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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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VOL. 13 NO. 215 MONDAY, DECEMBER 04, 2023 PRICE LD\$40.00

Liberians were duped

in electing Boakai

-CDC Chair

P11



Mr. Mulbah Morlu



Cllr. Kunkunyon

CAF appoints Liberian lawyer on Governance Committee

P11

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Continental News

Guinea-Bissau: Attempted coup was foiled, says President Embaló

Guinea-Bissau's president says heavy gunfire that broke out in the capital on Friday was

Special forces then intervened after attempts to negotiate failed, resulting in an exchange of gunfire.

the investigations, local media said.

National Guard soldiers later in the evening invaded the police cells, located near Bandim market, "with AK-47 weapons and bazookas" and extricated the detained officials, the privately owned O Democrata news outlet reported.

It said the National Guard took them to an unknown location.

On Friday morning, regional stabilisation forces deployed by the regional West African bloc Ecowas were seen patrolling the streets, the AFP news agency reported.

Guinea-Bissau has suffered a series of coups and attempted coups since gaining independence from Portugal in 1974.

In February last year, President Embaló said he survived a coup attempt after being under heavy gunfire for five hours - in an incident in which 11 people died.

Without providing details, he said the attack was linked to drug trafficking in the country.

Some however doubted the official version of the events, amid questions including who was really behind the attempt, how many people were involved and who was in command.

Talking to the BBC's Newshour programme, Alberto Dabo, a journalist in Bissau, directly linked the recent events to what happened last year.

"After the coup attempt, many high-ranking officials of the army who were held responsible for that are in jail without any judgement. And some high-ranking members of the army are demanding their liberation," he said. BBC

In Some Neighborhoods in Drought-Prone Kenya, Clean Water Is Scarce

As the sun rises in the Bondeni-Jua Kali neighborhood on the outskirts of Kenya's capital Nairobi, dozens of women and men step out of their corrugated iron homes with yellow jerricans, skip over pools of sewage and make their way to a nearby water vending station.

There is no piped water or sewage system in the area and drought has made clean water supplies scarcer and expensive for locals. Twice a week, trucks with 5,000 to 10,000 liters (1,300 to 2,600 gallons) of water will fill up vending stations across Athi River where residents can buy 20 liters (five gallons) for 20 Kenyan Shillings (\$0.16). A household of four needs about 20 liters a day, and weekly incomes are about \$13, according to data from Kenya's finance ministry.

But for those whose homes are kitted out with water filters distributed by a local

met Ngui, she was heading to a swamp to draw water to clean her family's clothes and for cooking. Part of the slimy swamp is clogged with overgrown water lilies. Ngui doesn't have a water filter, so she can't turn the swamp water into something suitable for drinking.

Ngui would like a filter, "so that we can be able to filtrate the dirty water and be able to drink it," she said. Otherwise, "it just has germs and diseases."

Bucket Ministry, a Christian nonprofit organization, has been providing communities around Nairobi and other parts of Kenya with the easy-to-use water filters. It provided over 600 filters, made by the water filtering company Sawyer, to households in the four neighborhoods in Athi River since August and plans to up that number to 6,000.

The devices are the size of a small water bottle and are fitted with a hose pipe onto a bucket. They can filter water from the river and nearby swamps into potable water that can be used by residents.



Joyce Ngui heads to fetch groundwater in Athi River, Machakos county, Kenya

nonprofit, the nearby river - polluted, prone to drought and usually unsafe for drinking - is becoming a cheaper and sometimes more reliable source of clean water. And while advocates say underlying issues like climate change-fueled drought and poor water management need to be urgently addressed, solutions like filters make a short-term difference because deliveries are often not enough for the neighborhoods' needs.

Many rely on unsafe alternatives if they miss out on the trucked-in stocks.

"Sometimes, we get to the water vending stations and find that the queue is long and then the water finishes and you have to wait," said 46-year-old resident Joyce Ngui. "Most of the time you don't have money to buy even the salty water sold around. So we have no choice but to use the swamp water," she said.

When The Associated Press

"It filters every germ or pathogen that causes water-borne diseases," said Derrick Mesulamu, the country director for the group. "It is designed in such a way that it has micro holes that don't allow those particles that cause water-borne diseases to pass through." Josephine Mutile, a resident with a water filter, is already seeing the benefits. "I have been sick often and visiting the hospital where I am tested and told that I have typhoid, or an amoeba infection or diarrhea. Boiling water (to kill viruses and bacteria) is expensive because cooking gas is expensive," Mutile said. "Now I have this filter, it will help me a lot." Data from the Machakos County health ministry, of which Athi River is part, says that four out of 10 cases at public health clinics in the area are related to water-borne disease. At least 10 people died following a cholera outbreak in Mavoko area in the region between October last year and March. VOA



Heavy gunfire was heard on Friday morning (file photo)

an attempted coup.

He had been out of the country at the time, attending the the UN's COP28 climate conference in Dubai.

Speaking on Saturday, President Umaro Sissoco Embaló promised "serious consequences" for the perpetrators.

This is the second foiled coup against his leadership in under two years. The unrest began late on Thursday evening into Friday mid-morning.

A man described as the leader of a group of soldiers who tried to free a detained minister and a senior state official in Guinea-Bissau has been caught, the military says.

Members of the National Guard had taken the officials before seeking refuge in barracks south of the city.

Calm is said to have been restored later.

Finance Minister Souleiman Seidi and António Monteiro, the secretary of state for the treasury, had been detained amid investigations into the alleged irregular withdrawal of \$10m (£8m) of state funds.

They were questioned on Thursday afternoon by an anti-corruption inquiry to clarify the payments to 11 companies.

In a parliamentary session on Monday, the leader of the country's main opposition party alleged that the owners of the companies were close to leaders of the country's governing coalition.

Mr Seidi defended the payments as legal.

On Thursday after the questioning, Mr Seidi and Mr Monteiro were arrested and detained so as not to jeopardise

Tanzania floods: Heavy rain and landslides kill 47 in Hanang district

Severe flooding and landslides have killed at least 47 people and wounded 80 others in northern Tanzania, local officials say.

It happened near the slopes of Mount Hanang, where President Samia Hassan has now deployed national security forces to help rescue efforts.

Homes and infrastructure were also damaged by the adverse weather.

Flooding is said to be the greatest natural hazard in Tanzania, affecting tens of thousands of people each year.

East Africa has been badly hit by floods and landslides in 2023, partly caused by the El Niño weather phenomenon.

Last month in Tanzania, higher than usual rainfall resulted in deaths and destruction to property in the capital Dar es Salaam and the areas of Kigoma, Kagera, Geita and Unguja.

Crops in some parts of the country have been washed away, affecting people's livelihoods. Tanzania's meteorology agency has warned that the rains will continue this month. BBC



Hanang district extends up to Mount Hanang - the country's third-tallest peak

EDITORIAL

COMMENTARY

By Jayati Ghosh

A subpoena is not an indictment

It has been observed in many instances that a subpoena from the court, inviting somebody to appear often leave people worrying and panicking, as if they have been indicted for a crime, which often proves the contrary. A subpoena is nothing to worry about as long as one is convinced of his or her innocence and can prove beyond all reasonable doubts.

So many people have been at one time or another subpoenaed by the court and have appeared, testified before the judge and leave. Testifying in court simply means telling the judge all that you know about a particular issue, saying nothing but the truth and the whole truth.

A recent example of a court subpoena involved Unity Party Standard Bearer and President-elect, Joseph Nyumah Boakai, during the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP's) rigmarole that saw former Presidential candidate Alexander B. Cummings, taken to court for allegedly tempering with the CPP Framework Document.

Ambassador Boakai, in adherence to the subpoena, appeared in court and testified all that he knew about the document and left. Period. The court had nothing else to do with him so he walked out a free man and continued his political sojourn that eventually saw him officially pronounced as President-Elect, of the Republic of Liberia.

About a week ago, Criminal Court 'A' Judge, Roosevelt Z. Willie, in the ongoing murder trial of former Chief Justice Gloria Musu Scott, ordered the Clerk of Court to do a subpoena Ad Testificandum Decu Tecum to Police Inspector General, Patrick Sudue, to produce the report of April 25, 2022 on incident of Justice Scott's missing license plate, and the ledger testified to on Monday, November 27, 2023, by Col. Sudue's representative, Detective Curtis B. Koffa.

Subsequently, Judge Willie has granted defense's application for subpoena Decu Tecum and Ad Testificandum to be served on Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson Koijee to present to the court, Mr. Varlee Telleh along with his (Telleh's) numbers that were used from 21st - 25th February, 2023, and to also testify to said numbers as to whom he (Telleh) called within the timeframe mentioned. That's what it means: to present the individual being requested in court along with the relevant information asked for.

However, it is important that the person being subpoenaed comply by appearing in person and testifying to or answering all questions to avoid being held in contempt for disobeying court order.

On the other hand, a criminal indictment is a formal accusation of a crime, usually a felony, by a grand jury that contains notice of the criminal charges against an individual and initiates the criminal case. Besides, an indictment is a way of protecting the accused from being prosecuted without enough evidence or proof. It is also a way of allowing the prosecution to proceed without a judge or defense attorney's involvement.

For example, an indictment was unsealed against jailed former Liberian President Charles Ghankay Taylor by the UN-backed Special Court of Sierra Leone, while Mr. Taylor, then still a sitting President, had gone to Ghana to initiate peace talks.

However, following the Comprehensive Peace Accord (CPA), cessation of hostility by warring factions and election of a democratic government in Liberia, Taylor was subsequently brought back from Nigeria and dragged before the Special Court in Freetown, Sierra Leone where he pleaded not guilty after charges were read. The rest is history.

But between the two, an indictment is more grievous and weighty than a subpoena. What is important though, is that they both must be respected in accordance with law, regardless of the status of persons being sought by the court.

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 /

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When Investors Subvert States

NEW DELHI - Imagine a scenario where a private company effectively creates and controls its own jurisdiction within a sovereign country. This company introduces its own currency, enacts laws, and establishes courts, prisons, police forces, and even intelligence services. It formulates its own tax, labor, and environmental regulations (or lack thereof), regardless of their compatibility with national laws.

Now imagine that this company adopts bitcoin as its official currency and announces plans to privatize public services. It replaces the existing judicial system with an "arbitration center" and even introduces a fee-based citizenship model that requires signing a "social contract" designed to encourage good behavior. Eventually, the country's democratically elected government steps in to stop this nonsense and affirm that national laws apply equally to this jurisdiction. But instead of complying, the company sues the government for billions of dollars, citing its projected financial losses.

This scenario, seemingly lifted straight out of a dystopian novel, is precisely what is happening today in Honduras. The Honduran government is currently contending with seven international investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) claims filed by various private corporations. One US company based in Delaware, Honduras Próspera, is suing the country for a staggering \$10.7 billion, which represents two-thirds of the government's projected budget for 2023.

The story begins with the 2009 military coup that ousted the democratically elected Honduran President, Manuel Zelaya. Following the coup, the new government quickly enacted a law to establish Special Development Regions with the characteristics described above. In 2012, Honduras's Supreme Court struck down the law, owing to its blatant infringement on Honduran sovereignty. In response, the National Congress impeached several of the justices and replaced them with more amenable appointees. This judicial overhaul set the stage for the introduction of the similar Zones for Employment and Economic Development (ZEDE) law in 2013.

There are currently three ZEDes in Honduras: Próspera, Orquídea, and Ciudad Morazán. These entities operate as independent city-states, inspired by the libertarian fantasies of billionaire investors like Peter Thiel and Marc Andreessen, who have long dreamed of crypto-based tax havens that flout basic democratic norms. Laws permitting unlimited expansion have facilitated the expropriation of land belonging to local residents. In the Próspera ZEDE, 44% of the governing authority's members are directly appointed by the corporate owner, and an additional 22% are elected by landowners whose votes are proportional to the size of their property.

These developments triggered widespread public outrage both within Honduras and around the world. After the leftist Libre party, led by President Xiomara Castro, won the 2021 election, the new administration quickly fulfilled its campaign promise to repeal the ZEDE law, a move that was widely supported by the Honduran public.

But Próspera pushed back, claiming that its agreement with the previous government guaranteed a 50-year period of legal stability, acknowledged the supremacy of investor rights and privileges, and included "safeguards" under international investment law through the

Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA-DR) and the United States-Honduras bilateral investment treaty. While Próspera continues to operate St. John's Bay, its "flagship city," the company is seeking compensation from the Honduran government for daring to enforce its own national laws.

Governments, especially in low- and middle-income countries, are understandably wary of ISDS mechanisms that allow foreign investors to seek compensation for policy changes that affect their business. Originally, ISDS was meant to prevent the expropriation of private assets through nationalization. But the definition of expropriation has been expanded to such an extent that it can now include any government action that investors believe could negatively affect their profits, such as new regulations and taxes.

When disputes arise, they are resolved through international arbitration tribunals. There are now several such tribunals, including public ones, such as the World Bank's International Center for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, and private bodies like the London Court of International Arbitration and the Singapore International Arbitration Center. But these tribunals overwhelmingly favor investors. Arbitrators can force governments to pay huge damages, with no legal recourse to appeal decisions. Moreover, the system is designed to allow corporations to bring claims against states while preventing governments from suing private companies. This apparent bias has prompted some developing countries to withdraw from the ICSID.

The US has played a pivotal (and regrettable) role in establishing this system. In 2020, then-presidential candidate Joe Biden strongly criticized ISDS, writing, "I don't believe that corporations should get special tribunals that are not available to other organizations." Biden went on to say that he opposed "the ability of private corporations to attack labor, health, and environmental policies" through the ISDS process, as well as the "inclusion of such provisions in future trade agreements." Since then, Biden has honored his promise to exclude ISDS clauses from future trade agreements. But they still apply to existing treaties like the one currently affecting Honduras.

In May, more than 33 members of Congress, led by Senator Elizabeth Warren and Representative Lloyd Doggett, sent a letter to US Trade Representative Katherine Tai and Secretary of State Antony Blinken, urging them to support Honduras in the ISDS case. But the Biden administration has allowed this obscene process to unfold in US courts, even though it contradicts the president's stated position regarding the unjust and undemocratic nature of the ISDS process.

The Honduras ISDS case represents a crucial test for the Biden administration. Allowing such extreme double standards to prevail, particularly in a matter as clear-cut as this, would irreparably damage any remaining US claim to global leadership.

Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is a member of the Club of Rome's Transformational Economics Commission and Co-Chair of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.

ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

Liberia: 176 years on, nothing has changed

Liberia is sui generis (a Latin phrase meaning one of a kind). Despite its unique history as the first independent African nation on the continent, its political leaders have often appeared less intent in terms of development and modernization compared to leaders elsewhere on the continent.

Leaders since independence, have not been able to develop the country's rich natural resources to maximize same for the development of the country, rather they have used it wastefully to their advantage, while the bulk of the population watches on as spectators.

Liberia's political system remains repletely ingrained with sycophants being the architects of the imperial presidency 176 years on-nothing has changed.

All officials have done over time and continue to do today is to maintain their relevance in the existing political system and their place within it- nothing more. It's the proximity to power.

There is absolutely nothing new, it has been the same trend years in and years out. No one leader has been able to crack the code for Liberia's development and modernization, simply because his or her immediate lieutenants have always come with their own agendas while blindfolding him or her into thinking that all is well with the citizens.

A dramatic story is told of President William V.S. Tubman, who for fear of flights often chose to travel by sea. Just as is being done today every cabinet official and their deputies want to be where the president is, so it was back then, nothing has changed.

But here is the story. So, on this day, Tubman and his officials were sailing on one of his Yachts, from Monrovia to Maryland. They had picked up officials from Marshall, now annexed by Margibi County thru to Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, and were headed to Harper.

While they were sailing Tubman came on the deck to view the sea and in the process, the breeze took his hat off his head and threw it in the sea. When his officials saw it, they all began to tip their hats one by one for the breeze to throw it into the sea, and one by one all their hats were thrown into the sea.

When President Tubman turned around and saw what had happened, he had a new sense of his authority.

Tubman, before ascending to the Presidency had been living in his native Maryland County from where he had usually set sail in boats to Monrovia as an Associate Justice at the time before his preferment by President Barclay. Before Barclay's arrangement, Tubman was not a regular Monrovia politician.

However, the systemic sycophantic behaviors of appointed officials in government only emboldened Tubman. As the story goes, when Tubman noticed that his officials intentionally threw away their hats to be in sync with him, he began to sense how powerful he had become as a president.

Tubman, for example, would take a nap and wake up in his under T-shirt, his cabinet members around would all remove their coats, shirts, and ties to be in sync with him.

This behavior that everything the president does is a trend within his official circle is not new. President William R. Tolbert came on the scene with higher height suit, and his appointed officials followed, Samuel K. Doe, Charles G. Taylor, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, and now President Weah with a pro-poor which became very popular during the early days of his six-year reign.

Sure, nothing has changed from officials wanting to be eye servants rather than doing the job for which they were appointed.

Rather, they fight to be in line with the president's trend, that they can siphon state resources with impunity, while the country lags in development and modernization.

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OP-ED

By Mariana Mazzucato,
Partha Dasgupta, and Nicholas Stern

Water and the High Price of Bad Economics

LONDON - Nearly 30 years into global negotiations to address climate change, efforts to control the problem are lagging, reflecting stalled progress toward creating a sustainable trajectory more broadly. Each year of delay adds to the urgency of the problem, and of the need to maintain Earth's resilience against the most severe effects of global warming.

It has been 17 years since the Stern Review alerted the world to the costs of inaction on climate change, and two years since the Dasgupta Review did the same for biodiversity and the ecological underpinnings of our economies. Now, a similar expert consensus is emerging around water security. But most countries still do not seem to understand that neglecting water could undo the progress made on other fronts. We are facing a global water crisis that warrants the same level of attention, ambition, and action as the climate and biodiversity crises.

The links between the climate, biodiversity, and water crises point to a fundamental issue: our economies are based on flawed economics. Current economic thinking leads us to consider only the proceeds of pillaging of the planet, while ignoring externalities such as environmental damage and the liabilities they imply. This bad accounting makes us look wealthier when we are actually becoming poorer, depleting the sources of our well-being at the cost of future generations.

Worse, the same thinking results in inadequate policies. We are forever reacting to market failures and struggling to fill financing gaps, when we should be pursuing proactive strategies to shape the economy for the common good.

The myopic view of the world reflected in current economic thinking - and in our overexploitation of natural resources on a global scale - now risks destabilizing the entire planet. We have already perturbed six of the "nine processes that are critical for maintaining the stability and resilience of Earth system as a whole." The boundaries we are breaching - which include climate change, biodiversity loss, and freshwater change - define a safe operating space for humanity. By ignoring them, we have increased the risk of large-scale abrupt or irreversible environmental changes that would gravely threaten human civilization.

The Dasgupta Review called for a fundamental shift in economic thinking based on strong sustainability principles, envisioning an economy that operates - at all scales - within scientifically defined boundaries. We have a finite budget when it comes to environmental systems like water, biodiversity, carbon, nitrogen, phosphorus, pollutants, and soils. We need an economy that operates within these budgets in an efficient and socially responsible manner.

Without urgent, systemic, collective attention on the inextricable links between climate change, water crises, and biodiversity loss, there can be no sustainable future, because inaction in one area invariably ripples across the others. Wetlands and forests are the world's largest carbon stores, and they depend on a stable water cycle and thriving biodiversity. Terrestrial carbon sinks absorb about 25% of our carbon dioxide emissions. Without them, atmospheric CO₂ would stand at 500 parts per million instead of the current 420 ppm.

Urgently phasing out fossil fuels is necessary but not sufficient. Even if we could decarbonize the economy tomorrow, we still would not have a sustainable future until we take steps to maintain water systems and natural habitats. The science now shows that nature loss on its own can send us crashing through the Paris climate agreement's target of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, ushering in a world where millions of people in vulnerable environments would no longer be able to adapt.

Safeguarding water resources and biodiversity must be prioritized alongside decarbonization as we make the transition to an economy that operates within safe planetary boundaries. Following in the footsteps of the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change and the Dasgupta Review on the Economics of Biodiversity, the Global Commission on the Economics of Water is urging a similar shift on the issue of water.

This new thinking is based on three pillars. First, we need to treat the global water cycle as a common good that is governed collectively and in the interests of all. Not only is water increasingly intertwined with climate change and the depletion of the planet's natural capital; it is also a major, but underappreciated, source of interdependence between countries.

Second, we must move beyond a reactive market-fixing approach, and toward a proactive market-shaping one that catalyzes investment in water and prices negative externalities appropriately. Only with a new economic mindset can governments value, govern, and finance water in a way that drives the transformation we need.

Third, addressing our interlinked challenges requires holistic, cross-sectoral, and outcomes-oriented "policy mixes," rather than the isolated and siloed interventions that have characterized economic policymaking until now. Mission-oriented economic strategies can mobilize all relevant ministries, sectors, and stakeholders around specific water-related goals, and outcomes-oriented instruments and institutions can help us achieve them.

The United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai offers an opportunity for a significant breakthrough. Mounting scientific evidence that we have destabilized the global water cycle on which we all depend is a stark indication that our collective efforts have fallen short, even after three decades of UN climate negotiations, and a decade after the founding of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Water-related issues can no longer be ignored. If we do not urgently address them alongside our other interlinked challenges, the progress that we make in other areas will be for naught.

Johan Rockström, Co-Chair of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water, also contributed to this commentary.

Mariana Mazzucato, Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, is Chair of the World Health Organization's Council on the Economics of Health for All. A tenth anniversary edition of her book *The Entrepreneurial State: Debunking Public vs. Private Sector Myths* was published by Penguin in September. Partha Dasgupta, Emeritus Professor of Economics at the University of Cambridge, is Chair of the Dasgupta Review on the Economics of Biodiversity. Nicholas Stern, Chair of the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at the London School of Economics and Political Science, is a former chair of the Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change.



Amplifying Rights Network
Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights for All

Position Statement A Call to Action



Affirming that sexual and reproductive health and rights are the bedrock for growth and prosperity for all individuals, and societies, we the Liberian citizens who took part in the first Liberia SRHR Conference have collectively agreed on the call to action below:

We call on you to:

1. **Abolish Harmful Traditional/Cultural Practices:** Some cultural practices, child marriage, and FGM, hinder access to SRHR services. Child marriages contribute to early pregnancy, social isolation, school dropouts, and increased risks of intimate partner violence. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is recognised internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women. The National Traditional Council declared a national three-year ban on FGM in 2023. As such, we call on GoL:
 - The national three-year ban on FGM should be fully implemented and monitored.
 - The legal framework for Child marriage should be harmonised to prevent customary violations.
2. **Improve Menstrual Health Hygiene:** To effectively manage menstruation, we call on the government of Liberia to remove all tariffs on sanitary products to improve access to affordable and appropriate menstrual hygiene materials. As such, we call on GoL:
 - Remove all tariffs on sanitary products to improve access to affordable and appropriate menstrual hygiene materials.
 - Improve access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities in all schools.
3. **Accelerate legal and inclusive policy reform:**
 - We are calling on the Senate to concur with the Lower House and pass the Revised Public Health Law, which addresses abortion as a public health care issue for women as opposed to its status as an act with criminal sanctions in the penal code.
 - Remove criminal sanctions in law on same sex consenting conduct between adults.
4. **Accessible and Inclusive Service Provision:** Overt and subtle practices of discrimination prevent persons seeking care, especially young people and those with disabilities and sexual minorities, from being able to present their full range of needs and experiences to service providers without fear. The Government should implement fully inclusive and responsive sexual reproductive health and rights services, catering to everyone regardless of their identities or abilities, by,
 - Ensure that healthcare professionals are fully trained in SRHR service provision to everyone, including key populations and people with disabilities, without stigma or discrimination.
 - Urgently address the current stockout of contraceptives in the public facilities in Liberia due to supply chain challenges.
 - Improve access to all forms of modern contraception and provide information and counseling.
5. **Implement Gender-Responsive Budgeting:** The budget determines how public funds are raised, used, and who benefits. It is essential to develop a budget that works for everyone (women and men, girls and boys) by ensuring gender-equitable distribution of resources and by contributing to equal opportunities for all. The current National Gender Responsive Budgeting Policy developed by the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning ends in 2023. We request that the government fully implement and extend the policy.
6. **Improve adolescent health interventions in and out of schools:** Comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) lays the foundation for life and health choices. Yet few young people have the knowledge and skills to grow healthily and happily. As such, we call for the following:
 - Adequate investments in efforts to reach CSE to all young people in and or out of school. Programs outside the homes and schools are instrumental in supporting the growth and development of our youth.
 - Provision of youth-responsive spaces in communities where young people can play, learn, and unlearn, socialise, expand, and relax to engage and stimulate everyone's diverse intellectual, emotional, spiritual, and physical needs.
 - Invest in training teachers, educators, and health workers to provide accurate, scientific, and non-judgmental SRH information and youth-friendly services.

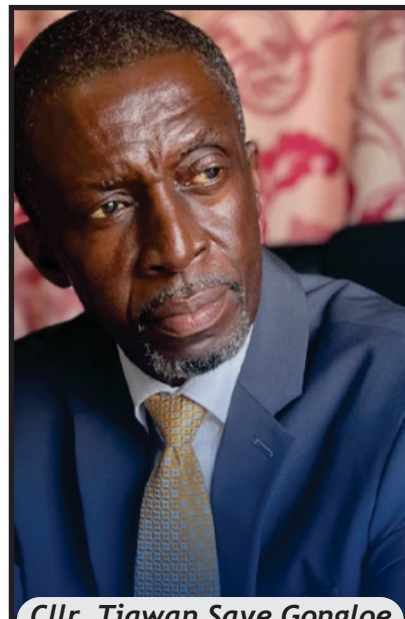
Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights for All

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Gongloe inducts FALAS newly elected leadership

Sby Lincoln G. Peters
Liberian human rights lawyer Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe over



Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe

the weekend officially inducted into office the newly elected leadership of the Federation of African Law Students (FALAS). The defeated Liberian opposition presidential candidate inducted the law students during a ceremony held via Zoom. The ceremony had over twenty-two participants from several African Countries, as well as law professors and faculties. During the program, human rights lawyer and advocate Amb. Najimoulay Lahsen of Morocco served as guest speaker, while Cllr. Gongloe performed the inaugural induction rituals. Those inducted into

offices include Kioi Ngungu, president, from Kenya; Nokuthual Songo, vice president from South Africa; Ephraim T. Nyumah, Secretary-General from Liberia; and Success Zibba, Deputy Secretary General.

Also, the inducted officials included Hawa D., Director of Accounting from Ghana; Seyram Seyram, Head of Diplomacy and Protocol from Ghana; Asiimwe Maria Patience, Welfare Secretary, and Elaigwu Eunice, Director of Treasury, from Nigeria. FALAS is the apex and unifying umbrella body for undergraduate law students across the African continent.

The Federation enjoys goodwill and bank on endorsements from the African Bar Association (AfBA), and other regional/national law bodies across the continent which mutually collaborate to foster their founding credo.

FALAS is an international, non-partisan, and forward-looking association that is wired toward building a united Africa and a common future.

It also seeks to promote and protect the interest of justice, fairness, equity, and equality in Africa while ensuring at all times regardless of the prevailing circumstances, that they are united on all frontiers.

As a unified student body, its primary objective is to provide

opportunities for African law students, bridge the existing gap, proffer viable solutions to their problems, build a network of outstanding students who would collaborate towards a common future, and ensure that African Law Students are attuned to new realities and global practices. In his remarks, Cllr. Gongloe urged the newly elected leadership and African law students and legal practitioners to uphold the integrity and ethical standards of the legal profession. According to him, peace can't be sustained in any country without adherence to the rule of law, urging that lawyers, therefore, should be agents of change. Cllr. Gongloe stated that to be effective in playing this role, lawyers must dedicate themselves to deepening their knowledge and understanding of the laws of their various countries. He charged them to uphold the high ethical standard in doing their duties to stimulate the trust and confidence of the African people in the legal profession. "The incoming President and leadership elect of FALAS, members of the law faculties across the African Continent, the legal profession bears the greater responsibility for creating the atmosphere it requires for building a culture of peace, and political, social as well as economic progress of Africa," Cllr. Gongloe said.

Police to probe CDC partisan's death

The Liberia National Police (LN) says it has secured a series of video footage to investigate the death of Joshua Solomon, a partisan of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC).

Police Spokesperson Moses Carter announced the plan to probe Solomon's death over the weekend.

Carter said the police are viewing video footage and they will begin an investigation and arrest this week.

"We have collected video footage in our possession as it relates to the incident that took place. Those footages will be shared with the press and the public," Carter said.

"But, when you look on social media you will see some. Between now going forward to next week, with the cooperation from the public, we are hopeful of reaching a logical conclusion in ensuring that arrest is made for those responsible for the death of Solomon to account for their actions in the court of law," said Mr. Carter.

According to him, the deceased was involved in political violence between the opposition Unity Party (UP) and the ruling CDC in August this year.

Mr. Carter has indicated that it's reported that the deceased allegedly sustained wounds that allegedly resulted in internal bleeding.

But he urged members of the public to assist the investigators with information to ensure that alleged perpetrators are brought to book.

Mr. Carte further assured Liberians and family members of the late Solomon that those allegedly culpable of his death will be made to account for their action in the court of competent jurisdiction.

"We have invited you to brief [you] on an ongoing investigation which we have launched into the death of one of our citizens who met his untimely death in the 72nd Community, Joshua Solomon, 34 years old," Carter told journalists.

He explained that before Solomon's death, he served as

a national pageant trainer at the Ministry of Information.

Mr. Carter assured Liberians that they will not sweep under the carpet the death of Solomon, adding that anything about the acts that lead to the death of the victim will be duly investigated with time and justice will be served within time.

Mr. Carter said the deceased met his untimely death due to alleged internal bleeding.



Nuchie Meek, Jzyno, Anitram, MC Caro Triumph at the MTN Liberia Music Awards

The MTN Liberia Music Awards (MLMA) has once again honored and celebrated the best in the music industry during the highly anticipated 2023 edition.

This year's event, held under the theme, "Liberia to the World," showcased the the culture, diversity and excellence within Liberia's music scene.

Lonestar Cell MTN Music Awards project lead, Jonathan Baker said, that bringing Liberia to the world was about breaking down stereotypes and showcasing the diverse stories, vibrant traditions, and unique

Lah Lie? and "Artist of the Year" categories both witnessed the dominance of Nuchie Meek, reaffirming his influence and popularity within the Liberian music landscape. However, Jzyno's rhythmic excellence claimed the title of "Afro Pop Artist of the Year." Additionally, his track "Butta My Bread" was honored with the "Afro Pop Song of the Year" award, showcasing his definitive impact on the genre. Fans recognized Jzyno's cooperative efforts as he received "Collaboration of the Year for a remarkable musical partnership that resonated with fans and critics alike.



perspectives that shape Liberia's identity. "We chose the theme, "Liberia to the World," so that the world can witness the harmonies and themes that echo through the bustling streets of Monrovia, the narratives that unfold in its landscapes, and the indomitable spirit that fuels its artistic expressions. Beyond entertainment, bringing Liberia to the world is a recognition of the nation's resilience, growth, and unwavering determination," he said.

As the MTN Liberia Music Awards progressed amidst the glitz, the glamour and enthusiastic audiences, Nuchie Meek emerged triumphant as he claimed the title of "Artist of the Year." His dedication to the craft and unique musical style set him apart, earning him the well-deserved recognition from the Liberia Music Awards.

The genre-defining "Hipco Trapco Song of the Year," "Buh

Anitram, with her soul-stirring voice and magnetic performances, secured the titles of "Female Artist of the Year" and "New Artist of the Year." Her emergence as a rising star has not gone unnoticed, and the MTN Liberia Music Awards applauds her promising contribution to the industry. "I am so thankful, I am so happy right now. Thank you to all my friends and my supporter from day one, thank you guys," she said accepting her coveted awards. The exceptionally talented MC Caro clinched the prestigious "Album of the Year" award. Her lyrical prowess and catchy rhythms were recognized by the MLMA panel and music enthusiasts alike. Other winners included, Dr. Base won Producer of the Year, Bennieking won Reggae/Dancehall Artist of the Year, Kobazzie won "Video of the Year" for 'Go Low', J Borbor won "Traditional Gbema Song of the

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Liberia and Morocco prepare for fisheries assessment

Liberia and Morocco have begun preparations ahead of the conduct of the second fisheries stock assessment on Liberian waters. The preparatory works

government of Liberia through NaFAA and the Moroccan government ministry of Aquaculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forestry for the conduct of a fish stock

Government of the Kingdom of Morocco through its Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime and Fisheries agreed to provide research vessel to conduct an independent stock assessment on Liberia's territorial water. Responding to Liberia's request for technical support, Moroccan Fisheries Minister Mohammed Sadiki, disclosed that his government will provide the technical assistance to Liberia through its research vessel for the growth and development of the Liberian fisheries sector.

The first fish stock assessment under the CDC-led government was conducted in August 2023 with technical assistance from the governments of Guinea and Senegal with the provision of the Guinean research vessel "Lasanna Conteh". Moreover, the Moroccan delegation on Saturday December 2, 2023, toured the Freeport of Monrovia where its research vessel is expected to dock for the conduct of the second fish stock assessment and later toured the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) where they saw how monitoring activities are being conducted across Liberian waters and other parts of the world. They were led on the tour by managers of the Research and statistics department.

WHO Africa regional boss on barriers in AIDS battle

By Naneka Hoffman

The World Health Organization Regional (WHO) Director for Africa, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti is calling for a global effort to remove remaining barriers in the fight against HIV/AIDS that prevent individuals from accessing testing, prevention, treatment, and care services.

According to Dr. Moeti, services' affordability, availability, and acceptability need to be improved to reach the most marginalized and vulnerable populations.

Speaking over the weekend at celebration of World AIDS Day in Monrovia, he called on the government, civil society, development partners, and all stakeholders to join in empowering communities to

of the fight against discrimination, and the advocates who campaigned for increased access to antiretroviral therapy and care, ensuring that no one would be left behind. "As we strive to reach the global targets set for 2025 and 2030, we must continue to create an enabling environment for communities to lead in the HIV response." He said an environment that respects and protects their rights, ensuring equitable access to high quality services and investing in comprehensive prevention, treatment, and support services is paramount.

"I must emphasize the crucial role of community-led monitoring in improving community leadership for HIV. It is important to recognize that effective community leadership



Flashback: DG Glassco and Morocco Minister of Fisheries signing MoU in the conference room of Hilton hotel in Agadir 2023

began here on Friday December 1, 2023 following the arrival of a high-power technical fisheries delegation from the Kingdom of Morocco. The second independent stock assessment will take place in mid-January 2024 with technical assistance from the Moroccan government.

assessment in the Exclusive Zone (EEZ) of Liberia."

The four-member delegation include Mr. Abdelmalek Faraj Director of the National Institute of Research Halieutique, Mr. Ali Aferyad Chief de division de gestion des moyens de navigation, Mr. Najib Charouki Chief de division observation directe halieutique and Ms. Soukaina Zizah Chief de Service Suivi des prestation de Service, all from the National Institute of Research of Morocco. Earlier this year, the



Group photo

lead the HIV response and to re-commit to providing them with necessary support and autonomy they need to succeed. "We must recognize the diversity among communities affected by HIV and ensure that tailored interventions are implemented, addressing the specific needs of key populations, such as young and adolescent girls, men who have sex with men, transgender individuals, sex workers, and people who inject drugs", he underscored. He noted the vital role of communities in addressing the epidemic, adding that it highlights the resilience of communities, expertise, and most of all, the unwavering commitment to the collective goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

goes beyond advocacy and activism. It involves empowering communities with the tools and knowledge to monitor their progress and hold decision-makers accountable." Dr. Moeti explained that community-led monitoring has been a powerful mechanism that allows communities to monitor and evaluate HIV programs, policies, and services that directly impact their lives, and help identify human rights violations, stigma, and discrimination within healthcare settings, allowing for prompt interventions and solutions. He said despite progress made, more grounds must be covered to address the disparities that persist, while recognizing that moving forward, the world must prioritize innovation, inclusivity, and sustainable strategies to reach those at risk of being left behind.

However, Dr. Moeti observed that that the leadership of communities has been instrumental to the remarkable milestones in the fight against HIV and AIDS, as communities affected by HIV, including individuals living with the virus, families, friends, and activists, have always been at the forefront of the response.

He recalls that in the early days of response, when the world was in denial, communities spoke up to fight the silence and stigma, noting that they were at the forefront

WHO Regional Director for Africa said communities should be allowed to lead, and the world needs to listen more to their voices, acknowledge their expertise, and involve them in decision-making at all levels, adding "we must build bridges between communities, governments, civil society organizations, and other key stakeholders to foster partnerships based on trust, solidarity, and shared responsibility.

Reject ill-advised actions

-CDC cautions Boakai

By Lewis S Teh

The National Chairman of the Coalition for Democratic Change Mulbah K. Morlu is apprehensive of witch-haunting outgoing officials, warning the incoming government under the leadership of President-elect, Joseph N. Boakai to reject ill-advised actions by individuals that he suspects want to see the CDC go down.

queries to a closure, but that the CDC will not concede a micro inch of Liberia to misrule, witch-haunt and bad governance.

"I admonish CDCians and Liberians at large, do not be frightened; do not yield to politics of intimidation and fear."

He called on partisans and supporters of the CDC to move past what he describes as an "ugly democratic experience" and support the peaceful transfer of power through their transition team.

He said even though they accept the results the UP's victory margin of 50.60 percent compared to their 49.36

percent vote cast doesn't in any way signal a large electoral mandate.

"Yes, we have accepted the outcome of the just-ended controversial election for peace, not because it was free and fair, but because it's the only way to keep our beloved country peaceful from the hands of a den of violent usurpers who are desperate for power."

At the same time, he encourages CDCians to take pride in the six years of rule of President Weah, saying "walk with your heads up high", while arguing that the CDC government under President Weah has set higher standards

"We caution the incoming regime to reject all ill-advised actions such as witch-haunt, economic apartheid, police brutality, and all forms of prejudice detrimental to good governance and stability", Morlu warns.

He gave the caution Friday, December 1, 2023, during a news conference at the CDC headquarters in Oldest Congo Town in what appears to be the CDC's first major post-election engagement with the media.

Morlu notes that President Weah's concession message of the election results bring the presidential runoff election



Mr. Mulbah Morlu

Français

Assignation à comparaître pour Kojjee et Varlee Telleh :

Le Juge accorde la demande de la défense

Le juge de la Cour criminelle 'A', Roosevelt Z. Willie, a récemment accédé à la demande de la défense

témoigner sur les personnes contactées pendant cette période.

La demande de citation à comparaître vise également les

les appareils associés aux numéros de téléphone mentionnés, du 22 février 2023 au 30 novembre 2023, les entreprises ayant attesté précédemment de leur capacité à localiser ces téléphones.



S.G. Jefferson-T.-Kojjee

MCC Deputy Chief of Operations Mr. Varlee Telleh

visant à citer à comparaître le maire de la ville de Monrovia, Jefferson Kojjee, ainsi que Varlee Telleh, un haut responsable de la police municipale de Monrovia.

Cette décision fait suite à la requête des avocats de la défense, sollicitant une citation à comparaître Decu tecum et ad testificandum à l'intention du maire Kojjee. L'objectif est de présenter à la cour M. Varlee Telleh, accompagné de ses numéros de téléphone utilisés du 21 au 25 février 2023, et de

opérateurs Orange GSM et Lonestar GSM, les invitant à fournir les numéros de téléphone utilisés par l'ancienne juge en chef, Cllr. Gloria Musu Scott, actuellement en procès pour meurtre. La cour demande également aux compagnies GSM de révéler qui utilise actuellement ces numéros, étant donné que ses téléphones ont disparu la nuit du meurtre de sa nièce, Chaloe Musu, dans sa résidence.

Les avocats de la défense ont également sollicité une citation à comparaître des deux entreprises GSM pour retracer

En opposition à cette requête, les avocats de l'accusation ont plaidé pour le rejet de la demande, arguant qu'elle est inutile, manque de spécificité, est sans rapport avec l'affaire en cours et est destinée à retarder le procès.

Cependant, dans son verdict, le juge Roosevelt Z. Willie a jugé que les questions soulevées par les avocats de la défense étaient pertinentes pour l'affaire, et a donc accordé la demande.

La citation à comparaître ordonne à toutes les parties

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Naymote Analyse les Promesses de Campagne du président élu Joseph Boakai

Naymote Partners for Democratic Development a récemment dévoilé son dernier rapport, décryptant les promesses de campagne du président élu et leader de l'Unity Party, Joseph Nyumah Boakai, lors de l'élection présidentielle de 2023.

Lors d'une conférence de presse jeudi dernier, le 30 novembre, le Directeur Exécutif, Eddie Jarwolo, a déclaré que Naymote avait minutieusement suivi et documenté 93 promesses de campagne faites par le président élu Boakai, Sr., qui a remporté la victoire avec 50,64 % du total des votes exprimés lors du second tour de l'élection présidentielle du 14 novembre, selon les résultats annoncés par la Commission Électorale Nationale.

Ces engagements, précise-t-il, ont été tirés du manifeste de l'Unity Party,

des rassemblements de campagne, des engagements médiatiques et des déclarations publiques.

"Le manifeste a articulé six piliers, chacun englobant des engagements spécifiques visant le développement du Libéria", a expliqué M. Jarwolo.

Il a détaillé que le premier pilier, axé sur la stabilité macroéconomique et le développement des

infrastructures, contenait un total de cinquante-huit (58) promesses qui ont été consignées.

"Ces promesses couvrent des aspects économiques (8 promesses), la gestion financière (10 promesses), l'agriculture (12 promesses), la gestion des ressources naturelles (3 promesses), la

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Boakai

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

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Assignation à comparaître pour

impliquées de comparaître avec les documents mentionnés dans la requête, avant le lundi 4 décembre 2023 à 10 heures.

Dans une décision distincte le lundi 27 novembre 2023, le juge Roosevelt Z. Willie a également ordonné au greffier de délivrer une citation à comparaître Ad Testificandum Decu Tecum au chef de la police, Patrick Súdue. Cette citation vise à obtenir le rapport du 25 avril 2022 sur l'incident lié à la plaque d'immatriculation manquante de la juge Gloria Musu Scott, ainsi que le registre témoigné le 27

novembre 2023 par le représentant du colonel Súdue, le détective Curtis B. Koffa.

Le chef de la police avait précédemment été cité à comparaître par la cour en relation avec la mystérieuse disparition de la plaque d'immatriculation de Cllr. Scott. Cette dernière défendait alors la faction dirigée par Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence du Parti de la Liberté, ainsi que la sénatrice du comté de Gbarpolu, Botoe Kanneh, à la Commission électorale nationale. De plus, l'enquête porte sur les incidents d'intrusion signalés les 8 et 9 février 2023, à la résidence de Virginie où Charloe Musu a été assassinée.

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Naymote Analyse les

création d'emplois (6 promesses), le commerce et l'industrie (2 promesses), le développement des infrastructures (5 promesses), les transports (4 promesses), les technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) (3 promesses), et la culture et le tourisme (5 promesses)", a-t-il ajouté.

Naymote souligne également que le deuxième pilier du manifeste de l'UP concerne la santé, l'approvisionnement en eau, l'assainissement, l'environnement et le changement climatique, avec neuf (9) promesses, axées sur la santé (6 promesses), l'eau, l'assainissement et l'hygiène (1 promesse), et l'environnement et le changement climatique (2 promesses). Le troisième pilier traite du développement des capacités humaines avec sept (7) promesses axées principalement sur l'éducation.

Il poursuit en indiquant que le quatrième pilier du futur parti au pouvoir concerne la gouvernance et l'État de droit, avec sept (7) promesses, mettant l'accent sur les relations extérieures (1 promesse), la sécurité (1 promesse), l'État de droit (1 promesse), la responsabilité (2 promesses), la gouvernance et la transparence (2 promesses), et la réconciliation (1 promesse). Le cinquième pilier couvre le genre, la jeunesse, les enfants et la protection sociale, sous lequel huit (8) promesses ont été suivies et documentées, avec un accent sur le genre (1 promesse), la protection sociale (2 promesses) et

l'autonomisation des jeunes (5 promesses).

Le sixième pilier du manifeste de l'UP, selon le rapport, concerne la lutte contre la corruption avec quatre (4) promesses, dont la réforme des politiques d'administration fiscale, des incitations fiscales ciblées pour l'agriculture et la fabrication légère, la mise en œuvre du Compte unique du Trésor (TSA), l'introduction d'un système de budgétisation par programmes, et la feuille de route pour la dédollarisation de l'économie libérienne, la déclaration des avoirs du président et de tous les nommés, et l'audit des responsables sortants, etc.

M. Jarwolo souligne que les promesses électorales représentent un contrat social entre les électeurs et les candidats, et que le président élu Boakai est tenu de respecter les engagements pris pendant la campagne.

Il affirme qu'immédiatement après l'investiture en janvier 2024, Naymote commencera à suivre la performance du gouvernement par rapport à ces promesses pour les six prochaines années.

Il souligne que l'objectif de les suivre est de s'assurer que les promesses faites au peuple libérien pendant la période de campagne soient réalisées.

"Ces promesses, si elles sont mises en œuvre, ne profiteront pas seulement à l'Unity Party, mais bénéficieront à tous. Si nous pouvons tenir le président élu Boakai par ses promesses de campagne, cela profitera à tous", déclare-t-il. Le patron de Naymote révèle qu'avant la campagne, il a écrit à tous les candidats pour leur demander de partager leur vision du pays et les informant que ces promesses seront suivies après avoir remporté l'élection et être arrivés au pouvoir.

131 Libériens bénéficient des bourses d'études de l'Ambassadeur Chinois



L'Ambassade de la République populaire de Chine au Libéria a récemment décerné 131 bourses à de jeunes étudiants libériens. La remise de la Bourse de l'Ambassadeur Chinois aux bénéficiaires a eu lieu le mardi 28 novembre 2023 sur le campus de l'Université du Libéria à Capitol Hill.

Parmi les récipiendaires figurent des étudiants du Confucius Institute de l'Université du Libéria, de l'Université Tubman, de l'Université Cuttington et du Bomi Community College.

Créée en 2011, la Bourse de l'Ambassadeur Chinois vise à soutenir académiquement les étudiants excellents du Libéria.

Depuis son instauration, plus de 1 000 étudiants libériens exceptionnels ont été honorés de cette distinction.

S'exprimant lors de la cérémonie, l'Ambassadeur Chinois au Libéria, M. Yin Chengwu, a révélé que la bourse a encouragé les étudiants à travailler dur et les a aidés à concrétiser leurs rêves.

Il a ajouté qu'elle a renforcé leur intérêt pour l'apprentissage du chinois, la compréhension de la Chine et a semé les graines de l'amitié entre la Chine et le Libéria.

L'Ambassadeur Yin a affirmé que l'éducation est le meilleur moyen pour un pays de cultiver une bonne culture et des coutumes parmi sa population, soulignant que c'est le fondement de la culture et de la société du pays.

"L'éducation est liée aux fondements d'un pays, d'une culture et d'une société. Depuis l'Antiquité, le peuple chinois accorde une grande importance à l'éducation", a déclaré l'Amb. Yin.

"Il y a plus de 2 000 ans, les sages chinois de l'Antiquité ont déclaré que si un pays veut cultiver de bonnes coutumes, il doit commencer par l'éducation", a noté l'Envoyé chinois.

Depuis la reprise des relations diplomatiques entre la Chine et le Libéria en 2003, plus de 800 étudiants libériens ont été parrainés par la Chine pour suivre des programmes de licence grâce à diverses bourses et autres programmes en Chine, tandis que plus de 2 000 ont participé à des programmes de formation à court terme.

L'Ambassadeur Yin a rappelé qu'en 2008, l'Université de technologie de Changsha de la Chine, en coopération avec l'Université du Libéria, a établi le Confucius Institute à l'UL, devenu un autre programme phare de la coopération éducative entre la Chine et le Libéria.

Le Confucius Institute à l'UL a non seulement attiré de nombreux étudiants pour apprendre le chinois et la culture chinoise, mais a également recommandé des centaines d'étudiants à des entreprises chinoises locales. La coopération éducative sino-libérienne a permis à de nombreux Libériens d'acquérir davantage de connaissances et de compétences, ouvrant ainsi une fenêtre d'opportunité pour changer leur vie.

Alors que la Chine continue de poursuivre une ouverture de haut niveau, la coopération éducative sino-libérienne sera plus prometteuse. Le diplomate chinois a également souligné qu'en mars 2023, le Président Xi Jinping a proposé l'Initiative pour une Civilisation Globale, qui prône le respect de la diversité des civilisations, la défense des principes d'égalité, d'apprentissage mutuel, de dialogue et d'inclusivité entre les civilisations, et la promotion de la compréhension mutuelle et de l'amitié entre les peuples de tous les pays.

Alliance des États du Sahel : le Mali, Burkina Faso et Niger entendent renforcer leurs relations



La première réunion des ministres des Affaires étrangères des trois États membres de l'Alliance des États du Sahel s'est terminée vendredi 1 décembre à Bamako. Les chefs de la diplomatie du Mali, du Niger et du Burkina Faso, trois pays dirigés par des juntes, ont appelé à renforcer et accélérer le processus d'intégration entre eux.

Près de trois mois après la signature de la charte créant l'Alliance des États du Sahel, les dirigeants de ces trois pays - Mali, Burkina Faso et Niger - entendent renforcer leurs relations. C'est la principale décision de la rencontre des ministres des Affaires étrangères de ces trois pays qui s'est achevée ce vendredi à Bamako. Dans le domaine de la diplomatie par exemple, par exemple, Bamako, Ouagadougou et Niamey décident d'harmoniser de plus en plus leurs points de vue sur la scène africaine et internationale.

Sur le plan politique, la rencontre des ministres des Affaires étrangères de l'Alliance des États du Sahel a encouragé le renforcement des relations entre les élus, les associations féminines et la société civile des trois pays.

L'objectif affiché est d'aller à grands pas vers une intégration sous régionale. Le communiqué final de la rencontre précise : l'ambition est de parvenir à terme à une fédération réunissant le Mali, le Niger et Burkina Faso.

ARTICLE

ARTICLE

Reflection Part Four - The Prophecies

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All these three were young men. It appears that the leader that will bring prosperity and transformation to Liberia will not come from the southeast given the leadership records of the three sons of the southeast. What Twe said in the speech was "To fulfill her destiny, Liberia must turn her back to the East and March westward". The people of the southeast interpret this to mean that it would be a son or daughter from the southeast that will fulfill the destiny, meaning they would bring prosperity and honor to the country. With three sons democratically elected and two sons serving as Interim presidents over the past 79 years, the Liberians people have not seemed this prosperity and honor. It seems that Twe message was misinterpreted.

1980 Prophecies: The prophecies of Rev. E. Toimu A. Reeves, Rev. Dr. Samuel Dennis and Rev. Mother Wilhelmina Dukuly were real prophecies because Liberians did not have to wait for long. It took only six days.

1983 Prophecy: Our research indicates that Rev. Mother Dukuly did not make any prophecy in 1983 referencing who would become leader of the country. This is a false claim by people, who felt that this would help re-elect Mr. Weah. They said that the Rev. Mother Dukuly said Mr. Weah would be elected for a second term. Lost his second term election. In fact, nobody at Faith Healing Temple of Jesus Christ remembers Rev. Mother Dukuly ever making this prophecy.

1999 Prophecy: Archbishop Francis wrote that an astute statesman after the young man he referred to as Saul would emerge. Remember the story of Saul. After Saul one faction selected his son Ishbaal who was anointed by the northern region, but the elders of southern anointed David. The southern region defeated the northern region; therefore, it was David that succeeded Saul. Those of you who read the Holy Bible know how David transformed Israel. Do we have a David now? Would President Elect, Joseph Nyumah Boakai Sr. be that David Liberians have been waiting for? Let us wait and see how he will perform or like the Israelis will Liberians wait for 500 years?



2005 Prophecy: Ten Pastors jointly prophesied in 2005 that Charles Walker Brumskine was the next President of Liberia at the Bethel Cathedral. Unfortunately, Liberians did not have to wait too long to see that this prophecy was false.

Do we believe in prophecy? This is the million-dollar question. We listed six alleged prophecies above, only one came to pass during our time and two are pending. Three were found to be intentionally untrue. However, we believe that there are men of God among us, and God speaks to them and reveals to them what would make them happy in the future but there are many false clairvoyants, therefore we have to be careful.

We would like to speak to the President-Elect directly. And if he listens to us, he might be elderly man from the WEST and the ASTUTE STATESMAN the Archbishop mentioned because these two prophecies are pending.

Fighting Corruption and winning

Corruption has different meanings, but the definition that we like best is that which was given at the United Nations Convention against Corruption. It reads, "Corruption is a form of dishonesty or a criminal offense which is undertaken by a person or organization/government which is entrusted in a position of authority, in order to acquire illicit benefit or abuse of power for one's personal gain". Forms of corruption include bribery, embezzlement, extortion, networking, under-the-table transactions, manipulation of election, money laundering and the list goes on. If an individual/ organization/branch of government is charged with the responsibility to distribute resources and a large portion of those resources is allocated to that individual/branch that is corruption. Mr. President- elect, you will have to first fight corruption in the first Branch of government. If you fail in winning the war against corruption in the first branch of government, it will be difficult to win the war on corruption because this branch has oversight responsibility of the other two branches, if this first branch is corrupt, the oversight will not be effective.

We all are aware that corruption erodes trust, weakens democracy, hampers economic development, and further exacerbates inequality, poverty, social divisions, and environmental crises.

In one of our features "REFLECTION - PART THREE, we lengthily defined history and said that historical events repeat themselves; and that if we read and understand historical records, we will find answers to modern days' problems. Corruption is something that has been with mankind for over 2,000 years and some leaders have managed to defeat it. One such leader is Kuan Yew Lee. He wrote a book entitled, "From Third World to the First; "The Singapore Story, 1960-2000". In his book he outlined how he fought corruption. We were fortunate to have been sent an abridged copy. It was sent to us by the former President Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in 2009. We read the book more than twice. We recommend this book to any leader who wishes to fight corruption and win the war on corruption. WINNING THE CORRUPTION WAR IS VERY SIMPLE. IT REQUIRES STRONG LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS. This means, the leader must have the WILL POWER to ENFORCE THE LAWS WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR. When this happens, the country becomes free, and the resources taken by corrupt officials are freed and can be used for the development of the country. Corruption has been and will continue to be the greatest enemy of development.

We just read a copy of the first speech of the President- elect where he intimated that he will fight corruption with all the resources at his disposal. Other presidents (Tolbert, Doe, Taylor, Sirleaf and Weah) before him said the same thing. Tolbert

declared war on corruption, Doe executed thirteen government officials for rampant corruption, Madam Sirleaf after fighting corruption for many years, and she nicknamed it VAMPIRE after she lost and President Weah did not even try, and instead he promoted corruption bald-facedly. We say to the President- elect that corruption is a cancer and to defeat it, you have to cut-off its head, legs, arms, breasts, and other related appendages. You must have the POLITICAL WILL. PROMPT ACTIONS against corrupt officials would be needed, irrespective of their contributions to your electoral victory or family linkage. Madam Sirleaf failed because she could not act against family members, particularly her son.

Mr. President- elect, we will hold you accountable for the full enforcement of the constitution, particularly the following articles and clauses:

Article 5-c states that the Republic shall: "Take steps, by appropriate legislation and executive orders, to eliminate sectionalism and tribalism, and such abuses of power as the misuse of government resources, nepotism and all other corrupt practices."

Article 6 reads: "The Republic shall, because of the vital role assigned to the individual citizen under this constitution for the social and political well-being of Liberia, provide equal access to educational opportunities and facilities for all citizens to the extent of available resources. Emphasis shall be placed on mass education of the Liberian people and the elimination of illiteracy."

Article 8 reads: The Republic shall direct its policy towards ensuring for all citizens, without discrimination, opportunities for employment and livelihood under just and humane conditions, and towards promoting safety, health, and welfare facilities in employment.

Advice to the president- Elect; Prophecies are made, and all are part of history, there had been individuals, who believe they were the one prophesied and therefore they worked smart to do what has been prophesied. If this is true, the elderly man from the west the Islamic Scholar prophesied 245 years ago, and the astute statesman the late Archbishop Michael Kpakala Francis mentioned in his Report to the Vatican twenty-four (24) years ago; then you must work SMART. You must think out the BOX. You need to consider the following.

Selection of Cabinet Ministers: Every President often selects a cabinet to assist and advise him or her. A variety of factors determine why someone is selected for a cabinet post, including ability, political compatibility, and geographical consideration. You must be confident and select a team. Look beyond each man's foible and competing ego and see the talent, competence, and intelligence each one brings to your administration. Cabinet Ministers should be free to disagree with each other and with you on the approach for the betterment of the country. This will challenge you to do critical thinking after the discussion. Do not select Cabinet

Liberians were duped in electing Boakai

By Lincoln G. Peters

The outgoing ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) continues to lament its

Weah during the November 2023 presidential run-off. It was their second time meeting in a presidential run-off. In the 2017 run-off, Mr.

when all of them rise above the fruitless distraction of blaming others for the loss of the elections.

He however urged members of the CDC to instead introspect on what is at stake and quickly come back together as one party, one family, and one gigantic political fortress of redemption.

The CDC chair informed his supporters that the need to regroup can't be overemphasized as they prepare to battle and defeat what he described as the "deep state conspiracy administrator." He alleged that there is a "deep state conspiracy administrator who took advantage of the CDC's confidence at strategic state institutions to destroy their government from within.

"These anti-CDC disrupters are a den of thieves craving for more opportunities to hustle. To stop them, we must rise above trivial differences and subordinate personal concerns to the superior interest of the common good," said Morlu.

"Again, I say let's come together quickly to confront the threat unfolding against us all, which is no longer implicit and hypothetical. This threat is very explicit, clear, and present," he stated. Mr. Morlu alleged that even state security institutions, the Liberia National Police, are now being exploited, politicized, and weaponized by some notorious supporters of Amb. Boakai. He alleged that these institutions are being used to malign and falsely indict the CDC in an alleged 'crash incident' that occurred at the hands of one of its partisans. He described the alleged incident as a clear example of one of the visible threats they must confront and defeat to save Liberia's democracy in the coming years.

CAF appoints Liberian lawyer on Governance Committee

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has appointed Liberian lawyer and lecturer Cllr. Kunkunyon Wleh to work on its Governance Committee. Appointing Cllr. Wleh through a communication dated 29 November 2023, CAF expressed great pleasure to formally welcome him to the Governance Committee of that noble institution.

"The Executive Committee under the leadership of the CAF president Dr. Patrice Motsepe has unanimously passed a resolution confirming your appointment for a period of 4 years with effect from 18 November 2023," the communication reads.

In the communication

responsibilities entrusted to him by the Statutes and the CAF Executive Committee.

The institution informed the Liberian lawyer that his role is pivotal in upholding the governance standards of CAF.

It also said it is fully committed to supporting him as he transitions into this position.

In Liberia, Cllr. Wleh lectures Ethics at the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law, University of Liberia, and he is a member of the Executive Council of the Liberian National Bar Association.

He is also a member of the Judicial Inquiry Commission of the Supreme Court of Liberia, and a former Board Member of Bea Mountain Football Club, Liberia.

He chairs the Liberia Football Association (LFA) Ethics Committee; and chairs the National County Meet



Mr. Mulbah Morlu

defeat in the 14 November 2023 presidential election, claiming that Liberians were duped into electing opposition leader Amb. Joseph Nyumah Boakai.

The ruling party CDC chair Mr. Mulbah Morlu addressed scores of supporters over the weekend at the CDC headquarters in Congo Town and said a lot about the incoming president, Amb. Boakai. Morlu alleged that the President-elect is an incapable elder allegedly surrounded by the most corrupt group of people.

Morlu claimed that it's becoming increasingly clear that the Liberian people have just been allegedly duped and misled into electing Amb. Boakai.

The former ruling Unity Party (UP) leader and former Liberian vice president Amb. Boakai defeated incumbent President George Manneh

Weah defeated Amb. Boakai as an opposition candidate at the time.

But Weah's one term in office witnessed incessant public criticisms of his regime, and some of his officials were placed on U.S. sanctions for corruption.

However, Morlu assured his supporters that the CDC has not lost the right to govern Liberia forever.

"Fellow partisans, our opponent's unexplained razor-thin victory does not mean that we have lost the right to govern Liberia forever," said Mr. Morlu. "Even before their inauguration, it's becoming increasingly clear that the Liberian people have just been duped, deceived, and misled into electing the most incapable elder, surrounded by the most corrupt group of people," Morlu said.

He informed his supporters that this historical travesty of democracy can be corrected



Cllr. Kunkunyon

announcing his appointment, Cllr. Wleh has been provided with the CAF Statutes to guide him as he undertakes the

Appeals Committee. He has served on several other committees and boards. He is an independent practicing lawyer.

Liberia wins top post at IMO

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extensive role in promoting the ideals of the IMO as well as being a strategic partner in spearheading global maritime affairs. With a pristine coastline stretching across three hundred miles, Liberia boasts of four operational ports facilitating global maritime trade. She intoned that these ports make it possible for Liberia to supply commodities such cocoa, iron ore, rubber, and timber to the world market. Minister Gray stressed Liberia's dedicated commitment to the IMO since its founding in 1959 and has consistently been one of the largest contributors to the budget of the Organization.

The Minister recalls that the Liberian Registry is the number one in the world today standing at more than 200million registered gross tonnage (GRT) with over 5000 vessels.

The Liberian Registry is also whitelisted on all leading MOUs, including the Paris and Tokyo MOUs. The Registry is

reputed for high international standards as specified by the IMO. Liberia is also host to one of five IMO regional search and rescue centers in Africa. The Monrovia Region Coordination Centre covers Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Thus, Liberia ensures safety is a critical component for facilitating sustainable maritime trade. The Minister also indicated that the Freeport of Monrovia meets the international safety compliance standard of the 2004 ISPS Code, as well as the US Coast Guard Safety Standards. The Liberia Maritime Training Institute equips the new generation of seafarers with top notch skills to meet the demand for trained manpower for global seaborne trade. Liberia is also a board member and sponsor of the Regional Maritime University in Accra, Ghana. The ratification of key IMO instruments further demonstrates Liberia's commitment to the objectives and goals of the IMO. Liberia and Bangladesh recently rectified the Hong Kong Convention on Ship Recycling in June this year. Thus, meeting the entry-into-force requirement.

Nuchie MeeK, Jzyno, Anitram, MC Caro

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Year" for 'Talk It', Sayou Tequah won Video Director of the Year, Jesse Pratt won "Gospel Artist of the Year", Asake won "International Artist of the Year," Dope Zulu won "Hip Hop Artist of the Year," "DJ of the Year" is DJ American, "On-air

Personality of the Year", O'Neal Roberts, "Group of the Year," Soul Fresh.

As the curtain falls on another successful MTN Liberia Music Awards, Acting Chief Marketing Officer, Kolubah Flomo extended its congratulations to all the winners, nominees, and everyone who continues to

contribute to the growth and evolution of Liberian music.

"The MTN Liberia Music Awards not only celebrates the winners but also acknowledges the incredible talents that contribute to the vibrancy and richness of Liberia's music scene. The 2023 edition was a testament to the thriving music industry in the nation," he said.

Reject ill-advised actions

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of governance and the party has made huge development gains that cannot be discarded by hate and lies. Morlu reminds the

incoming government that government is continuity so it now falls on the shoulders of the incoming administration of President-elect, Boakai to maintain such high standards

and continue building on Mr. Weah's laudable gains. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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Liberia wins top post at IMO

Liberia has made a triumphant return to the top tier of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) following Friday's election to 'Category A' of the Council of the World Maritime body with 132 votes at

Liberia, however, lost its 'Category C' place in 2019. Thereafter, the Government of Liberia made an informed policy decision to seek a seat in the category that is commensurate with its standing within the global

instead 'Category A' as per Article 17(a) of the IMO Convention which represents "ten States with the largest interest in providing international shipping services".

Addressing a reception



the 33rd Assembly session. Liberia was last elected to 'Category C' of the Council in 2011 after two failed attempts to get back to 'Category A' in 2007 and 2009- following the country's dropping off in 1995.

maritime trade and governance. A decision which was based on feedbacks from majority of Member States who argued that 'Category C' was not the rightful place for Liberia,

held to reinforce Liberia's case to the delegates at the IMO Headquarters in London, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister, Cllr. Deweh Gray, recounted Liberia's

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