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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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Continental News

Ex-South Africa rugby star dies in car crash

South Africa's former rugby star Hannes Strydom has died in a car accident at the age of 58. He was part of the Springbok team that famously

minibus taxi. The accident took place on Sunday near the coal mining town of eMalahleni in Mpumalanga province. South African Rugby Union President Mark Alexander hailed

Rudolf Straeuli. Strydom made his debut for the Springboks in 1993, and helped defeat arch-rivals New Zealand 15-12 in the 1995 World Cup final in Johannesburg - the biggest sporting event in South Africa after the end of apartheid.

He ended his Springbok career in 1997 after playing in the British and Irish Lions series. Strydom also captained the Lions team that hoisted the local Currie Cup trophy in 1999.

He made 115 appearances for the team between 1993 and 2000.

Outside rugby, Strydom worked as a pharmacist in the capital, Pretoria, and started pharmacy chain Pharma Valu after hanging up his boots. In 2014, he suffered a cracked skull and stab wounds after six people attacked him in a carjacking, landing him in intensive care. He is the fifth player from the 1995 Springbok team to have died.

The others include Ruben Kruger in 2010, Joost van der Westhuizen in 2017, and Chester Williams and James Small in 2019. Coach Kitch Christie also died in 1998. BBC



Hannes Strydom has been described as a Springbok legend

won the 1995 Rugby World Cup after the end of apartheid in 1994.

Strydom gained 21 Springbok caps in his career between 1993 and 1997. Former teammate and close friend Kobus Wiese told local media that details of the accident were still vague, but the vehicle Strydom was travelling in collided with a

Strydom as "one of the heroes of our local game" in the Springboks' tribute to him. His former club, the Lions, also paid tribute to him, describing him as a legend who had formed a formidable lock combination with Wiese. "We share a tight bond as members of the 1995 group and to lose yet another one of our brothers is a big blow," said Lions Rugby Company chief executive officer

Chadian opposition leader urges reconciliation

Chadian opposition leader Succès Masra has met with Transitional President Mahamat Deby as part of the national reconciliation programme initiated by the military-led government.

They held talks on Monday at the presidency alongside an envoy of Democratic Republic of Congo President Felix Tshisekedi, who facilitated an agreement between both parties last month in Kinshasa.

"It was the first meeting which will be followed by others to enable us respect the agreement," Mr Masra told the BBC, adding that more proposals will be submitted to "make the transition acceptable to everyone, to land softly with elections where each and every one can present their societal projects to Chadians".

His meeting with the military leader came barely a day after he urged his supporters at a grand rally to embrace reconciliation with the transitional government, and not seek revenge over the

violent repression of protests in October 2022.

"We are people who intend to bring the country to a better destination for all Chadians, and in order to achieve that we must distinguish between justice and revenge," Mr Masra said in an interview with the BBC.

The leader of the Transformers party also expressed his desire for Chad to be "part of modernity and democracy, without which the future of this country cannot be guaranteed". Mr Masra's message of appeasement comes ahead of a

referendum on 17 December, where Chadians are expected to vote the country's new constitution. The referendum is meant to pave the way for the organisation of elections, ending the military transition and returning the country to civilian rule.

But some members of the opposition have called for a boycott of the referendum, while also criticising government's announcement of amnesty for those involved in the violent episodes on 20 October last year which left about 50 people dead according to authorities. BBC



Succès Masra, seen here in 2021, has called on his supporters not to seek revenge for the way they have been treated in the past

UN Plastic Treaty Talks Grapple With Re-Use, Recycle, Reduce Debate

A third round of United Nations negotiations to try to deliver the world's first treaty to control plastic pollution has drawn more than 500 proposals from those involved, participants said on the last day of the talks on Sunday.

Negotiators, who have spent a week meeting in the Kenyan capital at talks known as INC3, have until the end of next year to strike a deal for the control of plastics, which produce an estimated 400 million tons of waste every year.

The plastics industry, oil and petrochemical exporters, including Russia and Saudi Arabia, have said a global deal should promote recycling and re-use of plastic, but environmental campaigners and some governments say

session to analyze the scale of the problem.

"Plastics are connected to climate change, to biodiversity loss and other major threats and crises that we as the human population are facing on the planet," she said. The United Nations said a statement would be issued later after the talks close on Sunday. Stewart Harris, a spokesman for the International Council of Chemicals Association, an industry body that favors measures like re-using plastic containers as opposed to production curbs, said the Nairobi talks had delivered ideas that would be whittled down in Canada where the next round of negotiations will be held.

One of the most popular proposals was from Switzerland and Uruguay to hold more discussions on curbing harmful polymers and chemicals of concern.



Rosalid Rwaru, Bio Foods Products Head of Sustainability,

much less needs to be produced in the first place. Environmental group Greenpeace said a successful deal would require the United States and the European Union to show greater leadership than they have so far. "The hard truth is that INC3 has failed to deliver on its core objective: delivering a mandate to prepare a first draft of a treaty text," Graham Forbes, head of delegation for Greenpeace, said. "This is not progress. This is chaos," he said referring to the number of submissions. Two more rounds of talks will take place next year to try to finalize the deal.

Bethanie Carney Almroth, an eco-toxicologist at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, who was involved in the talks, said delegates were also considering an extra

It had the backing of more than 100 states, said the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), a global network of non-governmental organizations. Less than 10% of plastic waste is recycled, the U.N. Environment Program says, while at least 14 million tons end up in oceans every year, the International Union for Conservation of Nature says. Canada, Kenya, and the European Union are among those who said plastic production needs to be limited, while a coalition of Russia, Saudi Arabia and others has sought to emphasize recycling.

Members of the Saudi delegation at the talks declined to talk to Reuters, while Russian delegates could not immediately be reached for comment. VOA

EDITORIAL

COMMENTARY

By Richard Haass

Liberia's democracy gains strength

Liberia's democratic journey took a great and historic leap on Friday, 17 November when a sitting government conceded defeat in the November 14, 2023, Presidential Runoff Election and called its supporters to disengage and return to normal life.

This happened despite the now defeated Coalition for Democratic Change going all out in massive campaigns across the country both in the first and second round to seek a second term at the ballot box.

But incumbent President George Manneh Weah, who had sought another six years in office, did not get the mandate from the Liberian people.

However, unlike many of his contemporaries in the region that imposed themselves on the people by hijacking power, he bowed to his main challenger, former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

President Weah congratulated Amb. Boakai late Friday last week for winning the Presidential Runoff Election, while telling his supporters and partisans that the election is over and it's time that they move on with their daily life peacefully.

The President's response is not only magnanimous but something that is very rare in recent history of West Africa, for a sitting President to yield to the popular will of the people after they have spoken at the ballot box.

Like his predecessor, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who took Liberia from war to peace, Mr. Weah will go down in history for not just consolidating the peace, but upholding the democratic path by conducting free, fair and transparent elections in which he competed, lost and conceded.

West Africa, particularly ECOWAS has a lot to learn from the Liberian elections and make sure it is replicated in countries going to elections in order to consolidate democratic governance in the region. Most importantly, the 2023 elections in Liberia were totally conducted by Liberian themselves without involvement of any international group.

The country's pro-democratic institutions should be applauded for standing tall in making sure that Liberians exercise their franchise in a peaceful atmosphere, void of threats, intimidation and all out violence that could cut short civilian rule and revert the state to its dark days.

With former President Sirleaf setting the pace of peaceful transition from one democratically-elected administration to another, her successor President Weah had no choice but to continue on this path that has won him immense admiration not only in the region, but the entire Africa and the global community.

The National Elections Commission of Liberia headed by Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah deserves high commendation for delivering a truthful verdict after hearing the choice of Liberian voters, who they want to govern their affairs in the coming six years. Madam Lansanah and the NEC Board of Commissioners performed excellently amid challenges such as capacity and logistics, and direct confrontations.

In its all, Liberians should lift their heads high as a proud people for taking a nation that suffered 14 years of bloody civil war thru four democratic elections and coming out peacefully, proving doomsayers wrong that this country was poised to disintegrate again into pieces with blood spilling in the street. In the same vein, this country remains grateful to international partners that stood by the people of Liberia in making this happen.

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

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Summing Up the Biden-Xi Summit

NEW YORK - Summits are by definition occasions of high politics and drama, so it comes as little surprise that the November 15 meeting between US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping generated immense global interest. It was a useful meeting: Biden and Xi agreed to restart military-to-military communications, curb the deadly opioid fentanyl, fight climate change, and discuss risks associated with artificial intelligence. But it was also something less than a reset of a relationship that has been deteriorating for several years and that will remain typified by competition more than anything else for the foreseeable future.

Both leaders came to San Francisco hoping the four-hour meeting (held alongside the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum) would place a floor (to use Biden's favorite image) under what is the defining bilateral relationship of this era. But it is worth noting that their motives differed fundamentally. Biden wanted to reduce tensions, as the last thing he needs is another diplomatic or, worse, military crisis at a time when an over-stretched United States is contending with Russian aggression against Ukraine in Europe and the after-effects of Hamas's October 7 terrorist attack in Israel.

Biden, a year away from the 2024 presidential election, also needed to show he could be tough on China, both to parry Republican attacks and to show that he was focused on issues that are touching American lives. In this regard, he successfully pushed China to pledge to do more to rein in its exports of the chemical precursors that cartels in Mexico use to manufacture fentanyl.

Xi, for his part, came to California somewhat weakened, owing to the Chinese economy's underperformance. Following years of excessive state intervention since Xi came to power a decade ago, youth unemployment is high, exports and foreign direct investment are down, and debt is a major issue. The last thing Xi and China's economy need are more US export controls, sanctions, and tariffs.

What did not change as a result of the conversation was the status of the most contentious issue dividing the US and China: Taiwan. For the past half-century the two governments have finessed the issue, essentially agreeing to disagree over the ultimate relationship between the island and the People's Republic. Xi sees unification as central to his country's future and to his own legacy; the US sees protecting Taiwan from coercion as central to America's standing with its allies in the region and the fate of a rules-based international order. It is likely that tensions stemming from these contrasting agendas will periodically spike in the future as in the past.

One piece of good news in this context was the agreement to re-establish military-to-military communications, which China cut off in the wake of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's trip to Taiwan in August 2022.

This is welcome in principle as it reduces the chances of an incident involving US and Chinese aircraft or ships, which operate in close proximity to one another on a daily basis. But whether this channel could be relied upon if an incident occurred, and if so, to what effect, remains an open question.

The summit appeared to produce the promise of enhanced US-China cooperation on climate change and on regulating the use of AI. What will matter, though, is whether the spirit of that promise ultimately translates into meaningful concrete action.

The summit did not appear to bridge Chinese and American differences over the world's two major ongoing conflicts. China is very much in Russia's corner, while the US is in Ukraine's, and China (unlike the US) has distanced itself from Israel in the wake of the October 7 attack, refusing to condemn Hamas and calling for an unconditional ceasefire.

Despite these differences, the two governments do not appear to be on a collision course in either region. China has held off on arming Russia, and it has a stake in not seeing conflict in the Middle East escalate to a point that jeopardizes its ability to import Iranian oil. Xi also wants to avoid a scenario where mounting geopolitical differences over either of these crises provides a pretext for the US to take additional steps that would add to China's economic difficulties.

But it remains to be seen whether such calculations on Xi's part will lead China to exercise restraint in the South China Sea, where it has been applying increasing pressure against the Philippines, a long-standing American ally. And the summit provided no reason to believe that China is prepared to use its influence to rein in the nuclear and missile programs of North Korea.

Over seven decades, the modern US-China relationship has evolved significantly. Early on, there was no relationship to speak of, and the US found itself in an armed confrontation with China during the Korean War. This was followed two decades later by a period of strategic cooperation against the Soviet Union, and then to boost trade and investment as a joint priority once the Cold War ended. But economic ties have become a source of friction in recent years, and as China became increasingly assertive, the two countries found themselves increasingly at odds over just about everything, from regional and global issues to human rights.

The San Francisco summit did not alter this reality. US-China relations remain an issue to be managed, not a problem to be solved. Expecting anything else from the summit was to expect too much. The world's most important bilateral relationship continues to be a highly competitive one, and the challenge remains what it was prior to the summit: to ensure that competition does not preclude selective cooperation or give way to conflict.

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OP-ED

By Simon Zadek

Planning for a Future Beyond 1.5°C

GENEVA - The negotiators and activists preparing to attend the upcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai are grimly aware that there is no realistic chance of limiting global warming to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels. But what has become an open secret in climate circles must be shared more widely. Paradoxically, it may be the only way to muster the political will needed to eschew incrementalism in favor of disruptive action that is commensurate with the scale of the challenge.

The official view remains that the 1.5°C target set by the 2015 Paris climate agreement is still achievable, but only if we act decisively and immediately. While that may be true in theory, the necessary reforms are politically painful and therefore almost non-existent. Global coal consumption, for example, climbed to a new all-time high of 8.3 billion tons in 2022. Moreover, Chevron and ExxonMobil recently invested a combined \$113 billion in securing additional oil and gas reserves - an unambiguous bet on the long-term profitability of fossil fuels.

It has become starkly apparent that we are barreling toward global temperatures at least 2°C above pre-industrial levels. This aligns with the International Energy Agency's recent conclusion that, based on today's policies, global emissions could push up average temperatures by around 2.4°C this century.

A future beyond 1.5°C will look very different from our current reality, and every tenth of a degree will have major consequences. At 2°C warming, it is estimated that around 40% of the world's population will be exposed to severe heatwaves, while up to one-third will experience chronic water scarcity. The human cost, in terms of displacement, lost livelihoods, and early deaths, will be unprecedented, with vulnerable communities, largely in poorer countries, bearing the heaviest burden.

We must do everything within our power to prevent these outcomes. But, ironically, raising false hopes of achieving the 1.5°C target has become a roadblock to progress on climate action. As NatureFinance highlights in a publication released on the eve of COP28, "Time to Plan for a Future Beyond 1.5 Degrees," this goal reflects our ambition but, perversely, has embedded the fiction of a "win-win" energy transition, whereby the future world looks much like ours, only without carbon emissions. This narrative, promoted by many political, business, and civil-society leaders, constrains our response, forcing us to act within the confines of conventional wisdom.

Humans struggle to react to slow-moving crises. Escaping this pattern usually requires a "new truth" to become self-evident, often through a sudden jolt that cements a paradigm shift and broadens the realm of possibility.

In the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis, for example, finance ministers and central bank governors abandoned the long-held belief that monetary expansion must be avoided at all costs for fear of inflation; instead, they embraced quantitative easing - in effect, printing money - to stimulate recovery. Similarly, after the COVID-19 pandemic erupted, leading G20 governments renounced their commitment to fiscal probity and adopted costly universal-income payments previously derided as utopian fantasy.

Pivoting to a "beyond 1.5°C" narrative could provide the jolt necessary to reject a business-as-usual mindset in favor of interventions that break from accepted norms and disrupt the status quo. Consider, for example, the existential issue of food security. Helping vulnerable smallholder farmers shift to regenerative practices might work in a world where warming is limited to 1.5°C. But it could hinder their pivot away from farming methods and livelihoods that will no longer exist if temperatures exceed that target.

At the same time, global food supply chains may become less important beyond 1.5°C of warming, as producing countries restrict exports and major sovereign importers like China focus on achieving self-sufficiency. Such on-shoring is likely to accelerate investment in capital-intensive food production that is more climate-resilient and less nature-dependent, including vertical farming and lab-grown proteins. Judging by the rollout of renewable-energy technologies, the main challenge may be deploying these resilient food systems at scale in poorer countries.

The finance sector is also ripe for disruption. Investments must urgently be steered away from carbon-intensive assets. Yet ongoing efforts to factor climate-related risks into asset valuation and allocation have obviously failed. Much bolder action is needed to align financial flows with national and international climate policies and commitments.

Central banks and supervisors, for example, must move beyond financial risk and discard their cherished policy independence, which they have previously done in times of crisis. Under such circumstances, regulators could align with national net-zero policy goals and international commitments in imposing mandatory requirements on financial institutions to deliver net-zero, nature-positive portfolios within a certain timeframe.

Realism about the 1.5°C target is necessary to abandon incremental efforts and begin thinking bigger. Truly innovative climate action is impossible without letting go of this much-hoped-for goal and the comforting vision of an illusory future that accompanied it. While such a pivot would not guarantee success, it could unlock unconventional measures to limit rising temperatures and prepare for a warmer world.

Click here to download NatureFinance's pamphlet, "Time to Plan for a Future Beyond 1.5 Degrees."

OPINION

By Richard Haass

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What did not change as a result of the conversation was the status of the most contentious issue dividing the US and China: Taiwan. For the past half-century the two governments have finessed the issue, essentially agreeing to disagree over the ultimate relationship between the island and the People's Republic. Xi sees unification as central to his country's future and to his own legacy; the US sees protecting Taiwan from coercion as central to America's standing with its allies in the region and the fate of a rules-based international order. It is likely that tensions stemming from these contrasting agendas will periodically spike in the future as in the past.

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But it remains to be seen whether such calculations on Xi's part will lead China to exercise restraint in the South China Sea, where it has been applying increasing pressure against the Philippines, a long-standing American ally. And the summit provided no reason to believe that China is prepared to use its influence to rein in the nuclear and missile programs of North Korea.

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Koijee rallies partisans to avoid anti-peace actions after election

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) Secretary General and Monrovia Mayor Jefferson Tamba Koijee is rallying citizens to refrain from acts that would undermine democracy and peace. Koijee's call came at a press conference Sunday evening, 19 November 2023 in the aftermath of the 2023 presidential run-off election results. Mr. Koijee said partisans of the CDC should be wary of those who would want to use their political defeat at the polls to ferment violence under the guise of being supporters and partisans of President George Manneh Weah and the CDC.



He warned some of those pretending to be partisans and spreading rumors that the CDC is calling for a rerun. "That is false and misleading. Do not mislead our partisans. At no time did the CDC call for rerun. There were issues in a few places in Nimba, Grand Gedeh and Grand Kru Counties," Koijee explained. "Those issues are being handled by the relevant people with the National Elections Commission (NEC)." He called on partisans of the CDC not to allow themselves to be misled at this time. He told his partisans that there are people who will come to CDC partisans under the guise of being partisans of the CDC to feed them with misinformation and disinformation. He said those people have an evil intent to misrepresent the institution during a critical period in Liberia's body politics. "You fought a good fight. I want to encourage you to listen to us to provide direction for you. Do not allow yourselves to be deceived," Koijee pleaded with his partisans. He informed them that President Weah has spoken very clearly



outcome of the 2023 polls. Koijee believed it was an unprecedented display of patriotism and putting the wellbeing of the country above his personal ambitions to become president at all costs. "We want to congratulate all our collaborating parties for your hard work and dedication during these electioneering period," Koijee said. He warned those who are spies and pretending to be members of the Coalition for Democratic Change with the evil intentions to manipulate their partisans and supporters. "We know our partisans very well. They are

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA) IN THE COMMERCIAL COURT OF LIBERIA, TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MONTSERRADO COUNTY) SITTING IN ITS OCTOBER TERM, A.D. 2023.

BEFORE HER HONOUR:.....EVA MAPPY MORGAN.....CHIEF JUDGE
BEFORE HIS HONOUR:.....CHAN-CHAN A. PAEGAR.....ASSOCIATE JUDGE
BEFORE HIS HONOUR:.....OTHELLO S. PAYMAN, I.....ASSOCIATE JUDGE

Liberia Enterprise Development Finance Corporation (LEDFC), by and thru its General Manager, and chief Executive Officer, Mr. Ambrose Houphouette, of Congo Town, Montserrado County Republic of Liberia.....PETITIONER

Lofo Business center (LBC) by and thru its CEO, Madam Koiso M. M. Haja of Topoe Village Gardnerville City Montserrado County Republic of Liberia.....1st RESPONDENT

Madam Koiso M. M. Haja of Topoe Village Gardnerville City of Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia.....2nd RESPONDENT

WRIT OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA; TO: EMMANUEL MORRIS, ESQ. ACTING SHERIFF, OR HIS DEPUTY, COMMERCIAL COURT OF LIBERIA, MONTSERRADO COUNTY: G R E E T I N G S I

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMON BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING LOFO BUSINESS CENTER (LBC) BY AND THRU ITS CEO, MADAM KOISO M. M. HAJA OF TOPOE VILLAGE GARDNERVILLE CITY MONTSERRADO COUNTY, LIBERIA.....2nd RESPONDENT AND MADAM KOISO M. M. HAJA OF TOPOE VILLAGE GARDNERVILLE CITY MONTSERRADO COUNTY REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.....2nd TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMERCIAL COURT OF LIBERIA, TEMPLE OF JUSTICE, MONTSERRADO COUNTY, SITTING IN ITS NOVEMBER TERM, A. D. 2023 AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 A.M. IN THE MORNING, ON THE 1st TUESDAY IN NOVEMBER, A. D. 2023, SAME BEING THE 7th DAY OF NOVEMBER, A. D. 2023.

YOU ARE HEREBY FURTHER COMMANDED TO NOTIFY THE RESPONDENTS TO FILE THEIR RETURNS TO THE COMPLAINT OF THE ABOVE-NAMED PETITIONER IN A PETITION FOR FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE IN MY OFFICE ON/OR BEFORE THE 9th DAY OF NOVEMBER, A. D. 2023.

YOU WILL ALSO INFORM THE SAID RESPONDENTS THAT UPON THEIR FAILURE TO ANSWER AND/OR APPEAR ON THE DATE AND TIME INDICATED ABOVE, JUDGMENT WILL BE RENDERED BY DEFAULT.

MEANWHILE, YOU WILL RETURN THE ORIGINAL WRIT OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING TO MY OFFICE ON/OR BEFORE THE 9th DAY OF NOVEMBER, A.D. 2023 WITH THE OFFICIAL RETURNS ENDORSED ON THE BACK THEREOF AS TO THE MANNER AND FORM OF ITS SERVICE.

AND HAVE YOU THERE THIS WRIT OF SUMMONS PUBLICATION AND MAILING, GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT THIS 30th DAY OF OCTOBER A.D. 2023.

SEAL:

Received by: _____
NAME _____
SIGNATURE _____
TITLE _____
DATE _____

BEFORE HER HONOR: EVA MAPPY MORGANCHIEF JUDGE
BEFORE HIS HONOR: CHAN-CHAN A. PAEGAR ASSOCIATE JUDGE
BEFORE HIS HONOR: OTHELLO S. PAYMAN, SRASSOCIATE JUDGE

Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company (LEDFC), Represented by its General Manager, Mr. Ambrose Houphouette of the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia...PETITIONER

VERSUS **PETITION FOR FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE DEED**

Lofo Business Center (LBC) by and thru its CEO, Madam Koiso M. M. Haja of the Topoe Village Gardnerville City, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia.....1st RESPONDENT

AND

Madam Koiso M. M. Haja of the Topoe Village Gardnerville City, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia.....2nd RESPONDENT

PETITIONER'S PETITION

Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company (LEDFC), Petitioner in the above-entitled cause of action, most respectfully prays Your Honor to foreclose the mortgage executed by the 1st & 2nd Respondents in favor of Petitioner, and for reasons showeth to wit:

- Petitioner submits that based on a loan agreement signed between the parties on the 1st day of June A.D. 2016, Petitioner granted the 1st Respondent Lofo Business Center the total amount of US\$ 50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand United States Dollars), loan facility excluding interests, attorneys' collection fees and default charges for the purpose of financing the purchase of assorted building materials and for custom and clearing. Petitioner submits that the agreement included a 14% monthly interest and 25% annual default charges.
- Petitioner asserts further that the Respondents after receipt and utilization of the fund, failed and neglected to repay the loan; thereby attracting default charges and other related interest, which increased the Respondents' indebtedness to the Petitioner in the amount of Sixty Thousand, Three Hundred Ninety-Four United States Dollars (US\$ 60,394.00) representing outstanding principal, accrued interests, penalties, default charges as of October 31, 2022; plus 10% attorney's collection fees, which when added cumulate to SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-THREE DOLLARS FORTY CENTS (US\$66, 433.4). This "Action of Foreclosure of Mortgage Deed" would therefore, lie to recover the above-stipulated amount from the Respondents jointly and in so doing, have the mortgaged property sold by public auction and the proceeds therefrom applied towards the outstanding indebtedness of the Respondents on loan facilities in keeping with law.

WHEREFORE AND IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, Petitioner prays Your Honor and this Honorable Court to: i) Order a foreclosure of the mortgage executed by the Respondents in favor of Petitioner over certain parcels of land with properties situated on them by the Petitioner and specifically described in the three Leasehold Rights Mortgage attached hereto as Petitioner's Exhibit "P/5"; ii) Order the Mortgaged Properties, upon foreclosure, sold by public auction supervised by this Court in keeping with law; iii) Apply the proceeds from the sale of the mortgaged properties towards the settlement of the Respondents' obligation, in the following order: a. Payment of all expenses incurred as a result of the Mortgagors' default and the foreclosure proceeding; b. Payment of the cost of Court; c. Payment of the outstanding amount of the loan facilities, including accrued interest, cost of collection, as well as, successful attorney's fees; and; d. Payment to the Respondents of any such amount of the proceeds that may remain after payment of the Petitioner's costs, expenses, court costs, and the outstanding amount of the credit facilities. iv) Rule the cost of these proceedings against the Respondents; and grant unto Petitioner any and all relief and remedy this Court deems just, legal, and equitable.

The above-named Petitioner, by & thru its Legal Counsel:
BEYOND LAW CHAMBERS

Facia B. Harris
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

Mark M.M. Marvey
COUNSELOR-AT-LAW

Dated this _____ day of October, A. D. 2023
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA) IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR
MONTSERRADO COUNTY) AND IN MONTSERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company (LEDFC), Represented by its General Manager, Mr. Ambrose Houphouette of the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, R.L.....PETITIONER

VERSUS **PETITION FOR FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE DEED**

Lofo Business Center (LBC) by and thru its CEO, Madam Koiso M. M. Haja of the Topoe Village Gardnerville City, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia.....1st RESPONDENT

AND

Madam Koiso M. M. Haja of the Topoe Village Gardnerville City, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia.....2nd RESPONDENT

PETITIONER'S AFFIDAVIT

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, a duly qualified Justice of the Peace in and for Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, at my office in the City of Monrovia, Facia B. Harris, Attorney-At-Law, and one of Counsels for PETITIONER in the above-entitled cause and made **OATH** according to law that all and singular the allegations of both law and facts set forth and contained in the foregoing and annexed **PETITIONER'S PETITION** are true and correct to the best of her knowledge and belief; and as to those matters of information she verily believes them to be true and correct.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME AT MY OFFICE THIS 30th DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 2023.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR MONTSERRADO COUNTY, LIBERIA

Facia B. Harris /Deponent
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW AND ONE
OF COUNSELS FOR PETITIONER

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Speaker Chambers commends Weah, congratulates Boakai

US Congressman Chris Smith urges new Liberian legislators to urgently remove abortion section in Public Health Bill

House Speaker Dr. Bhofal Chambers has extended his warmest congratulations to

commitment to the well-being of the Liberian people. Speaker Chambers also highlighted the importance of

Representatives 54th Legislature, under the leadership of Speaker Chambers, also expresses gratitude to both local and international partners for their invaluable support throughout the electoral process. Their collaboration has played a pivotal role in ensuring the success and credibility of the elections. This election is particularly noteworthy as it marks the first postwar elections sponsored by the Liberian Government without the presence of international peacekeepers.

Special acknowledgment was extended to the Liberian Security apparatus for their outstanding work in maintaining a secure environment during the elections. The House recognizes the professionalism and dedication of the security forces, whose efforts have contributed significantly to the overall success of the electoral process.

As Liberia embraces a new era under the leadership of President-Elect Ambassador Joseph N. Boakai, Speaker Chambers affirms the commitment of the House of Representatives to work collaboratively with the Executive Branch for the betterment of the Liberian people.

Leading human rights campaigner and prominent US politician, Congressman Chris Smith, has called on the new Liberian Government and senators to remove the abortion section in the Public Health Bill.

The Public Health Bill, which includes the extreme abortion section, is currently under consideration by the Liberian Senate.

The statement released by Congressman Chris Smith adds to the mounting pressure the Liberian Government is facing to remove the section of the Public Health Bill that is estimated will lead to 40,000 babies being aborted in Liberia each year.

A number of senators have received a flood of correspondence from members

circumstances - where the mother's life is at risk, rape/incest/felonious intercourse, and disability of the fetus. These are rare situations.

The abortion section in the Public Health Bill would repeal Liberia's current abortion law and replace it with a law that allows abortion, for any reason, on demand, up to when the baby in the womb reaches 14 weeks gestation.

It has been estimated that this change from allowing abortion in exceptional circumstances to allowing abortion on demand would lead to the lives of 40,000 babies being lost to abortion in Liberia every single year. This is a conservative estimate, the actual number could be much higher.

Based on this estimate, if this law change is made, it will lead to



President George M. Weah describing him as exemplary leaders who showed unwavering patriotism, and dedicated service to the people of Liberia.

IN a statement issued Monday, November 20, just days after President Weah conceded defeat to former Vice President Joseph Boakai following the November 14 presidential runoff, Dr. Chambers further praised Mr. Weah for his instrumental role in maintaining and sustaining peace in the nation, something he described as Weah's testament to his

strong and visionary leadership, particularly in navigating the challenges faced by a nation in its pursuit of progress and prosperity.

Meanwhile, Speaker Chambers has also extended his congratulations to President-Elect Ambassador Joseph N. Boakai for his successful outcome in the just-ended Presidential Runoff Elections held on November 14, 2023. He commended the resilience of the Liberian people and their commitment to the democratic process, which has resulted in a peaceful transition of power.

The House of

Mixed reactions greet Boakai's win

BY Kruah Thompson

There have been mixed reactions among Liberians after the National Elections Commission (NEC) officially declared opposition leader Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai was the winner of the presidential run-off election.

The NEC declared the Unity Party (UP) leader as Liberia's pre-elect after he challenged incumbent President George Manneh Weah at the 14 November 2023 run-off polls. The run-off was a rematch of 2017 between the two men but with a different outcome this time.

Weah won the 2017 polls as an opposition candidate at the time, but he lost the second electoral battle against Boakai after serving one six-year term in office.

Across Monrovia, citizens gathered in different quarters on Monday, 20 November 2023 to hear the

final report from the NEC following a largely peaceful electoral process that leaves the country politically divided.

NEC chairperson Madam Davidetta Brown-Lansanah reported that Boakai won the election with 814,481 votes constituting 50.64% over President Weah who accumulated 793,914 votes amounting to 49.36%.

Those who supported

Boakai's bid for the presidency were jubilating across Monrovia and its environs Monday evening, but their rivals backing Weah expressed discontent. Supporters of Amb. Boakai celebrated the victory by waving party flags and chanting slogans, while others who supported opposing candidates voiced their dissatisfaction.

▶ CONT'D page 7



of the public who are deeply concerned by the proposed radical change to abortion legislation in Liberia. Congressman Chris Smith is a prominent US politician who is a senior member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and a co-chair of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission a significant bipartisan body of the United States House of Representatives. Smith is known worldwide for his human rights campaigning, including being the author of several global humanitarian and human rights laws including the historic Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000. He has also chaired over 600 congressional hearings on human rights issues. Under Liberia's current law, abortion is allowed in exceptional

up to 400,000 innocent lives being lost to abortion over the next ten years in Liberia. Senators can avoid this mass loss of life now by removing this extreme abortion section from the Public Health Bill. Most African countries prohibit abortion except in extreme circumstances, such as the life of the mother, rape/incest, and fetal disability. Most countries in the world likewise prohibit abortion except in extreme circumstances. Only a minority of countries allow abortion on demand. Members of the public throughout Liberia are being encouraged to visit www.StopAbortionLiberia.com to ask their senators to ensure that the extreme abortion section be removed from the Bill.

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ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Monrovia jubilates

-as NEC declares Boakia winner

By Lincoln G. Peters

Dozens of Liberians in central Monrovia descended into jubilation late Monday, November 20, 2023,

corrected the mistake”, among others.

The National Elections Commission (NEC) through its Chairperson, Madam Davidette

leadership.

According to UP supporters, Liberians under the leadership of President Weah and the CDC experienced nothing good but international and local disgrace, pain, injustice, poverty and corruption.

“President Weah has been considered the country’s worst nightmare because he had all the worst negative experiences under his government. We are excited that this national disgrace and nightmare is leaving our country. We believe in Amb. Boakai and the entire rescue mission; therefore, with this, I can say true liberation and redemption has come” Massaquo explains.

Also, Faith Johnson, a resident of 9th Street community, who came at the NEC with jubilant celebration, extolled the Commission for discharging its duties void of influence, adding that they are true patriots. My brother, we are here today because we are happy. We came at the NEC to thank them; thanks because they have done good work. We want to thank them for not bowing down to pressure and influence from the government. President Weah deserves what he got because he really ignored us for long”, she says. Mr. Weah conceded defeat last week, after the NEC announced consolidated tally results from across the country, telling partisans and supporters of his ruling Coalition for Democratic Change it is over and they should move on with life. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**



immediately after the National Elections Commission officially pronounced Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai winner of the 14 November Presidential Runoff Election. Trickle-happy citizens stormed various street corners here in jubilation and excitement.

The jubilant Liberians carried green leaves in their hands and on their bodies, symbolizing the color of the Unity Party, as they celebrated. The crowd, including females and youth sang “Our nightmare has gone; we did it. Our Pa welcomes back; we have

Browne Lansanah on Monday, officially announced Amb. Boakai winner of the November 14 Presidential Runoff Election. Boakai defeated incumbent President George M. Weah with 814,481 votes, constituting 50.64%. Mr. Weah, who was seeking another six years from Liberians, accumulated 793,914 votes, amounting to 49.36%. Speaking in an exclusive interview with the NEW DAWN, one jubilating citizen, Alfred Massaquo, describes the pronouncement of Boakai-Koung Rescue Ticket as a redemption and restoration of competent government and responsible

Why I’m not yet celebrating bigly

Jonathan Paye-Layleh writes:

I feel relieved. But I haven't really been celebrating much since the Nov. 14 election victory, even though I was a well-known campaigner for the Boakai-Koung ticket.

For me the real celebration will come when the Boakai government takes over and sees the economy in a very good or reasonably good shape, where monies spent on projects over the last six years are properly accounted for, where there are no traces of overtime and last minute questionable financial transactions by the outgoing regime and there is a clearly-defined turnover note



Boakai

explaining all the transactions.

The real celebration will come when the soon-to-be set up transitional team reports that the outgoing government is leaving a better payroll structure and a better expenditure portfolio than those of the Ellen Sirleaf government.

I will celebrate if the outgoing government settled most of our domestic debts and that the salaries of employees were not left in arrears. Indeed, I will celebrate if the outgoing government left more money in our Central Bank reserve than what it saw there on assuming power.

I will celebrate when newly appointed officials go to take office and the records and reports they see of their predecessors are correct and acceptable.

More importantly, I will celebrate when the new government starts to introduce meaningful reforms to change things around in a bid to make the long sought-after difference .

MY INITIAL CONTRIBUTION FOR A BETTER LIBERIA

Already, I've given the incoming government my first batch of suggestions highlighting some of the areas in which, in my opinion, they need to make some early interventions in order to start bringing relief to the virtually strangled population.

I think placing a suggestion box at every public place, encouraging people to speak out and stay away from this culture of silence, is one way of getting the public involved in decisions that affect them. I SUBMIT.

Starts from page 6

Mixed reactions greet

The announcement came after a closely contested run-off, and the reaction from the public underscored the polarized nature of the political landscape here. It means the incoming administration of Amb. Boakai, a former Liberian vice president for 12 years, has a task to reconcile Liberians at home and abroad.

Boakai's supporters celebrated President Weah's concession as a victory for democracy, but supporters of the incumbent raised concerns about the integrity of the electoral process held under their government.

Security forces were stationed at the different entrances of the National Elections Commission headquarters in Sinkor to

uphold order amid heightened emotions. The NEC, in a press conference, assured the public of the transparency and fairness of the election process, emphasizing that the results were determined through a rigorous and impartial counting process.

NEC officials urged citizens to respect the outcome and maintain peace in the interest of national stability.

Starts from page 5

Koijee rallies partisans to avoid

and he will be having a conversation with all his partisans. “CDCians from across the world, we appreciate you. You have demonstrated your commitment and love for the President and the CDC. Please remain law abiding. There’s time for everything,” he added. He stated that this time, they have committed themselves to a peaceful, transparent and credible

election. “We will act responsibly and we want you to give deaf ears to misleading information that would push you to engage into acts that will undermine the peace of our country.” He said any negative actions taken by anyone claiming to be partisan of the CDC will not be condoned.

“If your action is in contravention of our calls for you to be peaceful and law abiding, you will bear the

consequences of those actions alone. We will condemn you.” He said the party structure will not accept acts that are counterproductive, encouraging partisans to be steadfast and calm.

“Do not take any unlawful actions. Follow the direction of your leaders, remain circumspect and act within the confines of the law,” he continued.

Français

Le président sortant Weah s'engage à exercer le rôle de chef de l'opposition

Démontrant son d'engagement indéfectible envers les principes démocratiques et le bien-

de l'élection présidentielle du 14 novembre 2023, cédant à son adversaire du Unity Party (UP).

Le mandat de six ans de Weah à la présidence prendra fin en

administration, qu'il a choisi de ne pas identifier.

Selon les résultats préliminaires de la NEC, Boakai a obtenu 50,64% des voix,



être du peuple libérien, le président sortant George Manneh Weah s'est engagé à assumer le rôle de chef de l'opposition, promettant de surveiller rigoureusement les actions de l'administration entrante de Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

À l'issue d'un processus électoral serré, Weah, le chef du parti au pouvoir, le Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC), a gracieusement reconnu sa défaite lors du second tour

janvier 2024, marquant le début du mandat de Boakai en tant que président. Boakai avait auparavant occupé le poste de vice-président du Liberia pendant 12 années consécutives.

La concession anticipée de Weah, faite après que la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) a publié plus de 99 pour cent des résultats préliminaires du second tour, a surpris beaucoup. Il a attribué sa défaite aux actions de certains individus au sein de sa propre

tandis que Weah a obtenu 49,36%.

Dans un discours dominical devant ses partisans à son église Forkly Klon Jlah Family Fellowship Church, Weah a ouvertement adopté son nouveau rôle en tant que chef de l'opposition, s'engageant à jouer un rôle ferme dans la reddition de comptes du gouvernement entrant. Il a affirmé : "Nous allons continuer à nous battre en tant qu'opposition. Nous n'allons pas

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Évolution Politique : L'Histoire Électorale Récente du Libéria Depuis 2005

Le Libéria, une nation à l'histoire tumultueuse marquée par des guerres civiles et une instabilité politique, a connu des transformations significatives dans son paysage électoral depuis les élections historiques de 2005. Au cours de la dernière décennie et demie, le pays a été le témoin d'une série d'élections qui reflètent son engagement envers la gouvernance démocratique et la recherche de la stabilité. Cet article explore l'histoire électorale du Libéria de 2005 à nos jours, mettant en lumière les jalons clés, les défis et le climat politique en évolution.

Les élections de 2005 ont été historiques pour le Libéria, marquant la fin d'une période prolongée de conflit et le début d'une transition démocratique. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf est

devenue la lauréate, devenant la première femme chef d'État élue d'Afrique. Sa victoire symbolisait l'espoir de réconciliation et de redressement.

En 2011, le Libéria a poursuivi son engagement envers les principes démocratiques avec une autre série d'élections. La présidente Sirleaf a cherché et obtenu un deuxième mandat, soulignant l'engagement du pays envers la stabilité politique et le

développement économique. Cependant, ces élections n'étaient pas sans défis, notamment des préoccupations concernant la transparence et l'inclusivité.

Les élections de 2017 ont marqué une transition significative pour le Libéria, la présidence d'Ellen Johnson Sirleaf touchant à sa fin. L'ancienne star du football, George Weah, a remporté la présidence, incarnant les

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

Le Libéria affirme son ancrage démocratique

Le parcours démocratique du Libéria a connu une avancée majeure le vendredi 17 novembre, lorsque le gouvernement sortant a gracieusement concédé sa défaite à l'élection présidentielle du deuxième tour du 14 novembre 2023 et a appelé ses partisans à la démobilisation et à un retour à la vie normale.

Cet acte remarquable de maturité politique s'est produit malgré les efforts considérables déployés par la Coalition pour le changement démocratique, désormais vaincue, pour obtenir un second mandat à travers des campagnes nationales étendues dans les premier et deuxième tours.

Le président sortant, George Manneh Weah, qui avait brigué un nouveau mandat de six ans, n'a finalement pas reçu le mandat du peuple libérien. Cependant, faisant preuve d'un leadership remarquable et de respect des principes démocratiques, il s'est humblement incliné devant son principal challenger, l'ancien vice-président Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

La réponse gracieuse du président Weah aux résultats des élections contraste fortement avec les actions de bon nombre de ses contemporains dans la région qui ont eu recours à des prises de pouvoir et à des moyens non démocratiques pour maintenir leur emprise sur le pouvoir. Au lieu de cela, le président Weah a choisi de respecter la volonté du peuple, ce qui a créé un précédent pour les transitions démocratiques en Afrique de l'Ouest.

À l'instar de son prédécesseur, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, qui a transformé le Libéria d'une nation déchirée par la guerre en un phare de paix, le président Weah restera dans les mémoires non seulement pour avoir consolidé la paix mais aussi pour son engagement indéfectible envers les principes démocratiques. Sous sa direction, le Libéria a connu des élections libres, justes et transparentes, culminant dans sa propre concession pacifique et digne.

L'Afrique de l'Ouest, en particulier la CEDEAO, a beaucoup à apprendre du processus démocratique exemplaire du Libéria et devrait s'efforcer de reproduire son succès dans les prochaines élections à travers la région. De manière significative, les élections libériennes de 2023 ont été entièrement menées par les Libériens eux-mêmes, sans l'implication d'aucune organisation internationale.

Les institutions pro-démocratiques du pays méritent des éloges immenses pour leur dévouement indéfectible à garantir que les Libériens puissent exercer leur droit de vote dans un environnement paisible et sûr, libre de menaces, d'intimidations ou de violence. Leur engagement a protégé le régime civil et empêché un retour aux heures sombres du passé.

Avec l'ancienne présidente Sirleaf préparant le terrain pour des transitions pacifiques entre les administrations démocratiquement élues, le président Weah n'a eu d'autre choix que de suivre son exemple. Ses actions lui ont valu un immense respect non seulement dans la région mais aussi à travers l'Afrique et la communauté mondiale.

La Commission électorale nationale du Libéria, sous la direction de la présidente Davidetta Browne Lansanah, mérite la plus haute recommandation pour avoir mené un processus électoral crédible et transparent. Malgré les défis rencontrés, tels que la capacité limitée, les contraintes logistiques et les confrontations directes, la présidente Lansanah et le conseil des commissaires de la CEN ont habilement navigué dans le paysage électoral, s'assurant que la volonté du peuple libérien était entendue et respectée.

En conclusion, les Libériens devraient garder la tête haute en tant que nation fière qui est sortie de 14 ans de guerre civile pour organiser quatre élections pacifiques et démocratiques. Ils ont prouvé que les prophètes de malheur avaient tort, démontrant que leur pays n'est pas condamné à une nouvelle désintégration et à des effusions de sang. De plus, le Libéria reste profondément reconnaissant aux partenaires internationaux qui l'ont accompagné tout au long de ce voyage.

Français

Par Marina Romanello

Starts from page 8 **Le président sortant**

rester assis et nous détendre. Nous allons garder Boakai sur le gril dans l'intérêt de notre peuple."

Établissant une comparaison entre le gouvernement entrant et sa propre administration, Weah a souligné que l'UP doit fournir le même niveau de soutien à l'opposition que le CDC a fourni pendant son mandat.

Weah a encouragé ses partisans à accepter les résultats des élections et à maintenir l'unité, les exhortant à élaborer des stratégies pour un retour plus fort en 2029. Il a présenté sa défaite comme un test d'unité au sein du CDC, soulignant qu'il s'agit d'une expérience d'apprentissage pour tous les membres du parti afin de travailler ensemble et de développer des stratégies efficaces.

Weah a reconnu la présence d'individus au sein de son gouvernement qui ont sapé son administration et entravé le succès de son

leadership. Il a exprimé : "Ne vous laissez pas décourager par ce qui s'est passé. Nous nous sommes laissés tomber."

Weah a déploré les insuffisances de certains ministres au sein de son gouvernement, affirmant : "Certains de ces ministres nous ont laissés tomber."

Malgré sa défaite, Weah a exprimé une confiance inébranlable dans la capacité du CDC à regagner le pouvoir à l'avenir. Il a exhorté ses partisans à rester fermes et unis, s'inspirant des triomphes du parti en 2005 et 2011.

La concession de Weah et son engagement à assumer un rôle actif en tant que chef de l'opposition démontrent son dévouement aux principes démocratiques et son engagement indéfectible à servir le peuple libérien. Son engagement à tenir le gouvernement entrant responsable sera crucial pour garantir la transparence, la bonne gouvernance et le progrès continu du Libéria.

Starts from page 8 **Évolution Politique :**

aspirations de nombreux Libériens pour le changement et un nouveau départ. Les élections étaient généralement pacifiques, mais des préoccupations notables ont été soulevées quant au processus électoral, suscitant des appels à des réformes pour renforcer la transparence et la crédibilité.

Les élections de mi-mandat de 2020 au Libéria ont été un test crucial pour les institutions démocratiques du pays. Axées sur l'élection des membres de la Chambre des représentants et du Sénat, ces élections ont souligné l'importance de la participation citoyenne dans la définition du paysage politique. Les résultats reflétaient à la fois la continuité et le changement, avec certains titulaires conservant leurs sièges et de nouveaux visages entrant dans l'arène politique.

Le chapitre le plus récent de l'histoire électorale du Libéria s'est déroulé en 2023 avec le second tour présidentiel entre le président sortant George Weah et le candidat de l'opposition Joseph Boakai. La Commission électorale

nationale a déclaré Boakai vainqueur, marquant une transition pacifique du pouvoir. Les observateurs internationaux ont joué un rôle crucial pour garantir la crédibilité du processus électoral.

Malgré les progrès réalisés, le parcours électoral du Libéria n'a pas été sans défis. Des questions telles que l'éducation des électeurs, l'infrastructure électorale et les allégations d'irrégularités ont émergé, nécessitant des efforts continus pour renforcer le processus démocratique. Cependant, chaque élection offre également une opportunité de croissance, d'apprentissage et d'amélioration des institutions démocratiques.

L'histoire électorale du Libéria depuis 2005 reflète une nation engagée envers les principes démocratiques et la stabilité politique. De l'élection historique d'Ellen Johnson Sirleaf au récent second tour présidentiel, le Libéria a navigué à travers les complexités de la démocratie post-conflit. Alors que le pays regarde vers l'avenir, des efforts continus pour relever les défis et capitaliser sur les succès seront cruciaux pour la croissance soutenue de ses institutions démocratiques et le bien-être de son peuple.

L'opposant Joseph Nyumah Boakai officiellement déclaré vainqueur de la présidentielle libérienne



La Commission Électorale Nationale (NEC) a officiellement déclaré l'opposant Joseph Nyumah Boakai, porte-étendard du Parti de l'Unité, vainqueur de l'élection présidentielle du 14 novembre du Libéria.

M. Boakai a remporté la présidentielle en obtenant 814 481 voix, soit 50,64%, surpassant le Président sortant George M. Weah, qui a recueilli 793 914 voix, soit 49,36%.

Lors d'une conférence de presse très médiatisée tenue le 20 novembre 2023, la présidente de la NEC, Mme Davidette Brown-Lansannah, a officiellement dévoilé les résultats, en présence de divers observateurs internationaux et locaux, dont des représentants de l'Institut Électoral pour la Démocratie Durable en Afrique (EISA), de l'Union Européenne (UE), de l'Union Africaine et de la Communauté Économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO).

Fournissant une ventilation complète des

chiffres, Mme Brown-Lansannah a déclaré : "Mesdames et messieurs, je présente maintenant le rapport consolidé final de l'élection présidentielle nationale. Sur les 5 890 bureaux de vote, constituant 100%, le candidat Boakai Joseph N., du Parti de l'Unité, a obtenu le plus grand nombre de voix avec 814 481, soit 50,64%. D'autre part, Weah George Manneh, du CDC, a obtenu 793 914 voix, soit 49,36%."

La présidente de la NEC a précisé que le nombre total de votes valides s'élevait à 1 680 395, représentant 100%, avec 25 788 votes considérés comme invalides. Le nombre total de votes exprimés était de 1 634 183.

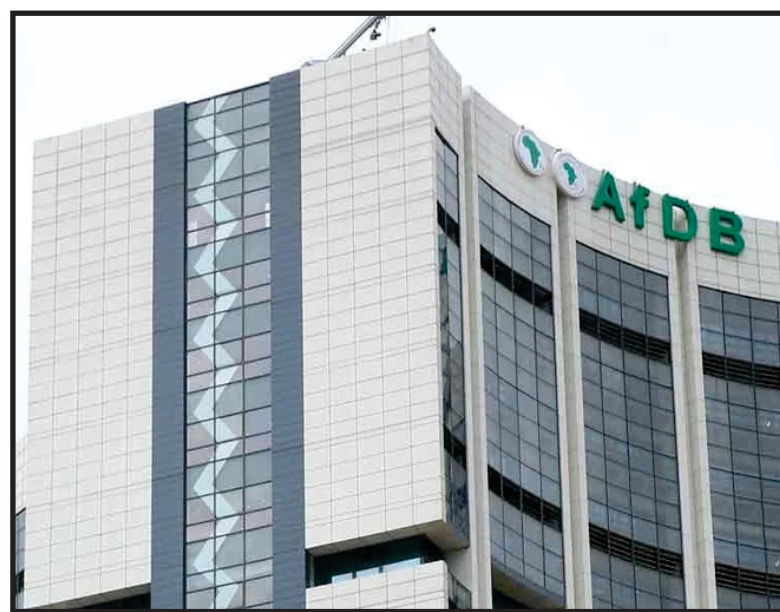
"À cet égard, les résultats de l'élection présidentielle au second tour indiquent que le ticket

présidentiel du candidat Joseph Nyumah Boakai et du sénateur Jeremiah K. Koung du Parti de l'Unité a le plus grand nombre de voix, soit 814 481, soit 50,64%, par rapport au président sortant George M. Weah et à Jewel Howard-Taylor du CDC, qui ont obtenu 793 914 voix, soit 49,36%," a-t-elle souligné.

Concluant l'annonce, Mme Brown-Lansannah a déclaré : "Ainsi, le ticket présidentiel du candidat Boakai et Koung du Parti de l'Unité est déclaré par la commission comme le vainqueur de l'élection présidentielle du 14 novembre 2023."

Cette déclaration marque la fin d'un processus électoral étroitement surveillé et prépare la transition vers une nouvelle administration.

Rapport de la BAD sur l'arrestation illégale de deux employés en Éthiopie



La Banque africaine de développement (BAD) dénonce avec vigueur l'arrestation illégale de deux de ses membres du personnel, basés à Addis-Abeba, par les forces de sécurité éthiopiennes. Les employés ont été appréhendés de manière arbitraire, physiquement agressés, et détenus pendant plusieurs heures sans qu'aucune explication officielle ne leur soit fournie.

Dans un communiqué, la BAD exprime sa satisfaction quant à la réaction immédiate du Premier ministre éthiopien dès qu'il a été informé de l'incident. Celui-ci a ordonné la libération immédiate des membres du personnel concernés et a promis d'initier une enquête immédiate sur cette affaire. Considérant cet épisode comme une affaire diplomatique très sérieuse, la BAD a formellement déposé

une plainte auprès des autorités éthiopiennes. Le gouvernement a reconnu officiellement cette plainte, pris acte de la gravité de la situation, et a assuré que toutes les personnes impliquées dans ces actes répréhensibles feront l'objet d'une enquête approfondie et seront traduites en justice, garantissant ainsi transparence et pleine responsabilité.

Par ailleurs, le gouvernement a réaffirmé à la BAD que son personnel en Éthiopie, ainsi que ceux en mission dans le pays, continueront de bénéficier du plein respect de leurs droits, privilèges, et immunités diplomatiques conformément à la Convention de Vienne sur les relations diplomatiques et à l'Accord de siège conclu entre la BAD et

le gouvernement éthiopien. La BAD tient à souligner la valeur de ses excellentes relations avec le gouvernement éthiopien et indique être actuellement en pourparlers avec les autorités par le biais des canaux diplomatiques pour discuter de cet incident. La direction de la BAD réitère son engagement envers la sécurité, la sûreté, ainsi que les droits et privilèges de tout son personnel, quel que soit le pays où la Banque opère. Elle assure également ses partenaires que cet incident n'affecte en rien ses opérations en Éthiopie.

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LIBERIANS DEBATE

Topic: The November 14, 2023 Presidential Runoff Election

By Naneka Hoffman

Liberians went to Presidential Runoff Election on 14 November 2023, which President George Manneh Weah lost to former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai. The runoff election was generally peaceful. Liberians have been expressing their views about outcome of the election, as you may read below.



Martha George Williams

"It means that Madam Ellen and Liberian people have Ambassador Joseph Boakai's tenure tired with the police officers used suffering and poverty to run behind us, but rate in the country. The reason I followed Whenever you put behind Madam Ellen your goods out and is because of Joseph sold ten thousand Boakai. During Liberian Dollars"

worth of goods then you did not make business. But since President George Manneh Weah came to power, no business, just the way we come to the market is just the same way we go home, because no business, and that is the reason I decided to vote for Ambassador Joseph Boakai. Some of us, we don't get man (husband). We only depend on God; if you don't sell, how will you eat? This is one of the reasons why the children go in the streets, because parents don't have it. I am begging President-Elect, Ambassador Joseph Boakai to please bring investors in the country. Let business people come in the country plenty and open NGOs and businesses all over the country so that people will earn good salary and be able to buy from us, the business people."



Alexander S. Teah

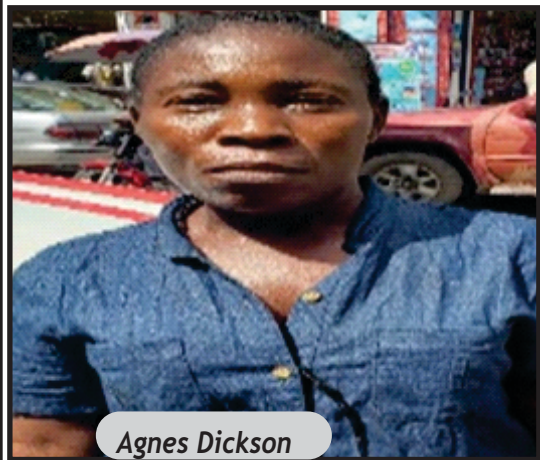
"In my own mind and in my own sense, this election means that Liberia democracy is growing seriously, because around Africa, to have a sitting President narrowly beaten by an opposition, it takes a man to take that decision. So I am seeing Liberia making progress, serious progress, so I must applaud him for that. And it is a serious progress for Liberia. I hope others will learn from his footstep and do the same."

"It means that the people of Liberia were exhausted with President Weah. And President Weah wasn't working in the interest of the citizens. And the people around him and in the legislature were not working in the interest of the citizens. Whenever they were given assignments to do by the President, they were sluggish on their assignments. And President Weah too, anything his men told him that chief, everything is okay, then he would say gentlemen, it is okay, so the citizens were exhausted with President Weah. Even me, too, I am happy even though I am a CDCian, but I am happy seeing President Weah going back home because actually to admit the



Mamadee M. Kesselly

fact, the suffering was people thanks for too much in the country. voting Ambassador Government workers are B o a k a i m o r e not getting their salary especially, the people on time and teachers are of Nimba for their kind not getting salary on decision toward time and other things, so Ambassador Boakai for him being defeated and Jeremiah Kpan by Ambassador Boakai is Koung."



Agnes Dickson

this is our home here, so we don't want any more war. President Weah accepting early defeat, it means that he is a true son of the country and has the country at heart. Because for a man to have power and just let it to go, it is very difficult, so I want to tell him (President Weah) thanks for that, for accepting democracy and the will of the people. And very big thanks to First Lady Clar Marie Weah, for giving her husband such

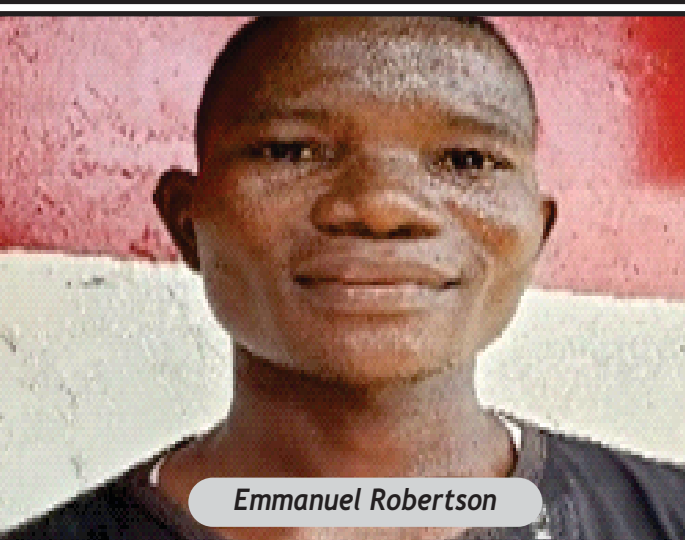
"It's alright for Liberian people, a good advice by turning the Liberian because we don't have anywhere to go; people power over."

"President Weah accepting defeat for me, it is not something strange, because I know that is something he must do - even if he is not forced but he is compelled to do because the Liberian people went to the poll and exercised their constitutional rights. And the constitutional rights they exercised has spoken. Even if President-Elect, Joseph Boakai was defeated, he was also going to accept it and had done it before. On the other hand, it means something in Liberia because it will be Liberians practicing what we call democracy, so it sent a strong sign that this is a democratic country, and by the constitution, every six years we must go to



Gibson F. Sayezulu

the polls to exercise our constitutional rights. So President Weah accepting defeat brought pride to the country and himself."



Emmanuel Robertson

"During the electoral presidency. He was period, we told our sitting in a chair in my CDCian brothers, sisters dream. So I explained it and people all across and posted it on my Liberia concerning the page. We have political elections, some of us have third eyes and we told political third eyes. I told people. Besides, we are people that I have a not surprised of dream five months ago President Weah losing that Ambassador Joseph the election, because B o a k a i w o n t h e people who supposed to

be back bones of the government are all crying in the country, and President Weah played deaf ears to the people. I am talking about the civil servants, in every society civil servants come first in a government. If you prioritize civil servants' salary or allow it to remain that's okay. But President Weah came with fixed mind and started reducing salary, using that word called harmonization. Salary harmonization is not having any positive effect on the livelihood of Liberians. I think it means that Liberians are tired suffering from the hands of the man that said he has the country at heart."

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Boakai sets first hundred days deliverables

By Lincoln Peters

President-elect Joseph Boakai told journalists here on Monday that his first hundred days in office will focus on the reduction of prices in the country's stable food rice and major roads infrastructure as well as improvement in the health sector.

Liberians, cost of living, and roads across the country to improve the earnings and living conditions of Liberians. Amb. Boakai noted that they are now preparing for



Amb. Boakai

collaborators are prepared and ready to bring prosperity to Liberia. He assured Liberians that the UP government would bring to pass all that the Liberian people had been yearning for, stating that Liberia would have corporations. "My first hundred days' deliverables, we will quickly review and find reason for the hardship in the areas that are essential to the livelihood of Liberians. If the price of rice is high, it will be reduced. I have also said that in my first hundred days, no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads. And I mean that" Amb. Boakai vowed. The Liberian President-elect further that his hundred days deliverables will also all its alliances and focus on the health of

transition, and they are planning for inauguration, adding that after the transition his government will begin rolling out its activities. Meanwhile, Amb. Boakai has congratulated incumbent President George M. Weah for conceding defeat in the Presidential runoff election. He assured President Weah and the CDC that he was willing to work with them. "I want to thank President Weah and the CDC for conceding defeat. I assure them that all Liberia needs is peaceful nation to reconcile the society and get on board all to build the nation " he concluded.

Massive looting in Nimba

By Thomas Domah/
Nimba County

Following the National Election Commission announcement of results for the just ended results of November 14, 2023, Presidential runoff election, Various local government offices in Nimba county are being massively looted

from the 19 administrative districts in the county. They are being joined by all six mayoral offices alongside with various government agencies. Some office staffers, who asked for anonymity, said the action by their bosses is based on apprehension that they may not get re-appointed by the incoming



following official announcement of the final results of the November 14, 2023, Presidential Runoff Election by the National Elections Commission, declaring main opposition leader, Joseph Nyumah Boakai of the poll. State properties that were assigned to various government Ministries and Agencies in the County are being swept away into neighboring Guinea. The looting is being executed by outgoing officials after hearing results from the

UP-led government. Prior to their victory, Unity Party vice running mate, Senator Jeremiah Koug told journalists during the heat of campaign that if elected President of Liberia, Ambassador Joseph Boakai will work with all Liberians across the country regardless of party affiliation, because his government's goal is to help build a better country. A tour of some public offices in the county by this paper saw district commissioners, city mayors, including Superintendent Nelson Korquoi, and County

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runoff election, which the ruling CDC lost to the opposition UP. The NEW DAWN gathers that assets being looted include vehicles, motorbikes, office furniture, generators and computers, among others. The act is being carried out at the Administrative Building in Sanniquellie and offices of various district commissioners

Inspector Mack Gblinwon conspicuously absent from work on Monday, the first working day of the week. They refused to speak to reporters when contacted on the issue that is set to portray the outgoing administration negatively. Editing by Jonathan Browne

NEC makes it official

-Boakai declares President-elect

By Lincoln G. Peters

The National Elections Commission Monday officially declared former Vice President Joseph Boakai winner of the November



NEC Chairperson Daviedetta Browne Lansanah

President Weah who accumulated 793,914 votes amounting to 49.36%. According to NEC Chair Brown-Lasannah, about 1,635,088 registered voters participated in the

number of votes eight, hundred and fourteen thousand four hundred and eighty-one votes constituting 50.64%. Over incumbent President George M. Weah and Jewel Howard-Taylor of CDC seven hundred and ninety-three thousand nine hundred and fourteen constituting 49.36%” she stated.

“Hence, the presidential ticket of candidate Boakai and Koug of the Unity Party is declared by the commission as winner of the 14 November 2023 Presidential runoff elections” Madam Brown-Lasannah concluded.

The official announcement was graced by several international and local observation missions including the diplomatic corps.

In attendance at the program were representatives from the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA), the European Union (EU), the African Union, and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) among others. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah

14, Presidential runoff. The official announcement follows incumbent President George Weah’s concession speech over the weekend after NEC announced over 99 percent of the votes cast on November 14. Making the final official announcement NEC Chair Daviedetta Brown-Lasannah said Boakai obtained 814,481 constituting 50.64% over

presidential runoff election. Out of this number, she said the valid votes amounted to 1,680,395, while the invalid votes were 25,788. “Ladies in gentlemen, in this connection, the results of the presidential runoff election indicate that the presidential ticket of candidate Joseph Nyumah Boakai and senator Jeremiah K. Koug of UP has the highest

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