoken, dans le comté du Maryland, Cece Munah Nimely, afin de l'interroger en lien avec un prétendu enregistrement audio qui circule à Monrovia et la relie à des aveux de bourrage d'urnes contre le représentant Bhofa Chambers lors des élections du 10 octobre.

Dans l'audio présumé, on entend Mme Nimely comploter pour bourrer les urnes en faveur du vainqueur déclaré du siège du district, Anthony Williams, qui a concouru contre le député Chambers, l'actuel président de la Chambre des représentants.

"On va voler les bulletins de vote puisque les gens ne savent pas comment voter, donc j'ai prêté attention, je lui ai donné les bulletins de vote et ensuite il les a donnés aux gens", on entend Mme Nimely préparer son complot dans l'audio présumé. Elle ajoute : "Tout ce qui doit se passer passe par le superviseur et l'officier présidant, vous savez comment tout cela se passe, le décompte ? La chose que nous pouvons prendre sur le terrain, c'est ça que nous pouvons mettre dans le système et personne ne peut le changer."

Dans l'audio, on l'entend également expliquer que le décompte des résultats de Old Sodoken a été retardé pour exécuter le complot contre le président de la Chambre.

Le président Chambers s'est plaint officiellement à la Commission nationale des élections et la NEC examine actuellement le cas.

Bien que nous ne cherchions en aucun cas à porter un jugement dans cette affaire, notre recommandation honnête est que la police convoque l'accusée pour interrogatoire, ce qui renforcera l'audience en cours.

D'après toutes les indications, nous pensons qu'elle devrait avoir l'occasion de s'innocenter de toutes les accusations et de préserver l'intégrité des bulletins de vote émis au centre de vote de Old Sodoken le 10 octobre 2023.

Ceci est également nécessaire pour aider à apaiser les tensions qui s'accumulent dans le district, en prévision du second tour de l'élection présidentielle prévu pour le mardi 14 novembre. Déjà, les partisans de M. Anthony Williams menacent de voter contre la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir mardi prochain si la NEC inverse le résultat du vote dans le district en faveur du président de la Chambre, un partisan fervent de la CDC.

L'authenticité de l'enregistrement audio divulgué relève entièrement de la NEC, mais pour étayer l'exercice, il est important que Mme Cece Munah Nimely soit interrogée pour son rôle direct en tant que superviseure électorale.

De peur d'être mal compris, le NEW DAWN ne cherche en aucun cas à préjuger de l'audience en cours, mais demande à la NEC d'impliquer toutes les parties pour garantir la transparence et la paix sans céder à quelque pression que ce soit.

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Français

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sérieux, ce qui serait extrêmement regrettable", a-t-il mis en garde.

L'éminent diplomate libérien est convaincu que des élections menées de manière transparente, libre, équitable et crédible ne susciteront aucune contestation. Il a également souligné que le respect strict des lois, directives et réglementations électorales par la NEC garantira un résultat accepté par tous.

Il a suggéré que le peuple libérien pourra dormir en paix en acceptant un résultat fidèle au déroulement précis de chaque bureau de vote à travers le pays.

"Nous exprimons notre profonde gratitude envers la communauté internationale et nos amis pour leur soutien continu au renforcement de notre jeune démocratie", a conclu Barnes.

Après environ deux décennies de paix maintenue, Barnes a souligné que le Liberia ne peut pas se permettre de dévier de sa trajectoire. Il a plaidé auprès de ses compatriotes, déclarant qu'il n'y aurait rien à perdre si les élections se déroulaient conformément à la loi, tout en exhortant les deux partis en lice à déployer leurs meilleurs observateurs aux bureaux de vote.

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considérable de la population s'appuie fortement sur les médias sociaux et la radio pour obtenir des informations, regrettant comment les déclarations d'anciens responsables gouvernementaux peuvent influencer significativement l'opinion publique, même lorsque ces responsables ne comprennent peut-être pas pleinement les enjeux.

Il a appelé au renforcement des valeurs démocratiques et à un examen plus approfondi des sources d'information.

Le Ministre a également félicité le Président Weah pour ses efforts déterminés dans la réussite de l'évaluation de la Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) et pour avoir démontré un leadership extraordinaire au cours des six dernières années.

Il a reconnu que le Président Weah, en tant que premier "président des médias sociaux" du pays, a été confronté à des défis uniques, mettant l'accent sur l'impact substantiel des médias et de la désinformation dans ce contexte.

Le Ministre des Finances a également exprimé ses inquiétudes concernant les réserves financières du pays, révélant que la réserve nationale était passée de 337,9 millions de dollars en décembre 2017 à seulement 106 millions de dollars six ans plus tard, entraînant une perte significative de 227 millions de dollars. Le Ministre Tweah a posé des questions précises sur les circonstances entourant cette perte, en particulier pendant le mandat de l'ancien vice-président Joseph Boakai.

Il considère les prochaines élections comme un moment

décisif, soulignant l'importance de traiter l'épuisement des réserves du pays et la gestion présumée de 227 millions de dollars.

De plus, il a souligné que le président Weah a hérité d'une réserve nette de la Banque centrale de seulement 110 millions de dollars, mais l'a restaurée avec succès et augmentée à environ 312 millions de dollars.

Dans le même ordre d'idées, il souhaite que les institutions médiatiques accordent la priorité à un reportage de qualité en diffusant des informations factuelles et précises, soulignant l'urgence de contrer la désinformation.

Il a également posé d'importantes questions sur la gestion des finances du pays et le rôle crucial que joue le prochain second tour de l'élection présidentielle pour relever ces défis.

"Le Liberia reste fidèle à son engagement de favoriser un climat d'informations fiables et de gouvernance responsable."

De plus, le Ministre de l'Information, des Affaires Culturelles et du Tourisme, Legendhood Rennie, a exprimé un soutien indéfectible au président Weah, soulignant les réalisations du président en tant que leader distingué.

Le Ministre Rennie a également souligné l'importance de l'admission du Libéria au programme MCC, qu'il considère comme une indication claire de l'engagement du gouvernement à apporter un changement positif dans la nation.

Il a réfuté les affirmations selon lesquelles le président Weah manquerait de compétences en leadership, citant la fiche d'évaluation de la MCC comme une preuve convaincante du leadership efficace du président.

Le chef de l'Information a noté que le Libéria a progressé, ce qui a été reconnu par des

Présidentielle libérienne : Les deux partis rivaux exhortés à la paix



Le Liberia Democracy Watch (LDW) a vivement encouragé la Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) au pouvoir et le parti d'opposition Unity Party (UP) à s'engager résolument en faveur de la préservation de la paix et de la démocratie au Liberia. L'organisation a lancé un appel pressant aux deux partis politiques rivaux, les exhortant à embrasser l'esprit d'unité et de diversité pendant et après le second tour de l'élection présidentielle prévu pour le mardi 14 novembre 2023.

Lors d'une conférence de presse à Monrovia le jeudi 9 novembre 2023, le directeur exécutif du LDW, Mustapha N. Kanneh, a souligné l'importance de sensibiliser les partisans des deux parties à l'égard de la pérennité de la paix et de la démocratie au Liberia. Selon lui, les résultats des élections du 10 octobre ont révélé qu'aucun candidat à la présidence n'a réussi à obtenir les 50 % plus une voix pour être déclaré vainqueur au premier tour, conformément à la loi électorale libérienne.

Il a expliqué que cette situation a contraint l'élection à évoluer vers un second tour entre les deux candidats ayant obtenu le pourcentage le plus élevé de votes au premier tour, à savoir le président George Manneh Weah de la CDC et l'ambassadeur Joseph Nyumah Boakai de l'UP.

"À mesure que nous progressons vers le second tour, le

LDW exhorte... les deux candidats à s'engager en faveur de la paix en adoptant l'esprit d'unité dans la diversité et en dissuadant leurs partisans de tout type de violence électorale pendant et après le processus", a déclaré Kanneh.

Il les a également appelés à respecter la volonté des électeurs libériens telle qu'elle sera exprimée sur leurs bulletins de vote lors du second tour.

M. Kanneh a exprimé ses félicitations à tous ceux élus comme leaders lors des élections d'octobre.

Il a mis en garde les nouveaux représentants et sénateurs élus à bien servir avec diligence, dignité et intégrité, tout en évitant les écueils du passé tels que la mauvaise gouvernance, le népotisme, le tribalisme, la corruption et l'impunité.

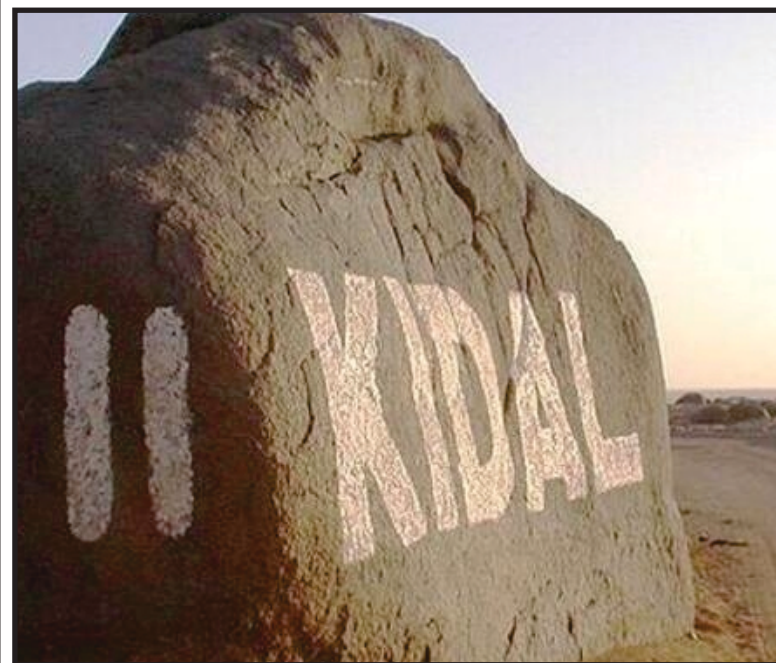
"Le LDW les exhorte à promouvoir une bonne gouvernance, à rétablir l'État de droit et à répondre aux appels du peuple libérien en faveur de la justice", a plaidé M. Kanneh.

Il a exhorté les élus à mettre en œuvre les recommandations du rapport de la Commission vérité et réconciliation (CVR) accompagnées de la création ultime d'une cour pour les crimes de guerre et économiques afin de mettre fin à l'impunité.

Par ailleurs, le LDW a exprimé sa gratitude envers la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) pour ses efforts déployés en vue de mener l'élection de manière pacifique jusqu'à présent, malgré les énormes défis, les plaintes et les disparités auxquels elle a été confrontée tout au long du processus électoral.

L'activiste des droits de l'homme a également salué les parties prenantes internationales et locales ainsi que les missions d'observation pour leur solidarité, leur soutien et leurs efforts inlassables visant à garantir le bon déroulement du premier tour des élections dans le calme.

Mali : les combats se poursuivent entre l'armée et la coalition CSP-PSD pour le contrôle de Kidal



La bataille de Kidal se poursuit, ce dimanche 12 novembre. Des tirs à l'arme lourde ont été entendus, à une vingtaine de kilomètres de la ville. L'armée malienne, avec un appui important des mercenaires de la société paramilitaire russe Wagner, a engagé une bataille contre les rebelles de la coalition dénommée CSP-PSD pour le contrôle de Kidal. Ces derniers occupent la ville depuis 2012, ville qu'a quittée la Minusma, le 31 octobre dernier. Les combats ont repris, ce dimanche 12 novembre, non loin de la localité de Kidal. Ce sont essentiellement des armes lourdes qui sont utilisées, notamment « des tirs de roquettes », précisent nos sources.

Cependant, comparés à ceux de samedi, les affrontements actuellement en cours sont moins intenses. Selon un observateur, l'armée malienne, fortement aidée par les mercenaires du groupe paramilitaire Wagner, tente toujours de se frayer un chemin. Mobiles rebelles

De leur côté, les rebelles, très mobiles, sont familiers du relief où se déroulent les hostilités...

On s'attendait à une journée de dimanche décisive pour la suite des opérations. Il faudrait peut-être un peu plus de temps... Selon l'analyse d'un expert, lorsqu'ils ont finalement pris, début octobre, la localité d'Annéfis située à 100 km de Kidal, les combattants du groupe paramilitaire russe Wagner qui accompagnaient l'armée ont opéré la nuit. Ont-ils l'intention d'utiliser la stratégie ?

Kidal se vide En attendant, les populations civiles continuent de quitter Kidal où les lignes téléphoniques sont désormais interrompues. De rares personnes utilisent le téléphone satellitaire

Par ailleurs, l'Union européenne a appelé les autorités burkinabè à « faire toute la lumière » sur un « massacre » de civils qui aurait fait une centaine de morts dans le village de Zaongo, dans la région du Centre-Nord.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Swedish Embassy refutes bribery allegation

The Embassy of Sweden in Liberia describes as unfounded, accusations made against Sweden and unspecified European countries by the Washington-based International Justice Group (IJG), as was published

on November 1, 2023, to participate in the 14 November 2023 Runoff Presidential Election.

But the International Justice Group (IJG) based in Washington, DC, the United States says the Bill is not good for Liberia and must be

Swedish conduct in Liberia, noting that without providing any proof, Cllr. Verdier accuses Sweden of soliciting bribes.

"The Embassy has already refuted these accusations, but we now feel the need to once again assure the readers of the New Dawn and all other Liberians that Sweden does not accept any kind of corruption within our Foreign Service nor in our international development cooperation. Sweden has rigorous standards in place to detect and deter corrupt behaviors including bribery. We do not give nor receive bribes", a response issued by the Embassy in Monrovia reads.

It notes that the Embassy has clear mechanisms for whistleblowers to channel information and evidence of corrupt practices within the Swedish Foreign Service anonymously and that, so far no one has been able to provide any form of proof to substantiate the falsehoods echoed by Cllr. Verdier.

"This year Sweden and Liberia enjoy 65 years of excellent bilateral relations. The Embassy is proud to be present in Liberia and to join hands with Liberians in celebrating 20 years of peace and stability. Despite challenges, Liberia has made impressive gains. Sweden is a steadfast development cooperation partner and will continue partnering with Liberia for sustainable development, peace, and prosperity", the Embassy notes. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Swedish Ambassador to Liberia Urban Sjöström

in the November 7th edition of the New Dawn.

In a statement dated November 6, 2023, IJG executive director Cllr. Jerome Verdier alleged that Sweden, European Countries and others around the world are spending millions in bribes through their agents in Liberia in bribing members of the Liberian Legislature and President Weah to pass the Abortion on Demand Bill into law in Liberia.

Members of the House of Representatives of the 54th Legislature of Liberia passed the Abortion Bill into law recently prior to adjourning

abandoned immediately by the Liberian Government.

"We condemn it in its entirety and further condemn the bad governance practice of bribery to influence and corrupt the decision-making process of the National Legislature and the Executive Branch of Government without regard to the public interest of the people of Liberia", Cllr. Jerome J. Verdier, notes in a statement released on Monday, November 6th

But the Sweden Embassy in Monrovia terms the Position Statement by Cllr. Verdier titled Liberia: Abortion is Murder" disinformation about

ABIC sensitizes disadvantage youth about peaceful election

By Naneka A. Hoffman

The Angie Brooks International Center for Women Empowerment Leadership Development, International Peace and Security through its flagship program 'Women Situation Room' continues her peer-to-peer engagement with disadvantaged youth across the country.

Saturday, 11 November Peer-to-Peer engagement with disadvantaged youth was intended to disabuse the minds of young people from electoral violence, ahead of the November 14, 2023, Presidential Runoff Election.

The exercise, which brought together over 1000 at-risk youth from the suburb of New Georgia, was held at the 88 Entertainment Center in New Georgia Estate, attended by several foreign guests, including the Sweden Ambassador, EU Ambassador, EU Observation Missions, respectively in Liberia.

The coordinator of the Angie Brooks International Center and

ask for the complaint form and fill it; take a photo of it and follow the legal procedure and help your political party [to] maintain the peace."

For his part, former foreign minister, and chairperson of the board of directors of ABIC, Madam OluBankie King-Akerele, cautioned disadvantaged youth against destroying themselves by involving in electoral violence, because violence has the propensity to take the country back to bloody conflict.

Madam King-Akerele added that by doing so, the youth will destroy the future of Liberia and they are the future of Liberia.

"You are the future of the nation, we are older now and you are the ones to take our place. Therefore, do not destroy yourselves.

Respect the rule of law and do not get in violence and destroy others. Because we are who we are because others played their role."

EU Ambassador to Liberia, Nona Deprez, said, the EU is here to support the conduct of peaceful



Several injured in campaign violence

-As CDC, UP clash

By Lincoln G. Peters

At least seven persons are reported to have sustained injuries during violent campaign clashes on Friday, 10 November 2023 between rival Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) and Unity Party (UP).

UP standard bearer Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai told a press conference Sunday, 12 November 2023 that his running mate Senator Jeremiah Koug, and Senator Prince Y. Johnson narrowly escaped death when their convoy came under a hail of gunfire.

The opposition leader stated that they later learned that a certain Anthony Quiwonkpa, a staff in the office of President George Manneh Weah, was responsible for this deadly

attack.

Boakai and Weah will meet in a presidential run-off this Tuesday, 14 November 2023, their second time in such an electoral battle.

Political events leading to this run-off have been largely calm, but the bloody incident reported from Nimba deepens concerns about the fragility of security during a crucial election process being watched by local and international observers.

Boakai told journalists at his Paynesville residence Sunday that Senators Koug and Johnson were leading a scheduled campaign activity in Zor Zualay, Nimba County when their convoy came under a hail of gunfire.

He said the attack left several injured with several vehicles damaged. The former Liberian Vice President said the attack was premeditated and

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initiator of the women's situation room, Cllr. Dr. Yvette Cheeson-Wureh admonished disadvantaged youth not to get on the streets and engage in electoral violence.

She urged them not to be influenced by politicians to cause violence that has the propensity of ruining the peace of Liberia and returning the country to its dark days.

Cllr. Cheeson-Wureh said disadvantaged youth should listen to the results of the runoff after Tuesday and take it peacefully, further advising that if there will be dissatisfactions, they should be channeled thru the court.

"Listen to the results, take them and remain peaceful. If you are not satisfied, go to the court." Cllr. Cheeson-Wureh said.

She maintains that the legal process remains the surest way in channeling dispute during and after election, as well as the best way to maintain the peace and security of Liberia.

"If something is going on at the polling place and you don't like it,

elections in Liberia and to help disadvantaged youth.

Ambassador Deprez also urged Liberian electorates to conduct themselves peacefully and to call the WSR toll free code 2023 to report election-related malpractice and violence.

Also speaking, Swedish Ambassador here, Urban Sjöström noted that international observers have assessed the elections and found out that the process has been very good.

The Swedish diplomat urged disadvantaged youth to use every peaceful means to solve challenges, saying "Though there are challenges during elections, but there are mechanisms in dealing with the problems, so there is no need for fighting and causing distortion." *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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UP campaign turns bloody in Nimba

By Thomas Domah/Nimba County
Several supporters of the main opposition Unity Party have been hospitalized at the Ganta United Methodist Hospital after they were reportedly

attacked and his vehicle destroyed, Nelsco Alco Wolo, narrates that prior to the attack, Anthony Quinwonkpa, son of the late General Thomas G. Quinwonkpa, texted Senator Prince Johnson, threatening

this town; that was the word from Anthony Quiwonkpa to Senator Jeremiah Koung and Senator Prince Johnson", Wolo quotes Quiwonkpa to have said. About 12 persons, believed to be UP supporters, who traveled with Senators Jeremiah Koung and Prince Johnson have reportedly been hospitalized following the attacks.

The victims include Arthur Yeanmie Junior, 21; who was wounded on his back and head; Marcus Nuah, 18; Konah Nuah, Crystal Mehn, a 35-year-old daughter of Senator Prince Johnson and Bobby Biahn, 38; who was hit with sticks.

Others are Festus Luogon, 32; wounded on his hand, Deather Wesseh, 21; Mohammed Kamara, 30; Josephus K. Cooper, 32; Josephus Johnson, 33; and Bill William, 26; among others.

Report says the attackers allegedly used sticks, live bullets, and other weapons to carry out the attacks against the UP officials, who had gone to both campaigns and to thank Nimbaians for reelecting Senator Johnson for another nine years in the Liberian Senate. Several vehicles belonging to the Unity Party were destroyed during the attack that has left dozens hospitalized. When contacted via text messages and calls, Mr. Anthony Quiwonkpa declined to respond. Friday, November 10th incident brings to ten, the number of electoral violence instances that have occurred in all 19 administrative districts of Nimba. Police in the county have arrested five suspects in connection with the incident.

They are Lawrence Saye, 42; Larry T. Beah, Solomon Gonkaker, 32; Aaron Dennis, 26; and Prince Yarkay. They are currently in Police cell in Sanniquellie undergoing

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Weah promises to do far better

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh
Incumbent President George Weah told citizens ahead of Tuesday, November 14, Presidential runoff that his administration will do far better if given allowed a second term.

Mr. Weah and his fierce rival Joseph Boakai are scheduled to go head-to-head on Tuesday in what is expected to be a tight presidential runoff battle.

Addressing thousands of supporters at his party's headquarters on Sunday, Mr. Weah, assured supporters that his government will strive to do far better in its second term.

Mr. Weah recounted gains made by his administration during his first term, which he explained as bringing unprecedented developments to

pace of implementation of existing programs and policies," Mr. Weah promised.

"We will also take on new initiatives that will further justify the vote of confidence being placed in us by these numerous endorsements" Mr. Weah continued as he rallied his supporters ahead of Tuesday's polls.

He told them to go and cast their ballot peacefully while admonishing them to do away with fears and panic.

"There will be no war after the election and the CDC will triumph as victorious after the poll as they have always done, and know the strategies," he said.

Weah also vowed to continue to listen to the plights of the people, as way of reshaping the country into better and prosperous nation in its second-term.



attacked in Zor Zualay Town, along the Sanniquellie - Karnplay highway in Electoral District#3, Nimba County.

There has been no death reported from the apparent electoral violence, as Liberians go to runoff Presidential election on Tuesday, 14 November.

The incident occurred on Friday, November 10th, as supporters of the UP with their Vice Standard Bearer, Senator Jeremiah Kpan Koung, and Senator Prince Johnson, a staunch supporter of the candidacy of Ambassador Joseph Nyumah Boakai, including District#3 Representative-Elect, Nehker E. Gaye, were en route to Karnplay when defeated candidate Anthony Quinwonkpa, also an Ex-general, reportedly ordered group of boys armed to the teeth to attack them. Several victims of the attack are currently hospitalized in Ganta, but the two Senators narrowly escaped the scene, according to report.

One of the victims, who was

him along with the UP Vice Standard Bearer Jeremiah Koung, not to enter Zor town to campaign. According to Wolo, they ignored the text message containing alleged threats from Anthony Quinwonkpa and headed for Karnplay when they encountered huge armed men, who attacked them in Zor Zualay Town. Wolo, a former staff of the National Security Agency (NSA) continues that when they entered the town, young men, including the District#3 defeated representative candidate Anthony Quinwonkpa, moved on them with short and long-range single-barrel guns and sticks, which according to him, were discharged, wounding several persons. He accused Anthony Quinwonkpa of full involvement in the attack after he had openly warned them not to enter the town to campaign for the UP. "I sent you guys text message and warned you not to enter Zor Clan to run campaign but your forced yourselves to come; blood will waste here before you guys can leave from



Liberia, including building more hospitals, and more road connectives among others.

Mr. Weah who secured 43.80% of the votes cast on October 10, as compared to his rival's 43.50, highlighted steps taken by his administration to alleviate poverty and bring developments to Liberia noting that his government has strived to tackle corruption, promote foreign investment, and create job opportunities for his people.

"I want to assure you that, with renewed vigor, I will dedicate my efforts during the second term to accelerating the

"We stand united today, united in the belief that our country's best days are still ahead of us. This runoff election is not just about re-electing me as president for a second term. It is about Liberia's future. It is about your children, your families, your communities, and the generations to come," President Weah said.

For his part, CDC Campaign - Manager Lenn Eugene Nagbe, expressed overwhelming that the CDC will secure victory comes November 14.

Mr. Nagbe also used an earlier press conference to condemn negative propagandists against the CDC-led government.

Boakai warns against election rigging

Starts from back page

the run-off elections scheduled for Tuesday, 14 November, it is becoming obvious that the only strategy left with President Weah and his CDC is to engage in fear mongering and in some cases vain attempts to eliminate strong opponents.

The former Liberian vice president complained that CDC wants to deter peaceful Liberians from turning out in their mass to vote against what he described as the "failed CDC

government."

The UP standard bearer indicated that these troubling patterns of disrupting, harassing and viciously attacking party leaders in an effort to assassinate or silence them, days to the runoff elections, are indicative of a government that has realized it will be defeated for its miserable failures.

"The Unity Party takes these frequent attacks seriously and we recall that during the first round of the elections, UP partisans were violently attacked on multiple occasions," said

Boakai. "As a result of our commitment to the Farmington Declaration, we exercised utmost restraint to avoid undermining our fledgling democracy," he pointed out.

"We have called on our partisans and sympathizers to remain calm as such unprovoked acts are intended to instill fear, divert our campaign, and frighten our people," said Amb. Boakai.

He assured Liberians that the Unity Party Alliance will not surrender, adding that they will meet their foes with valor unpretending.

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Boakai warns against election rigging

By Lincoln G. Peters

presidential run-off in November 2017, but Mr. Weah won as an opposition leader at the time.

Opposition presidential candidate Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai has warned of devastating and unimaginable consequences if incumbent President George Manneh Weah rigs the presidential run-off election.

20 presidential candidates inclusive of Mr. Weah contested the 10 October 2023 polls, but none of them obtained the required 50 percent plus

press conference at his Paynesville residence Sunday, 12 November, warning that "Elections rigging will be devastating and unimaginable against President George M. Weah."

The former Liberian Vice President dared the ruling CDC to tamper with the votes, saying if the ruling party rigs the election, the consequences on President Weah will be devastating.

"We understand President George M. Weah and the CDC feeble strategy to desperately hold on to power. We dare Mr. Weah to tamper with our votes and rig these elections," Boakai sounded a caveat.

Boakai said they are committed to protecting the Liberian people's votes and permitting the will of the majority to prevail.

According to him, with



Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai

The former Unity Party (UP) standard bearer will be challenging Mr. Weah of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) on 14 November 2023, marking their second time meeting in a run-off.

one vote to be declared a winner. Mr. Weah and Amb. Boakai made it to the run-off with each obtaining a little over 43 percent of the total votes cast.

Ahead of Tuesday's polls, Boakai addressed a

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