

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

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

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

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023	LS187.1142/US\$1.00	LS188.9239/US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

ANDROID APP ON Google Play

QPR CODE: 797005
Down Load New Dawn Android App

VOL. 13 NO. 212 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2023 PRICE LD\$40.00

EDC man charged

P11



-in attempted mass murder



Clr. Jonathan Fonati Koffa

Speakership battle intensifies

P11

-As several incoming lawmakers endorse Koffa's bid

MoMo Waysay-Wasa 3
Da your time to win!

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

Dial *156*2#

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



Continental News

Sierra Leone prison breaks co-ordinated - minister

Gunmen in Sierra Leone attacked a military barracks and freed hundreds of prisoners in those involved, some of whom have been detained by security forces. Gunmen, witnessed by the BBC's Umaru Fofana in Freetown



Freetown's streets were almost empty on Sunday after a curfew was imposed

a "co-ordinated and properly planned" attack, the country's information minister has said. Sierra Leoneans spent Sunday under a nationwide curfew amid disarray in capital city, Freetown. A BBC correspondent saw armed men on the streets chanting that they would "clean" Sierra Leone.

The attack was a "very serious breach", Information Minister Chernoh Bah said. "These were co-ordinated and properly planned attacks on the security and wellbeing of our state," he told the BBC's Newsday programme on Monday morning, after the curfew had been lifted. Mr Bah said current and former military officials were among

on Sunday, wore military uniforms and balaclavas.

Addressing suggestions that there had been an attempted coup, Mr Bah said: "We have apprehended some of the major leaders of yesterday's attack and they are currently being interrogated by our security forces. "Once they can ascertain the full intent of their actions... we will make a declaration on whether it was an attempted coup. "Several countries in West and Central Africa are under military rule after a series of recent coups. These include Sierra Leone's neighbour Guinea as well as Mali, Niger and Chad. Our correspondent says he understands that the gunmen intended to storm the presidential residence on Sunday morning.

However, they moved on after failing to take control a nearby armoury and overcome President Julius Maada Bio's security.

A former President, Ernest Koroma, also came close to Sunday's violence. A military source on Sunday told the BBC that one of Mr Koroma's guards had been detained - hours later the former leader announced that a guard of his had been killed and another abducted.

In a statement, Mr Koroma said he "strongly condemned" the violence, in which "Corporal Eddie Conteh was reportedly shot at point blank range while his colleague, Warrant Officer John Swarray was whisked away to an unknown location".

The information minister echoed President Bio in insisting order has been restored in the capital. The sound of gunshots had drastically decreased overnight and the atmosphere was calmer, witnesses said. However, Mr Bah said a "manhunt" for gunmen and the escaped prisoners is ongoing. In a televised address on Sunday evening, the president described the events as a "breach of security" and an attack on democracy. A new nine-hour night-time curfew will begin at 21:00 local time (21:00 GMT) on Monday, the information ministry says. The political situation in Sierra Leone has remained tense since June, when President Bio was re-elected - narrowly missing out on the need to have a run-off.

Kenyans seek unsafe abortions amid legal ambiguity

Legal ambiguity over abortions in Kenya is pushing thousands of women to turn to backstreet clinics. BBC Africa Eye explores how abortion is shrouded in stigma and misinformation. Edith is lying on a bed covered in old newspaper in a backstreet clinic in Nairobi. Her legs are held high by stirrups while a man in a white medical coat explains he is about to put some medicine inside her uterus. A red bucket of bleach containing medical instruments sits on the floor. The mum-of-three, whose name has been changed to protect her identity, is four months pregnant and is about to have an abortion. "I had to terminate because I had to go back to work, and I have another small baby," she later tells BBC Africa Eye.

the years have made the situation "dangerous for health workers", according to Prof Joachim Osur, a reproductive and sexual health expert at Amref International University in Nairobi. It is about how the law is understood.

"Depending on how the judge interprets the legality of the procedure that someone has done, it can go either way," he says.

In 2004, Dr John Nyamu, along with two nurses, was arrested for the murder of two fetuses, a crime that carried the death penalty. He was held at the Kamiti Maximum Security Prison in Nairobi for 12 months before he was found not guilty.

The media sensation in Kenya around his case eventually led to the formation of the Reproductive Health and Rights Alliance. It was this group that led the debate to help draft the 2010 constitution, which for the first time in the country's history provided a legal,

Abortion is a complicated



Many abortions in Kenya happen in unsafe backstreet clinics

issue in Kenya. The penal code, which has its origins in the colonial era, outlaws abortion, criminalising the woman, the person who carries out the abortion and the person who supplies the material required.

However, the 2010 constitution, combined with a wider body of law, does allow abortion when "the life or health of the mother is in danger" or when the pregnancy has resulted from rape or incest.

Edith discovered she was HIV-positive a few years ago. Her partner, after refusing to get tested himself, later left her.

A lawyer told the BBC that having a child while living with HIV meant "her physical wellbeing is probably in danger". This, as well as other factors, meant that Edith may have qualified for a legal abortion. But she felt the backstreet clinic was her only choice. Few doctors providing legal abortions are willing to talk about the issue openly. High-profile arrests over

albeit limited, avenue for abortion.

However, Dr Nyamu, who now provides safe and legal abortions, believes that the legal ambiguity over abortion makes it hard for women to access these services, even when they should be allowed and particularly in public health facilities.

"Unsafe abortion is rampant in Kenya," he says, arguing that poor women suffer the most as safe terminations are not available in public hospitals because of the uncertainty and lack of guidelines. The unsafe abortions they then seek can lead to health problems. "The ones who come with the post-abortion complications, most of them are young people.... The women actually start [the procedure] themselves, or they do it with assistance of an untrained person," Dr Nyamu adds.

According to the global human rights organisation, Center for Reproductive Rights, around seven women and girls die every day in Kenya because of unsafe abortions. Thousands more are hospitalised. At an unregulated

Nigeria airline sorry for 'wrong' airport landing

A Nigerian airline has apologised for a "misunderstanding" after passengers were told they had arrived at their destination, Abuja, when they had in fact landed more than 450km (280 miles) away in another city, Asaba.

United Nigeria Airlines said the Sunday flight from the main city, Lagos, to the federal capital, Abuja, had temporarily been diverted to Asaba in Delta state, due to bad weather.

It said the wrong announcement was made to passengers when the plane landed in Asaba, creating confusion.

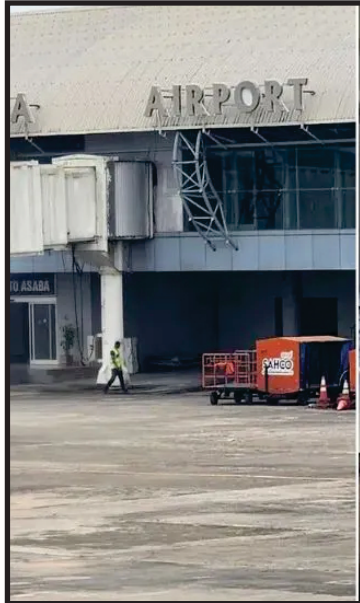
"Upon arrival, the cabin crew confidently announced that we've arrived in Abuja only for us to realise we landed in Asaba," a traveller

had said on X, adding that "apparently, our pilot was given wrong flight plan from Lagos".

But the airline said the aircraft pilot was aware of the temporary diversion and was properly briefed.

"We sincerely apologise for the

misunderstanding on our [flight]. We are currently taking steps to prevent similar occurrences in the future," it said in a statement. It said the flight had eventually landed safely in Abuja.



EDITORIAL

Working in concert for the common good

In a working session Friday, 24 November President George Manneh Weah challenged officials of the Joint Presidential Transition Team (JPTT) to demonstrate honesty and love for country in their deliberations to ensure smooth transfer of power from his administration to incoming President Joseph Nyumah Boakai and his team.

“Today, we are on the verge of passing this symbolic staff to another democratically elected leader, marking yet another important chapter in our democratic journey; let us ensure an effective, efficient, and seamless transfer of power to President-Elect Boakia and his team”, President Weah urged.

The call truly demonstrates Mr. Weah’s unwavering commitment to delivering a smooth transition, which has won him huge admirations across the globe and placed Liberia on the spotlight for all good reasons.

The football icon-turned-politician is going down in history, as the first African president in recent history to concede defeat and congratulate his main rival even before the announcement of final poll results by the National Election Commission.

Members and supporters of his outgoing Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) are yet to digest and accept the quality of democratic pedestal their standard bearer has established for Liberia, and there can be no reversal.

The leader has spoken and must sink down the spines of CDCians that power does not belong to a particular political party or government, but the people. Hence, whenever the people decide in an election who should govern their affairs to enable them enjoy peace, prosperity, and happiness, nothing else but to obey.

It is in this light that President Weah is urging members of JPTT to prioritize and focus on the national interest above selfish interests by placing the general good of the Liberian people first and foremost in their deliberations on the road to handing over power in January 2024. In other words, these are moments of stock-taking and proper reporting other than what some may think is a last-minute opportunity to scrip what is left of the national coffers to line their pockets and leave.

But Mr. Weah informed JPTT members that his administration’s democratic achievements have set a new and enviable standard, not just for Liberia, but for Africa and the global community, saying that “By graciously conceding and congratulating President-Elect Boakai ahead of the final tally, we have also earned global recognition and admiration.”

This is so true and it is the main reason why nothing should be done or no one should be allowed to make the road thru the transition rocky. A smooth landing of the incoming administration will pay off in dividends that we must strive to achieve, for as President Weah notes, this monumental achievement is a victory not just for one political entity but all Liberians and the entire country.

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,

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

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

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

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

Advertise with us!

COMMENTARY

By Naveeda Khan

Loss and Damage as a Common Climate Cause

BALTIMORE - As the start of this year’s United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) approaches, those leading it continue to inspire concern and even indignation. After all, the host will be the United Arab Emirates, among the world’s largest oil-producing countries, and the head of the state-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, Sultan Al Jaber, will be running the proceedings. But is that really so bad?

The Middle East is not exactly the climate champion of our time. Regional leaders have historically doubted climate science and often refused to help poorer countries suffering from climate-related damage. But it is the role of Al Jaber himself that is most controversial. As US Representative Ro Khanna put it, having the head of a national oil company as the president-designate of a climate conference is a “slap in the face to young climate activists.”

This explains why, earlier this year, over 130 members of the US Congress and the European Parliament signed a letter calling for his removal. But while the developed world has largely balked at Al Jaber’s appointment, many developing countries openly support it.

The UN-sponsored global climate negotiations are intended to keep countries - both friends and rivals - engaged with one another and aware that, despite our differences, we all share a planet. While they tend to be dominated by the actors one might expect - developed countries like the United States, as well as rising powers like China - they are also one of the rare multilateral forums where questions of historical responsibility might be raised.

To be sure, the advanced economies do not exactly reckon with their legacy of violent and extractive colonialism at COPs, even though that history directly enabled their industrialization and all the associated greenhouse-gas emissions. But, to some extent, they do acknowledge their disproportionate contributions to climate change. Meanwhile, smaller, poorer countries are granted a kind of moral authority and, often, the opportunity to exercise greater political voice than they have elsewhere.

My country, Bangladesh, is a case in point. In recent years, Bangladesh has been battered by severe cyclones and floods, which will only worsen as sea levels rise. And yet it accounts for just 0.4% of the world’s greenhouse-gas emissions.

Countless well-meaning academics and activists have underscored this imbalance, though often in simplistic and unconstructive ways. I distinctly remember watching with dread as a Western climate scientist recounted the real-world effects of climate change - and, in particular, the horrors that lay ahead for vulnerable countries - at a 2015 conference at the University of Oregon. When she brought up Bangladesh, she began to sob as she repeated her desperate question: “What have they done to deserve this?” Heads swiveled in my direction - I was the only Bangladeshi person at the conference - but I could only sit slumped at my seat, skewered by a lance of pity and

liberal guilt.

As an anthropologist who has studied COPs for nearly a decade, I have watched developing countries approach climate negotiations in surprising and creative ways. And I can assure you Bangladesh is not as hapless as that panel speaker implied. As the sociologist Kasia Paprocki has observed, the highly market-friendly Bangladesh has turned climate-change adaptation into an economic opportunity. Similarly, the anthropologist Jason Cons has pointed out that Bangladesh has managed to cultivate the contradictory image of a country on the brink of ruin from climate change and one flush with economic opportunity.

At COPs, Bangladesh has distinguished itself as a leader on the issue of loss and damage. While the emotional theatrics are unnecessary, it bears repeating that, in countries like Bangladesh, people are already losing their homes, livelihoods, and lives to the effects of climate change. Even if the world begins to reduce emissions rapidly, these losses will not be undone.

Loss and damage makes developed countries nervous. If they acknowledge that climate change cannot be fully mitigated, and that there are limits to human and ecosystem adaptation, the next logical step could well be to seek legal means of pressuring them to pay far more to compensate climate-vulnerable countries.

Recognizing this, Bangladesh initially took a diplomatic approach to the issue of loss and damage: instead of pushing developed economies to assume liability, it advocated protections for climate-displaced refugees, such as a resettlement policy or a refugee-coordination agency. A Bangladeshi delegate was involved in the creation of the Warsaw Mechanism on Loss and Damage in 2013, and Bangladeshi voices contributed to the agreement to establish a Loss and Damage Fund at last year’s COP.

Bangladesh is also a member of the Like-Minded Developing Countries, established in 2012 to keep the needs and interests of the Global South on the COP agenda. Not all the LMDC’s members, from Pakistan to China, have the moral authority of Bangladesh when it comes to climate change. Hearing Saudi Arabia, for example, weigh in on historical emissions or debt distress is a bit rich. But wealthier Middle Eastern countries lend a certain rhetorical and political heft to the LMDC’s cause. This might explain why so many poorer countries, including Bangladesh, are coming out in support of a COP host that continues to woo oil companies even as it advocates for green energy.

In this sense, the leadership of the UAE and Al Jaber may not be out of line with the goals of young climate activists after all. On the contrary, the future these activists seek to avoid is already the reality for countries like Bangladesh. Effective action on loss and damage today - the action the Global South is fighting for - would thus serve everyone’s interests. Any effort by the UAE to use its position to advance progress on this front should be welcomed.

OP-ED

By Yolanda Augustin,
Nurul Izzah Anwar

Protecting Gaza's Children

KUALA LUMPUR - In just over 50 days, some 20,000 civilians in Gaza have been injured, while more than 8,000 have been killed, according to Palestinian officials. A majority of the dead - at least 5,500 - are children, which amounts to one Palestinian child killed every ten minutes, while an additional 1,800 children are missing, and presumed dead, under the rubble.

The high death toll among young people partly reflects the fact that nearly half of Gaza's population is under the age of 18. But it can also be attributed to the targeted attacks against civilian infrastructure, including Al-Shifa Hospital, Indonesian Hospital, and the United Nations-run Al-Fakhura school. As a result, at least 21 of Gaza's 35 hospitals - including the Turkish-Palestinian Friendship Hospital, the only facility providing chemotherapy for cancer patients - are no longer operational. (The aid agency Save the Children has warned that children's mental health in Gaza is being pushed beyond the breaking point.)

The UN Security Council has identified and condemned the willful killing and maiming of children as one of "six grave violations" of its 1999 resolution on children and armed conflict. But, as UN Secretary-General António Guterres remarked in late October, there are many "clear violations of international humanitarian law that we are witnessing in Gaza." Deprived of water, food, fuel, and electricity, and facing a shortage of medical supplies, doctors and nurses have struggled to care for patients; in some cases, surgeons have been forced to operate without anesthesia.

These grim conditions have had dire consequences for the premature babies on life support at Al-Shifa Hospital. Eight have died, while 28 more had to be evacuated to Egypt and are being treated for "serious infections."

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk has warned that the lack of clean water and the acute shortage of fuel will almost surely lead to the collapse of Gaza's sanitation systems, resulting in infectious-disease outbreaks - to which children are particularly vulnerable. Moreover, hunger is now severe and widespread, as the price of basic items has skyrocketed and food deliveries have slowed to a trickle. The threat of starvation and malnutrition looms, and it is once again young people who are most at risk.

International organizations, governments, civil-society groups, activists, academics, and industry leaders must take urgent action to broker a lasting ceasefire (not just a temporary pause), to secure the release of all hostages, and to prevent a genocide against the Palestinian people. Israel must stop targeting hospitals and schools; ensure the unimpeded delivery of food, water, medicine, and fuel; and open humanitarian corridors for civilians, especially children, pregnant women, the sick, persons with disabilities, and the elderly. Finally, these groups must continue calling for an end to the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

While people worldwide have urged their governments to take a principled stand against the ongoing atrocities in Palestine, consumer boycotts can also be a powerful tool for change. Inspired by the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement seeks to exert non-violent pressure on Israel until it complies with international law. More than 30 states in the United States have adopted anti-BDS measures - a paradoxical tribute to the movement's effectiveness.

It is also imperative to support young Palestinian refugees across the world. Malaysia, in particular, is well placed to take a leading role in this effort.

The country's sovereign wealth fund, Khazanah Nasional Berhad, together with its grant-making foundation, Yayasan Hasanah, has offered scholarships for Palestinians studying at Malaysian universities - a program that the government is working to expand. Numerous educational initiatives, including the Fugee School, Malaysian Relief Agency, Yayasan Chow Kit, and Baitul Mahabbah, have been established for refugee children, although increased funding would ensure their continued success. Malaysia should also follow Turkey's example and allow more refugees to work legally.

As for children still living in Gaza, Malaysia can help by working together with Indonesia and Turkey to rebuild hospitals and schools. Malaysia has taken an initial step by establishing a RM 100 million (\$21 million) humanitarian aid fund for the Palestinian people.

As calls for a lasting ceasefire in Gaza intensify, we must put pressure on Israel to end the killing of children and other civilians while also supporting young Palestinians at home and abroad. In the words of Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish, we must help the children of Gaza - too many of whom have lost their childhood, if not their lives - carry their "banner of hope" for a normal existence.

OPINION

By S.Karweaye

Dismantling the Weah's business cartel for a better Liberia

In 2019, the George Weah-led administration through the National Port Authority (NPA) signed a container tracking deal with Global Tracking and Maritime Solutions (GTMS) - a company chased out of Sierra Leone for allegedly defrauding the Sierra Leonean government over US\$11 million. Based on the agreement, GMT Solutions was allowed to track all containers coming to and passing through all sea ports in the country at an additional fee of US\$175.00.

The GTMS agreement with the Liberian government stipulated that Each Bill of Lading must be covered by a valid unique Cargo Tracking Note (CTN) number which is inserted on the Cargo manifest. Shipments not covered by a valid CTN number will not be unloaded and fines may apply to the carrier or shipping agent in connection to the shipment. Sadly, the agreement brought an additional financial burden to businesses and consumers but also led to duplicating requirements that are already being complied with by the importers of cargo into the country through the Bureau Inspection Valuation Assessment Control (BIVAC).

In Sierra Leone, President Julius Maada Bio terminated the government's contract with GTMS for corruption and poor management at the Water Quay seaport in 2019, yet, President George Weah embraced the GTMS. An investigation conducted into the running of the Water Quay seaport found that the GTMS had colluded with ministers and officials to defraud the state of US\$11 million.

According to sources, over US\$22 million is generated per year under the GTMS scheme in Liberia but it only benefits a few individuals in the government. According to sources, sixty (60%) percent of the money generated goes to President Weah while twenty percent (20%) goes to the bogus company in Sierra Leone and the remaining twenty (20%) goes to a Lebanese-owned company Sidane (Zidane).

In 2021, the Weah-led government signed a 10-year agreement with MedTech Scientific Limited (MTS), Qatar's service provider in the health and technology sectors, to carry out Destination Inspection of containers at Liberia's seaports. The Liberian House of Representatives (HOR) through its committees on commerce and concession initiated an investigation into an alleged contract scandal worth over US\$18 million dollars.

The Commissioner General of the Liberia Revenue Authority, Thomas Doe Nah informed the committee that the contract was worth US\$18 million. The LRA Commissioner General told me and other members of the committee that the agreement with MedTech did not pass through the Legislature because it is a service contract. Was the MedTech agreement with the LRA in breach of the Public Financial Management Law of 2009? The law states that any contract having a financial value of \$10 million and above should meet Legislative approval.

Section one of the PFM Act, under the title "general rules and regulations" calls for openness and accountability in the use and management of public funds. Also, the roles of the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) are the collection of taxes and enforcement of tax laws/ revenue codes. Why is the LRA delegating its responsibilities to MedTech? MedTech is charging over US\$450 per container. The latest charge represents a 200 percent increment from a previous charge of US\$250. Who benefits from the US\$20 million MedTech collects?

According to sources, Senator Edwin Snowe, former State Nathaniel McGill, Lebanese business outfit Petrol Trade, and President Weah have been involved in a criminal syndicate to keep the price of diesel fuel well above world market prices. According to sources, they are reaping about US\$25 million per month which they share amongst themselves.

The Weah-led government has robbed thousands of well-meaning citizens who are shipping goods to the country for business, personal, and charitable causes, who are faced with exorbitant costs of clearing their goods, and debilitating and unnecessary delays at the Water at the freeport of Liberia.

We are arguing the new administration under Honorable Joseph Nyuma Boakai to investigate these issues upon assumption of office on January 15, 2024. We urged him to scrap the CTNM within 100 days and have the account audited as well as the MedTech and the Petro Trade-led Syndicate. The Weah business cartel must be dismantled at all costs. Those that have ears, let them hear.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

For the Construction of 16 schools – 5 in Montserrado, 5 in Margibi, 1 in Maryland and 5 in River Gee (16 school construction)

[Street Child of Liberia (SCoL), November 21, 2023]

Street Child of Liberia is requesting competitive sealed proposals with the intent of entering into a contract with a general construction firm (s) for the purpose of providing the construction services for the project identified in this Request for Proposals (RFP). Any contract awarded as a result of this solicitation will be in effect from date of award until the completion of the project. It is important for all potential bidders to thoroughly review, comprehend, and comply with the requirements stated in this RFP. It is especially crucial to pay attention to the mandatory requirements. If feasible, it is recommended to visit the site of work in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of all existing conditions and limitations. The proposal should include the cost of all items specified in the RFP. The construction firm (s) is responsible for promptly notifying the appropriate contact listed herein if they observe any discrepancies between the Contract Documents and applicable laws, building codes, rules, regulations, or if they come across obvious erroneous or uncoordinated information.

BACKGROUND

- Street Child of Liberia (SCoL) was formally registered as a Liberian NGO in 2013 and works in partnership with the UK-registered charity, Street Child UK, and Sierra Leone partner organization, Street Child of Sierra Leone (SCoSL). Together the Street Child Group has been working to give out-of-school children the opportunity to gain an education since 2008.
- SCoL creates educational opportunities for Liberia’s most vulnerable children through education, child protection, and livelihoods programs. We support the most vulnerable groups: street-connected children, slum-dwellers, children in remote, rural communities, and girls to access quality education. We do this through programs of teacher training and school improvement, and individually tailored packages of social work and livelihoods support for individual households to support their children in education.

PURPOSE

We are seeking the services of construction firm (s) for school construction. The **overall objective** is to construct 16 schools – 10 in Margibi/Montserrado and 6 in Maryland and River Gee, primarily to enable out of school children in hard-to-reach communities 3 kilometers from the nearest school to have access to school.

SCOPE OF WORK

Access to education for children living in isolated and deprived communities presents significant difficulties, increasing access to education by constructing schools in these remote and deprived communities would result in an increase in access to education at a secure distance.

Street Child constructs accessible building with three classrooms (to government standards), an office space, and gender-disaggregated latrines. A clear Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Street Child and the community is signed, highlighting the roles and responsibilities of all parties (community, contractor & Street Child). The community will provide the land for school constructions. SCoL (STREET CHILD OF LIBERIA) will hire a qualified construction contractor who will ensure that the building meets the high-quality standards set by the Ministry of Education. The school will be handed over to the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the local community. The transfer of ownership document would be signed by both SCoL and the Ministry of Education. The building will be constructed using a mixture of mud bricks and cement mortar. Based on the MOUs Street Child will sign with the community, it is possible that the community will support with some local construction materials such as sand, rock stones and the construction of the mud bricks.

The hired construction firm (s) will consult with Street Child of Liberia staff to discuss the construction of schools and review the scope of work. The construction firm (s) will consult with the procurement committee and the construction supervisors to set the key deliverables for construction activities highlighted below. The construction firm(s) should complete and hand over as stipulated within the contractual agreement scheduled within the 4-month contract. The construction firm(s) will meet with communities to discuss their specific support and contribution needed and to review community agreements to determine areas that should be prioritized for each community contribution and support. This process would be supported by Street Child staff and the construction supervisor. As mentioned above, the successful construction firm(s) will be required to visit Margibi, Maryland, and River Gee counties where communities for the construction of schools are located.

Key deliverables in the contractual agreement

- 1) Construct 16 schools – 5 in Margibi, 5 in Montserrado and 1 Maryland and 5 River Gee
- 2) Share a construction implementation plan.
- 3) Provide a comprehensive milestone narrative report monthly
- 4) Provide end of construction report
- 5) Share a hand over document of constructed schools as per contractual agreement

Construction Minimum Standards

Every construction must meet the below requirements:

- 3 classroom blocks → each classroom measuring 5.5m by 5.5m
- Office → measuring 3m by 3m
- Store → measuring 2.5m by 2.5m
- Accessibility Ramp
- Water well – this should be constructed during the dry season to determine the correct water depth.
- 2 latrine blocks with three drop hole toilets (accessible)

Measures for school constructions

Measure	Number	Type	County	Comment
Shell	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee = 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	Each classroom and each office space should have a shell

Ceilings and roofs	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee = 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	The entire school, including the latrines
Painting, plastering and doors	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee = 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	In and outside of the school building (classrooms, office space)
Gender-segregated toilets (plastering and painting)	16	Schools	Maryland & River = 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	In and outside of the toilets
Hand pumps (fully constructed)	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee = 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	The hand pumps should be plastered and painted
Black Boards (constructed on the wall)	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee = 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	Each classroom must have a standard cement mortar blackboard in line with the government measurement
School bench and desk sets	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee= 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	Each school must have 30 benches and desks. Each bench should occupied 2 students
Tables and chairs for teachers	16	Schools	Maryland & River Gee= 6 Margibi = 5 Montserrado = 5	Two table and three chairs
Transportation for building materials.	16	Schools		

1. CONTRACT DURATION AND TIMELINE

The contractual agreement should carry the assignment within four months, between Mid of December 2023 to Mid Mid-April 2024.

Timeline

Phase	Key actions	Duration/Deadline
Preparation	Planning	Nov – December 2023
	Consultation with SCoL and community stakeholders	Nov – December 2023
	Grand breakings	January 2024
	Contracting between SCoL and the firm (s)	December 2023
Construction	Mobilisation and placement of materials to the communities	December 2023
	Foundation and completion of the building	January – April 2024
Reporting	Regular updating of SCoL assigned team members	Monthly starting from January 2024
	Monthly & milestone reports	Starting January 2024
	End-of-school construction reports	30 th April 2024

2. ETHICS AND RISK:

The Construction firm(s) must declare any Conflicts of Interest with Street Child of Liberia (SCoL) employees or other stakeholders, as part of their bid.

Construction firm(s) must apply a rights-based and do no harm approach, and they must sign the Code of Conduct along with the construction contract.

The construction firm (s) must sign to Street Child safeguarding prohibited behaviors policy.

3. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Qualification in construction engineering
- Significant (minimum 5 years) experience building construction and must have knowledge of the Liberian context.
- Experience building school and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) facilities are also preferred.
- Good understanding of development and humanitarian programs
- Strong capacity to get the job done, with demonstrated examples of previous and current construction activities.
- All statutory documents, tax clearance, authorization/ permit for building construction
- A construction firm must express their interest or apply for a county. We only consider Maryland & River Gee as one county for the purpose of this proposal.

4. SUBMITTING AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The applicant will submit a technical proposal and financial proposal

The **technical proposal** must include:

- i) An **expression of interest letter** that clearly states your interest in and **outlines your suitability** for the role (1-2 pages). Your expression of interest should clearly state whether you are able to provide the service.
- ii) the **proposed approach and methodology** (2 pages)
- iii) **CV** includes three contactable references for which you carried out such assignments in the last 2 years.
- iv) **Evidence of past experience in construction work.**

The **financial proposal** will include an indicative budget including taxes, if applicable. The financial proposal will include a breakdown of costs.

The expressions of interests are to be submitted via email or in person at the office and include legible copies of:

- Bill of quantities, Quotation, timescale, and blueprint of construction (with measurements)
- Certificate of business registration
- Up to date tax clearance
- Business article of incorporation
- No bids received late will be considered.

The deadline for submission is December 4th, 2023 @ 12:00 pm. Applications must be submitted electronically to scoljobs@gmail.com

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

ARTICLE By: Dagbayonoh Kiah Nyanfore II

Integrity Matters for Electoral Legitimacy

- Team Kanubah-Sieh on Elections and PUL

The National Campaign Management Team of Julius Kanubah and Beatrice Sieh for the Leadership of the Press Union



of Liberia says the 2023 presidential and legislative elections have shown that integrity matters for the legitimacy of electoral outcomes. Team Kanubah-Sieh believes without electoral integrity it would have been extremely difficult, if not impossible, for incumbent President George Weah to gracefully concede defeat hours before the final results of the November 14, 2023, presidential run-off election were announced by the National Elections Commission. Moreover, electoral integrity ensured that the opposition did not do anything to undermine the legitimacy of the electoral outcome and democratic stability of Liberia in the wake of a provocative campaign

statement by then opposition leader and now President-Elect Joseph Boakai that "if the elections are stolen by the ruling party, it would be the end of Liberia." The Campaign Team

of Kanubah-Sieh views the integrity demonstrated in the processes leading to the conduct of the 2023 elections as a turning point and shining example that is seriously worth emulating in the Press Union of Liberia, which has a troubled history of electoral fraud in the last four years. On two occasions, the PUL erstwhile incumbent leadership of Charles Coffey, Daniel Nyakonah, and lately with Musa Kenneh and Akoi Baysah failed to ensure a credible electoral process, thereby undermining the legitimacy and democratic stability of the Union, leading to the ongoing conflict. The Coffey-Nyakonah former leadership is notorious for acts of electoral fraud through the pilling up of the PUL Membership Register with

ineligible Liberian journalists and non-journalists in a bid to steal elections and entrench themselves in the PUL leadership despite extremely poor performances.

As the people of Liberia have shown the PUL how to conduct and ensure a democratically peaceful and credible electoral process based on integrity, Team Kanubah-Sieh extends congratulations to: 1. President-Elect Joseph Nyumah Boakai and his Unity Party for the credible victory;

2. President George Weah as political leader of the Coalition for Democratic Change for gracefulness in defeat; 3. National Elections Commission for properly managing the electoral process and accounting for the votes of the Liberian people; and 4. International partners such as the US Government, African Union, ECOWAS, and European Union for supporting democracy and electoral integrity in Liberia.

5. Local civil society institutions and organizations for their keen role in ensuring the credibility of the election process. The Kanubah-Sieh Campaign Team emphasizes that it remains committed to pursuing the rule of law to ensure a democratic, legitimate elected leadership at the PUL as the best path to reconciliation rather than endorsing the continuation of fraud by individuals who chose to disregard the PUL Constitution and the Majority Membership by holding midnight election based on a fraudulent membership register.

GVL congratulates President-Elect, Boakai

The Management of Golden Veroleum Liberia Inc. (GVL) extends heartfelt congratulatory message to Liberia's President and Vice President-elect, Joseph Nyumah Boakai and Senator Jeremiah Kpan Koung, on their victory in the recently concluded elections.

In a press release issued in Monrovia, the company says the remarkable achievement not only reflects the trust and confidence the people of Liberia have placed in them but also represents a significant milestone in the democratic journey of a great nation. GVL expresses confidence that under President-elect Boakai's leadership, Liberia will experience significant advancements in various spheres, including improved infrastructure, and economic development.

The oil palm company also commends outgoing President, George Manneh Weah, for gracefully acknowledging and accepting the results of the elections, and all Liberians for actively participating and contributing to having peaceful elections in the country.

At the same time, it lauds President George Weah and his government for the level of support towards its investment in Liberia.

Golden Veroleum Liberia

(GVL) is an oil palm developer, committed to long-term investment here. As one of Liberia's largest foreign investors, its operation is bringing employment, infrastructure, education and healthcare to some of the country's poorest areas, playing a key role in the Government of Liberia's Poverty Reduction Strategy and the economic revitalization of Liberia's rural economy. Press Release



Liberia: Why Joseph Boakai Won; Analysis Of Results Of The Runoff Election

The Liberian National Elections Commission (NEC) has declared Ambassador Joseph Boakai the November 14, 2023, runoff election winner. He defeated the sitting president, George Weah. This is Liberia's fourth presidential election since the country's civil war ended.

In the first round of the election on October 10, Weah led slimly over seven thousand votes. He won overwhelmingly the Southeast region and led in Grand Bassa, Rivercess, and Bong Counties. Meanwhile, Boakai dominated votes in Nimba and Lofa and narrowly won Bomi, Garpolu, Margibi, Grand Cape Mount, and Montserrado Counties.

In the runoff, though Weah increased his votes in the Southeast, Rivercess, Grand Bassa, and Bong and improved votes in Lofa and Nimba Counties, he failed to increase votes in Montserrado, a county in which he once served as a senior senator. That inability primarily caused his defeat. Nationally, Boakai won 814481 votes, constituting 50.6% over Weah's 799,391, amounting to 49.3%. Overall, Weah lost by 20,000 votes, a minimal margin. Before NEC declared Boakai winner, Weah gracefully and honorably conceded defeat. The local and international communities praised him for the move, an exceptional exercise uncommon in African presidential history. Indeed, with the closeness of the votes and as president, Weah could have used his influence to turn the number in his favor. But he did not for fairness and peace's sake. Observers rated the election as being fair, peaceful, and transparent. Boakai deserves tremendous credit. With negative criticisms and propaganda against him, he was undisturbed and came victorious.

WHY BOAKAI WON

Many factors contributed to Boakai's victory, chief of which are the following four:

- Prince Johnson's support Weah's failure in Montserrado The failure of Weah's trusted officials
Civil service workers's resentment

Senator Johnson influenced Boakai's selection of Senator Jeremiah Koung as Boakai's running mate. This move enabled Boakia to win Nimba, the second-largest county in Liberia. Indeed, Johnson has been Nimba's senior senator for 18 years. Nimbians considered him their Godfather. Koung is also a senator from Nimba.

Johnson was instrumental in former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf's 2011 re-election and Weah's 2017 election. Moreover, Nimba had the second-largest number of registered voters for the 2023 election. As an earlier article indicates, a candidate with substantial votes in Montserrado, Nimba, and Bong Counties stands an excellent chance of victory. The numerical strength of these counties from NEC's voter registered data resulted in this statement. Boakai won 74% of the Nimba votes, though Weah improved his votes in the county in the runoff compared to the first round.

Weah let his guard down in Montserrado County. He should have concentrated on Montserrado during the runoff. Know that the county had 36% of the election registered voters. That was the highest percentage. The overlook in the runoff was likely due to complacency. My last article discusses this point thus:

"There is less enthusiasm in the runoff compared to the first round. The parties have reduced campaign activities. This could be a factor of complacency or finance. In 2005, after George Weah won the first round, he campaigned less, relaxing and thinking that he had already won the election. Sirleaf came from behind to win the runoff."

Weah's campaign should have known that Boakai led in Montserrado in the first round. Weah needed to focus and canvass harder in the districts Boakia had won in round one. This failure and the Nimba votes cemented Boakai's win.

Many observers noted that some of Weah's officials were untruthful to him regarding their loyalty to his re-election. Some of his supporters complained that campaign money given to some officials for field workers was converted to personal use. Further, some officials paid lip service to the campaign.

The opposition misinformed and negatively propagandized the civil service workers concerning the administration harmonization policy. The Sirleaf government paid some government officials up to US\$ 30,000 monthly, while some workers made less than US\$125. This led to an acute income disparity. The Weah harmonization program cut the high income, creating a relatively balanced payment structure that enabled the employment of additional workers. However, a side effect was the temporary delay of some salary payments.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

8th Judiciary Circuit complex in Nimba turns death trap

By Thomas Domah, Nimba County

Liberia.

The facilitated was dedicated in August 2017 following construction by Bittar Construction Company under the consultancy of

in such buildings because of threats posed to their lives and lives of other judicial workers there.

Several court workers, who preferred anonymity, confided in the NEW DAWN that they are not happy about the building's condition, because they don't want their lives to be taken away. Due to the bad state of the judicial complex, most court workers including judges are not happy to report to work.

"Journalist, this building is not in a good condition; when we are in there working, our lives are at risk; we can't continue to work in such a condition", they lament.

During a tour of the facility, The NEW DAWN observed leakages, including in the main circuit courtroom, among others.

Since its dedication in early August 2017, Contractor Bittar Construction Company has yet to pay a visit to Sanniquellie to see the condition of the building.

All efforts by our correspondent to contact the Management of Bittar Construction company were unsuccessful due to lack of contact number, including number for chief architect David Y. Badio. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Judiciary Architect, David Y. Badio.

But it has rapidly depreciated within a period of six years, becoming a death trap with life-threatening cracks. The facility currently hosts judges of the debt court, circuit court, county attorney and public defender as well as a traffic court that is yet to be open to the public, among others.

Most of the magistrates and judges are unhappy about the present working environment



court workers in Sanniquellie, Nimba County is reportedly becoming a death trap due to dilapidation.

The Judiciary Circuit Complex was constructed under the administration of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf alongside Retired Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr, including former Associate Justices Kabineh Ja'neh and Jamesetta H. Wolokolie, including current Chief Justice Sie - A-Nyene G. Yuoh, funded by the Government of

Lawmaker-elect vows to revamp Health & Education in Sinoe

By Lewis S. Teh

Sinoe County electoral district #3 Representative-Elect, Alex S. Noah has vowed to revamp the health and education sectors of the county, for the benefit of citizens. "During our campaign, we made a promise to revamp the health and educational needs of our people; this we remain committed to upon taking office", Alex said.

The incoming Lawmaker reiterated the pledge during the weekend in an interview with reporters at the RLJ Keneja Resort along the Roberfield Highway outside Monrovia when Integrity Watch Liberia with support from UN Women organized a two-day training on gender responsive budgeting for incoming and reelected lawmakers.

"We're going to revamp those sectors because our people are dying; the schools need to be equipped, our roads need to be accessible and our youth need to be

empowered; those were on my agenda during the campaign and I'm in high spirit to begin the job. "I will focus on those things because if I fail to fulfill the promises made to the people, they will replace me in the next election", he noted. He revealed that having worked at the Liberian Senate where he spent over eight years, he realized that both Houses work together in close relationship, so he will work alongside his colleagues to seek their support to able to

fulfill his promises, particularly to the people of electoral district #3.

Representative-Elect, Alex S. Noah is staunch member of the outgoing Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC). He expressed conviction that with the huge number of young legislators coming into the first branch of government, the Legislature will not be business as usual. "I have traveled to places and met renowned individuals, at which time I was an ordinary person; what's

▶ CONT'D page 11



Representative-Elect, Alex S. Noah

U.S.-based Liberian security urges Boakai to refine justice system

By Lincoln G. Peters

U.S.-based Liberian security professional Mr. Amos Gbamee Jeffery has called on Liberian President-elect Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai to refine the country's justice and security systems.

Mr. Jeffery is a U.S.-trained security and a former Executive Protection Service (EPS) Officer who served during former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's Administration.

Speaking via telephone with this institution on Sunday, 26 November 2023 from the U.S., he said the current security sector of Liberia is compromised and there is a need to refine the system's integrity that has been hindered

government to have well-experienced professional integrity-minded people with merit to serve.

In recent times, he said Liberia's justice system has come under increased scrutiny, with critics raising concerns about alleged bias and inefficiency within the legal framework, coupled with a lack of security and protections for citizens/professionals.

He lamented that the death toll had increased at key ministries and strategic entities like the LRA, MoFA, and Liberia Internal Audit Agency (IAA). The former EPS Officer hopes that Boakai's incoming government will make a positive difference that would be



by unfair and partial.

Mr. Jeffery mentioned that the compromised and unfair justice system in Liberia not only hinders the growth and development of Liberia but also has the tendency to destabilize the country's peace and economic prosperity.

He made specific references

in the interest of many Liberians. Mr. Jeffery further recommended to the incoming Boakai-led government to prioritize transparency that would address systemic issues and bolster efforts to ensure equal access to justice for all citizens of Liberia.

The U.S.-based Liberian



to the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC), the National Corrections and Rehabilitation Services, and the Liberia National Police (LNP).

He also mentioned the judicial sector as one key area of

professional wants offices including the LRA, LPRC, Corrections, and LNP along with the judicial sector to be occupied by professional people with integrity and well-experienced people.

Français

Je ne pouvais pas être l'agneau sacrificiel

Le président George Manneh Weah a récemment exprimé son refus de devenir l'agneau sacrificiel, arguant qu'il ne

son propre parti, les accusant d'avoir commis une erreur en laissant l'élection leur échapper, entraînant ainsi leur défaite lors du second tour de l'élection

contribué à leur défaite. En tant que président, il a exprimé sa préoccupation quant à l'éventualité d'un bain de sang au Libéria et expliqué pourquoi il a choisi de reconnaître sa défaite avec une marge étroite lors d'une élection épique.

M. Weah a perdu face à son rival principal, l'ambassadeur Joseph Nyumah Boakai du parti d'opposition Unity Party (UP), avec un score de 50,58 % à 49,28 %. Il a immédiatement reconnu sa défaite juste avant l'annonce officielle des résultats par la Commission électorale nationale (NEC).

Le porte-étendard du CDC a révélé que la Coalition s'est autodétruite en raison de querelles internes et d'un manque d'objectif commun pour remporter l'élection. Il a souligné que les partisans de la CDC ont ignoré les appels à l'unité, préférant se battre les uns contre les autres, perdant ainsi leur concentration sur le scrutin.

M. Weah a affirmé que le plus grand danger auquel le parti est confronté est le refus de ceux qu'ils ont élevés et autonomisés d'écouter ou de suivre les conseils.

"Les gens m'ont demandé : Monsieur le Président, que s'est-il passé ? Et je n'ai pas à répondre, et je ne peux que tenter de répondre car c'est ce que c'est, et je suis sûr que vous comprendrez qu'il est presque

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Les législateurs disent attendre le dénouement du litige électoral de Chambers

Au cœur d'une bataille acharnée pour la présidence, de nombreux législateurs surveillent de près le litige électoral impliquant le président actuel, Bhofal Chambers, exprimant une anticipation enthousiaste pour son dénouement.

Malgré le litige électoral en cours à la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) concernant des résultats présumés frauduleux du district de Pleebo Sodoken dans le comté de Maryland, le président Chambers demeure confiant dans le processus démocratique.

Les législateurs ont indiqué que le style de leadership de Chambers est largement considéré comme optimal pour le rôle. Une majorité significative des législateurs, aussi bien ceux qui reviennent que les nouveaux, ont exprimé leur admiration pour son

approche respectueuse envers ses collègues et son véritable souci de leur bien-être.

Saah Foko, un représentant du parti au pouvoir sortant, a révélé qu'il restait indécis quant à son vote dans la bataille imminente pour la présidence du pouvoir législatif, mais qu'il n'était pas enclin à perdre du temps à voter pour l'indécision.

Certains affirment que Chambers donne la priorité aux

valeurs plutôt qu'aux gestes financiers, exhortant leurs pairs à envisager des alternatives dans la course, compte tenu de l'incertitude de Chambers à renverser le résultat législatif dans son district.

Les partisans du président Chambers soutiennent que le représentant du district de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Éditorial

Travailler de concert pour le bien commun

Lors d'une session de travail le vendredi 24 novembre, le président George Manneh Weah a exhorté les responsables de l'Équipe conjointe de transition présidentielle (JPTT) à faire preuve d'honnêteté et d'amour pour le pays dans leurs délibérations afin d'assurer un transfert de pouvoir en douceur de son administration au président élu Joseph Nyumah Boakai et son équipe.

"Aujourd'hui, nous sommes sur le point de passer ce bâton symbolique à un autre dirigeant démocratiquement élu, marquant un autre chapitre important de notre parcours démocratique ; assurons-nous d'un transfert de pouvoir efficace, efficient et sans heurts au président élu Boakai et à son équipe", a exhorté le président Weah.

Cet appel démontre véritablement l'engagement indéfectible de M. Weah à assurer une transition en douceur, ce qui lui a valu de nombreuses admirations à travers le monde et a mis le Libéria sous les feux de la rampe pour toutes les bonnes raisons.

L'icône du football devenue homme politique entrera dans l'histoire en tant que le premier président africain de l'histoire récente à reconnaître sa défaite et à féliciter son principal rival même avant l'annonce des résultats définitifs par la Commission électorale nationale.

Les membres et partisans de sa sortie de la Coalition pour le Changement démocratique (CDC) peinent encore à digérer et à accepter la qualité du piédestal démocratique que leur porte-étendard a établi pour le Libéria, et il ne peut y avoir de retour en arrière.

Le leader a parlé et doit pénétrer l'esprit des CDCiens que le pouvoir n'appartient pas à un parti politique particulier ou au gouvernement, mais au peuple. Ainsi, chaque fois que le peuple décide lors d'une élection de qui devrait gouverner ses affaires pour lui permettre de jouir de la paix, de la prospérité et du bonheur, il ne reste rien d'autre que d'obéir.

C'est dans cette optique que le président Weah exhorte les membres de la JPTT à donner la priorité et à se concentrer sur l'intérêt national plutôt que sur des intérêts égoïstes, en plaçant le bien général du peuple libérien au premier plan dans leurs délibérations sur la voie du transfert de pouvoir en janvier 2024. En d'autres termes, il s'agit de moments de bilan et de rapports appropriés plutôt que de ce que certains pourraient considérer comme une opportunité de dernière minute pour piller ce qui reste des coffres nationaux pour s'enrichir et partir.

Mais M. Weah a informé les membres de la JPTT que les réalisations démocratiques de son administration ont établi une norme nouvelle et enviable, non seulement pour le Libéria, mais pour l'Afrique et la communauté mondiale, affirmant que "en reconnaissant gracieusement et en félicitant le président élu Boakai avant le décompte final, nous avons également gagné une reconnaissance et une admiration mondiales."

C'est tellement vrai et c'est la principale raison pour laquelle rien ne doit être fait et personne ne doit être autorisé à rendre la route de la transition cahoteuse. Un atterrissage en douceur de la nouvelle administration portera ses fruits, et nous devons nous efforcer de le réaliser, car comme le souligne le président Weah, cette réalisation monumentale est une victoire non seulement pour une entité politique mais pour tous les Libériens et l'ensemble du pays.

Français

Par Marina Romanello

Starts from page 8

Je ne pouvais pas être

impossible pour cinquante (50) personnes de passer par une porte étroite en même temps. Il doit y en avoir un à la fois, comme le dit la Bible - une génération de succession. Si une personne est là, laissez-la être là jusqu'à ce qu'elle soit remplacée ; alors la personne suivante entre, mais au CDC, tout le monde veut être là en même temps, se battant les uns contre les autres."

"Nous ne pouvons pas être ensemble dans l'unité avec la défaite ; il y avait une désunion complète, où certaines personnes présentaient des candidats contre nos candidats parce qu'elles estimaient qu'elles avaient peu de fonds. Nous nous battions les uns contre les autres, voilà ce qui s'est passé", se lamente le président Weah.

Cette situation est d'autant plus douloureuse pour un homme qui avait remporté les votes populaires en 2017 après avoir sérieusement contesté les victoires du parti Unité lors de deux élections précédentes en 2003 et 2011, alors qu'il était dans l'opposition.

Malgré ses succès passés, M. Weah a reconnu sa défaite dans l'élection récente, soulignant qu'il ne voulait pas de guerre entraînant la mort d'innocentes personnes simplement pour être déclaré vainqueur.

"Nous ne pouvions pas sacrifier nos enfants, nos amis, nos familles, pour les désirs des gens ; je n'ai pas pris une décision, car j'ai reconnu que nous avons été vaincus parce que nous nous étions vaincus nous-mêmes et qu'il n'était pas nécessaire de se battre."

Parallèlement, le président a souligné que pour que le CDC fasse un retour plus fort en 2029, l'unité parmi les partisans est cruciale, car la division ne peut pas mener à la victoire.

"J'entends quelqu'un dire qu'en 2029, nous reviendrons ; nous ne reviendrons que si nous sommes sincères envers nous-mêmes ; arrêtons la division, appliquons les règles et soutenons le parti et ceux qui sont sur les listes du parti", déclare M. Weah aux CDCiens, qui se remettent toujours de leur défaite.

Le rêve de la Coalition au pouvoir d'un second mandat a été brisé le 14 novembre par l'UP, un parti auquel ils ont pris le pouvoir en 2017.

Starts from page 8

Les législateurs disent

Maryland #2 a maintenu efficacement la stabilité au sein de la législature au cours de ses six années de mandat. Il est présenté comme un leader qui opère sans bruit inutile au Capitol Hill. De plus, les partisans mettent en avant la significative élévation du profil du législatif libérien sur la scène mondiale par Chambers. Son approche diplomatique et son engagement envers un leadership constructif ont été reconnus, ayant un impact positif sur le statut international du Liberia.

Alors que les événements se déroulent, les législateurs attendent avec impatience la réponse du président Chambers au soutien généralisé, même s'il demeure étrangement silencieux sur la question.

Les partisans de Chambers soulignent certaines de ses réalisations notables, notamment l'élévation du profil du législatif libérien à l'échelle mondiale. Chambers a reçu une reconnaissance internationale, participant à des rassemblements prestigieux tels que le Congrès américain à Washington, D.C engageant des discussions significatives avec

l'ancienne présidente de la Chambre des représentants américaine Nancy Pelosi. Son habileté diplomatique a été mise en avant au Royaume-Uni, où il a rencontré des membres de la Chambre des communes, entre autres forums internationaux notables.

Selon ses partisans, le président Chambers a constamment démontré sa capacité à naviguer dans les complexités des affaires législatives, gagnant respect et admiration tant au niveau national qu'à l'étranger. Son engagement à favoriser la coopération et la collaboration entre les législateurs a contribué à l'efficacité du corps législatif dans la prise en compte des besoins et des préoccupations du peuple libérien.

Les législateurs qui attendent avec impatience la candidature de Chambers croient fermement qu'il est le candidat idéal pour continuer à diriger la 55e législature. Son bilan éprouvé, sa reconnaissance mondiale et son dévouement aux principes de la démocratie en font un choix convaincant pour le poste de président.

Cependant, la durée du litige électoral devant la NEC reste incertaine à mesure que la date de l'élection pour la présidence approche.

L'Integrity Watch Liberia Dispense une Formation sur le Budget Sensible au Genre aux Nouveaux Législateurs



IWL Executive Director Mr. Harold Aidoo

L'Integrity Watch Liberia (IWL) a lancé un programme de formation approfondi de deux jours sur le budget sensible au genre et la planification à l'intention des nouveaux membres élus et réélus de la législature libérienne.

L'objectif principal de la formation est de renforcer la compréhension des législateurs entrants sur les questions liées au budget sensible au genre et à la planification, visant à renforcer leur capacité dans ces domaines critiques.

M. Harold Aidoo, le directeur exécutif de l'IWL, a fourni un aperçu de l'événement, soulignant que la formation est entièrement financée par leur partenaire, l'ONU Femmes. Exprimant son enthousiasme, M. Aidoo a souligné l'importance historique des récentes élections présidentielles et législatives de 2023, déclarant : "Je suis fier en tant que Libérien que nous puissions célébrer cette réalisation historique tous ensemble en tant que nation."

Aidoo a énuméré trois points clés qui constituent le cœur du travail de l'IWL. Observant de près le fonctionnement de la législature depuis 2006, il s'est inquiété des règles accordant au Président le pouvoir de nommer la direction des divers comités, suggérant que cela pourrait rendre le Président moins responsable envers la Chambre des Représentants. Il a exhorté les nouveaux législateurs à envisager de réformer ces règles pour défendre les principes démocratiques.

Abordant l'importance de la transparence, Aidoo a encouragé l'utilisation de machines de vote pour s'assurer que les citoyens connaissent les habitudes de vote de leurs législateurs sur les questions nationales. Il a soutenu qu'un système de vote clair éliminerait les doutes sur les actions des législateurs et favoriserait la responsabilité envers les électeurs.

Le directeur exécutif a souligné qu'un des principaux objectifs de rassembler les législateurs élus était d'institutionnaliser le budget sensible au genre en élaborant des budgets distincts pour les hommes et les femmes. Aidoo a insisté sur la nécessité de désagréger le budget national en fonction des questions liées au genre.

Revenant sur les initiatives budgétaires précédentes de l'IWL, Aidoo a révélé qu'ils venaient de terminer une revue complète du budget national de 2023 en mettant particulièrement l'accent sur les considérations liées au genre dans sa mise en œuvre. Il a souligné les défis dans l'évaluation de l'impact du budget sur les personnes handicapées, les femmes et les hommes en raison de la manière dont le budget est actuellement géré.

Guinée: les femmes victimes du 28 septembre 2009 créent une maison des survivantes



Ce samedi 25 novembre, c'est la Journée internationale pour l'élimination de la violence à l'égard des femmes. En Guinée, une initiative originale a vu le jour. Il y a 14 ans, plus d'une centaine de femmes étaient violées au grand stade de Conakry par des militaires guinéens venus interrompre, les armes à la main, un meeting de l'opposition. Pour permettre aux victimes de se reconstruire, des associations guinéennes et une ONG internationale ont créé une maison des survivantes. Inaugurée le 28 septembre dernier, elle se met en route tout doucement.

Il est 7 h du matin, dans la cour de sa concession, la poule et les poussins sont déjà réveillés. Oumou Barry s'apprête à rejoindre la maison des survivantes. Cette grand-mère est une rescapée du stade de Conakry.

« J'avais 50 ans quand j'étais au stade. Ce que j'ai subi, c'est inexplicable. Tu vois un enfant qui a le même âge que ton propre garçon qui te fait du mal... », raconte-t-elle. À mots couverts, Oumou Barry raconte son viol.

Sans politique de réparation, les femmes ont dû se prendre en main. « Personne ne nous a assistées. Même le gouvernement », dénonce Oumou Barry. « Il faut qu'on soit fortes maintenant. Il n'y a plus de pleurs, si tu pleures, qu'est-ce qu'il y a ? Qui peut t'aider ? »

La maison des survivantes est née de cette prise de conscience, de cette révolte. Les femmes ont pu alors compter sur quelques soutiens : celui de l'Association des victimes du 28 septembre 2009, l'Avipa, celui de l'OGDH, l'Organisation guinéenne de défense des droits de l'homme, et puis une ONG les a aidées : le Global Survivors Fund, fondé par les prix Nobel de la paix Nadia Murad et Denis Mukwege.

Une aide médicale, psychologique et juridique

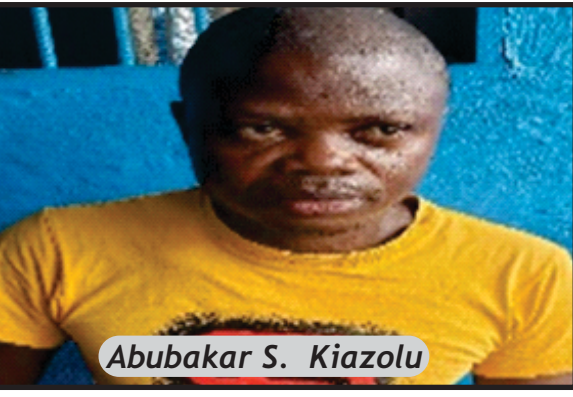
Il faut un peu plus d'une heure à Oumou Barry pour rejoindre le centre implanté dans le village de Moribayah, à 70 kilomètres de Conakry. Ici, les survivantes ont un local pour leurs activités économiques, mais pas seulement, elles vont pouvoir bénéficier, à terme, d'une aide médicale, psychologique, mais aussi d'une clinique juridique.

LIBERIANS DEBATE

Topic: President-Elect Joseph Boakai's First 100 Days' Deliverables

By Naneka Hoffman

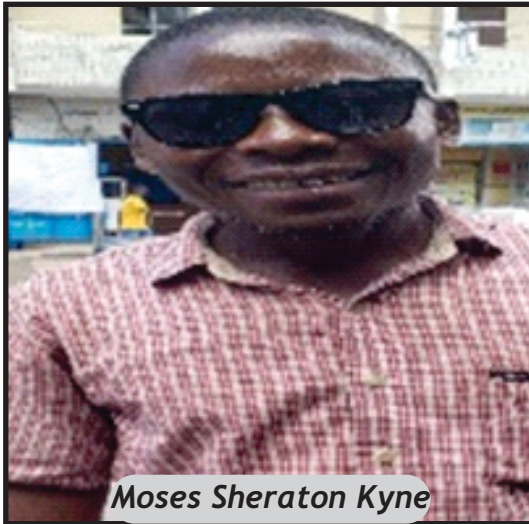
President-Elect Joseph Nyumah Boakia has promised that as part of his first 100 days' deliverables, no car will get stuck on major roads in the country. But reactions from Liberians are mixed on Mr. Boakai's pledge to make major roads across the country passable in one hundred days, as you may read below.



Abubakar S. Kiazolu

"The old man is a days, no car will m a n w i t h get stuck in the credibility and he mud on major thinks before he roads is really a talks; it is one of c h a l l e n g e . the characters l However, if this know of him. By statement can be saying that in the modified like in first hundred the case of

Montserrado or other counties, I can say yes, granted that it can be implemented before those times but, for the entire country, major roads is also relative because there are roads leading to counties and capital cities and they are very deplorable and in two years they can't be completed. So by saying hundred days yes, it is impossible for the entire country but some parts of the country is possible like in the case of Montserrado and Grand Cape Mount counties. It can be implemented before the hundred days, but for the entire country, it is challenging."



Moses Sheraton Kyne

"We all are seeing things. We saw Madam Ellen-led administration made some promises and when she got in office, those promises were not achieved. But as for me, we look toward that promise. Making Liberia paved in the first hundred days, is a challenging job. But we hope that he will achieve it. I don't know but we pray that it will happen. But for me, the deplorable condition of roads in Liberia, if you tell me, in hundred days that the roads in Liberia will be paved and I will ride kekeh from here to Maryland county, I think it is impossible. But as it may, he is the one holding his plan so we are looking forward to see how possible that arrangement

will be. But for me, I see it to be a difficult thing for President Boakai to achieve in hundred days and I see it as something very impossible."

"President-elect Joseph N. Boakia was not wrong by saying that the first hundred days no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads, because he came with an agenda to the Liberian people, so he means it and he is going to work in line with the Ministry of Public Works to make sure that they can pave all those deplorable pathways so that cars with not stuck in the mud. Yes! I support him 100% percent and we are in dry season. He is



Amadu F. Dagoseh

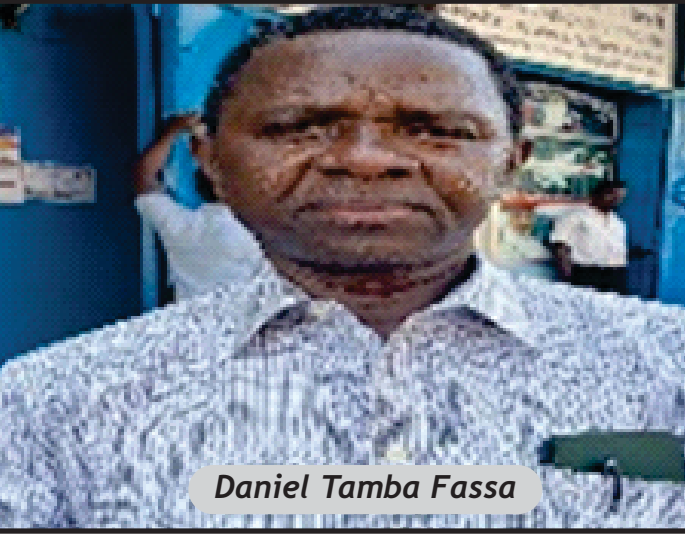
going to work with major roads to Ministry of Public nearby counties Works to see how that are not best they can start developed in their work in terms terms of roads of connecting connectivity."



Razzak Kanneh

"Yes, it's possible that no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads, in the first hundred days, because this administration is going to get involved with the rural development

system that's the reason he made such a statement. And all where mud are, they will bring machines to those various places in making sure that those places will be cleared during raining season so there will be no sticking. If you observed the twelve years of Madam Sirleaf, from here to the southeast was possible though it was not paved as compared to present, where cars can't go to the southeast. So that is the same aspect in which President Boakai is speaking that the first hundred days, no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads."

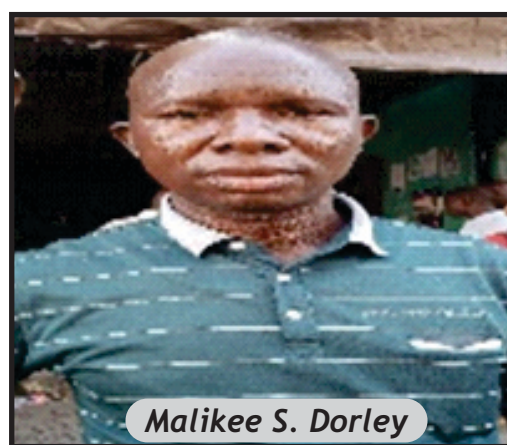


Daniel Tamba Fassa

"One thing I will tell you, the statement doesn't mean in first 100 days they're going to put coal tar on it. It simply means that all those pop holes will be closed even by putting crushed rocks there. We saw it three, four

months of George W e a h ' s administration; we saw people putting crushed rocks from Via Town all the way to Logan Town; that's one of the dry roads there you see because when it rains all those pop

holes were there, but when you put crushed rocks to make sure that it stops. So, the statement itself doesn't imply putting street coal tar and everything. We will put crushed rocks and make sure that no cars will stuck and all those major roads for instance, Rivergee and Maryland, go see the mud. We can able at least to put rocks to make sure that the cars will be able to pass through; that's what the old man meant. But Liberian people will not understand it. They are just thinking everything in hundred days will be bread and butter; I say no."



Malikee S. Dorley

"I agree with this statement from President Boakai, that in his first hundred days, no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads because where certain areas cars stuck and where the cars will have to stuck, you clear the mud and put crushed rocks and compile it so cars can get easy access. It is possible; it can happen and it is not a big deal. So, his first hundred days, no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads and that's what they don't understand. They are saying that the man will fix the roads no, but where the cars stuck in the mud, Ambassador Boakai will fix that

place, clear it and put crushed rocks there and compile it so people can get easy access."



Prince Brown

"I must appreciate Ambassador Boakai because the statement made about first hundred days, no car will get stuck in the mud on major roads, I think that statement

is welcoming, because the issue is very clear that we are faced with a lot of road challenges in the country, and coming up with such statement from the President-Elect, Ambassador Boakai, I think in my mind that particular statement means that Ambassador Boakai will make sure that the corridor with be paved, not to tell the Liberian people indeed that they will put coal tar, but to open the corridor so at least cars can have easy access to their destination - that is the reason President Boakai made such a statement. But other people are looking at it from different direction."

Advertise with us!

CDC man charged

By Lincoln G. Peters

with the organizations for over two years.

unlawful, wicked, and illegal, adding that it violates Chapter 14 Section 14.1, 14.20, and 14.25 of the Revised Panel Code of the Republic of Liberia.

The court noted that defendant Williams deliberately drove an unnamed grey Hyundai SUV with its headlights switched off and the front passenger door open. The court said the accused drove into the jubilant crowd of Unity Party partisans and sympathizers while they were celebrating their victory from the run-off election by NEC at the Unity Party Headquarters.

The LNP on Monday, 27 November 2023, charged and forwarded defendant Williams to the Monrovia City Court for the alleged death of three persons and injury of other persons, both males and females.

According to the police charge sheet, the act of the defendant led an angry mob consisting of partisans and sympathizers to loot and set ablaze the vehicle at the spot where it was abandoned by defendant Williams.

The court noted that the victims were assisted by others who took them immediately to various hospitals including the John F. Kennedy Medical Center, Mawah Clinic, and other local clinics to seek prompt medical attention.

The police indicated that defendant Williams could not convince the investigation of the malfunctioning of the automatic gear of the vehicle which he claimed was the cause of the carnage.

The court document said upon absconding the scene with the aid of a motorcyclist identified as Adolphus Cooper, a student of AME University, defendant Williams declined to have himself reported to the nearest police station.

He allegedly tried convincing the motorcyclist to give the amount of US\$280.00 so his location or residence could not be disclosed to anyone. The police noted that Section 9.1 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law requires that in the case of an accident involving death or serious bodily injuries, the driver should immediately report him or herself to the nearest police station. But defendant Williams failed to do so.

According to police, defendant Williams' action was intentional and

indeed a motive. The police claimed that there was an alleged monetary and psychological benefit, which Williams must have allegedly received from an unidentified source he elected not to disclose. The police suggested that this led to defendant Williams executing the "carnage on the innocent partisans and sympathizers" of UP who were celebrating on the night of 21 November 2023 at about 10:00 pm. following the police's investigation, a magisterial court in Monrovia has ordered defendant Williams' arrest for the brutal incident outside the UP headquarters. Defendant Williams is reported to have rammed a speeding vehicle through a crowd of UP supporters gruesomely killing three persons and injuring twenty-five others. The Monrovia Magisterial Court ordered his arrest based on a complaint filed by the LNP through the Ministry of Justice.

"You are hereby commanded to arrest the living body of Lawrence K. Williams to be identified and forthwith bring him before this court to answer to the charge of murder, aggravated assault, and recklessly endangering of other persons," Magistrate L. Ben Barcon ordered his court officers. The court described defendant Williams' action as

indifferent to the value of human lives, leaving the investigation with the conviction that there was indeed a motive. The police claimed that there was an alleged monetary and psychological benefit, which Williams must have allegedly received from an unidentified source he elected not to disclose. The police suggested that this led to defendant Williams executing the "carnage on the innocent partisans and sympathizers" of UP who were celebrating on the night of 21 November 2023 at about 10:00 pm. following the police's investigation, a magisterial court in Monrovia has ordered defendant Williams' arrest for the brutal incident outside the UP headquarters. Defendant Williams is reported to have rammed a speeding vehicle through a crowd of UP supporters gruesomely killing three persons and injuring twenty-five others. The Monrovia Magisterial Court ordered his arrest based on a complaint filed by the LNP through the Ministry of Justice.

Speakership battle intensifies

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Forty incoming lawmakers inclusive of those re-elected have endorsed Cllr. Jonathan Fonati Koffa's bid to serve as Speaker of the House of Representatives. Re-elected during the 10 October 2023 presidential and legislative polls, Rep. Koffa is a stalwart of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC). He has been serving as deputy to the outgoing Speaker of the House of Representatives and defeated Maryland County Representative Bhofal Chambers. The latter is also a CDC stalwart.

The battle has intensified for the top job on Capitol Hill as old

running for the speakership is to be a floor-fighter, citing his lot of experience as what he brings to the table. Koffa said he is confident of becoming the next speaker.

The majority of the Representatives at the retreat were from the ruling CDC including Dixon Seebo, Frank Saah Foko, and Edward Papie Flomo, all from Montserrado County. Others were James Kolleh, Moima Briggs Mensah, and Samuel Enders, among others. They pledged their support to Rep. Koffa. In a statement, the forty lawmakers pledged their unwavering support to Rep. Koffa, saying their interest is the idea of bringing check and balance in the 55th Legislature. Deputy Speaker Koffa continues to rally more support as



and new lawmakers appear to be forming political forces to pick their new leadership. Cllr. Koffa who represents Grand Kru County Electoral District #2 has begun rolling his sleeves in his bid to succeed his boss Mr. Chambers as House Speaker for the 55th Legislature. He addressed the press briefly during a daylong retreat held in Virginia, Montserrado County on Sunday, 26 November 2023. Rep. Koffa commended his colleagues for their unwavering support towards his quest to control the gavel.

Cllr. Koffa said his interest in

he faces competition with lawmakers from the incoming Unity Party (UP)-led administration of President-elect Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

The UP's Montserrado County Electoral District #11 Representative Richard Koon, and the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) Nimba County newly elected Representative Musa Hassan Bility are seeking the Speaker job.

CPP supported the ruling CDC's presidential bid in the run-off held on 14 November, but it remains unclear if their collaboration will not play out in the bid for the speakership.

Starts from page 7 Lawmaker-elect vows

more that I'm now a lawmaker, that tells you how I will lobby to actualize my promises to my district and its people", he added. When asked about his view on the election of a new speaker for the House, the Lawmaker-Elect said he belongs to political party and will listen to advice from the CDC before making a decision, who to support in the speakership election which is expected to be held in January 2024.

"I'm a student of

Administration, I believe in the tendency of learning curve; you can't enter a class for the first time and wanting to become the president; there has to be a learning curve to all the processing."

He continued that a lot needs to be looked at, including the way issues are being debated, how to proffer a bill, among others. The outgoing CDC has about 40 lawmakers in the Legislature. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Advertise with us!

Advertise with us!

We're not looting offices

- Nimba County Superintendent refutes report, but

By Thomas Domah/ Nimba County correspondent in various areas of the administrative Nimba county, Nelson building in Sanniquellie, Korquoi, distances the Superintendent Korquoi county administration from reports of massive looting at will never be involved in such



Superintendent Nelson Korquoi at his Office in Sanniquellie

various public offices in act, as was reported recently. Nimba. Superintendent Korquoi "Journalist, you can see for clarifies that since the end of the yourself, all of the office electoral process, they have materials are here. No one returned to their respective has done anything of such", offices, and there has been no he debunks. looting at those offices. Touring According to him, they are with the NEW DAWN planning to hold a major press

conference and will do a peaceful turning over of every assets to the i n c o m i n g administration. Sources told the NEW DAWN correspondent that following recent report by this paper, most of those items that were looted, were returned during night hours. Speaking to reporter during the tour, Superintendent Korquoi openly accused former County Inspector Reginald Mehn, of looting his (Mehn's) office before turning it over to current County Inspector Mack Gblinwon, disclosing that Mack procured all of his office furniture on his own, not from government. It's yet to be seen if County Inspector Gblinwon, who was campaign manager for the Coalition for Democratic Change in the county during the just-ended elections, will take away assets he personally bought for his office, as revealed by the County Superintendent. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

WE DO GENERAL PRINTING SERVICES:

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

DIGITAL & OFFSET Printing

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