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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR		
DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025	L\$198.2535/US\$1.00	L\$201.2538/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.

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Race car on racetrack

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-Boakai responds to critics

Govt.'s crackdown faces scrutiny

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Continental News

Nigerian president orders crackdown on gangs after 150 killed in conflict-hit north

South Africa declares state of disaster following severe weather

Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu on Wednesday directed security

state's Yelewata community from Friday night till Saturday morning, opening fire on

after the attack. His visit to the state occurred five days later.

The Nigerian leader travelled to Makurdi, Benue State's capital, where he visited a hospital to see those injured in the attack and met with local leaders to discuss how to end the killings. He did not visit the Yelewata community.

He also appeared to reprimand the police for not making any arrests yet, more than four days after the killings.

"How come no arrest has been made? I expect there should be an arrest of those criminals," Tinubu said as he addressed senior police officers during a gathering in Benue.

Analysts blame Nigeria's worsening security crisis on a lack of political will to go after criminals and ensure justice for victims.

"In the end, the result is the same: No justice, no accountability, and no closure for the victims and their communities," said Senator Iroegbu, a security analyst based in Nigeria's capital, Abuja. "Until this changes, impunity will remain the norm, and such tragedies will continue to occur."

agencies to hunt down the perpetrators of a weekend attack that killed at least 150 people in the country's northcentral, as he faces growing pressure over a worsening security crisis. Tinubu visited Benue State, the site of the recent deadly attacks, seeking to calm tensions and promise justice for the victims. "We will restore peace, rebuild, and bring the perpetrators to justice. You are not alone," the Nigerian leader said on X. Assailants stormed Benue

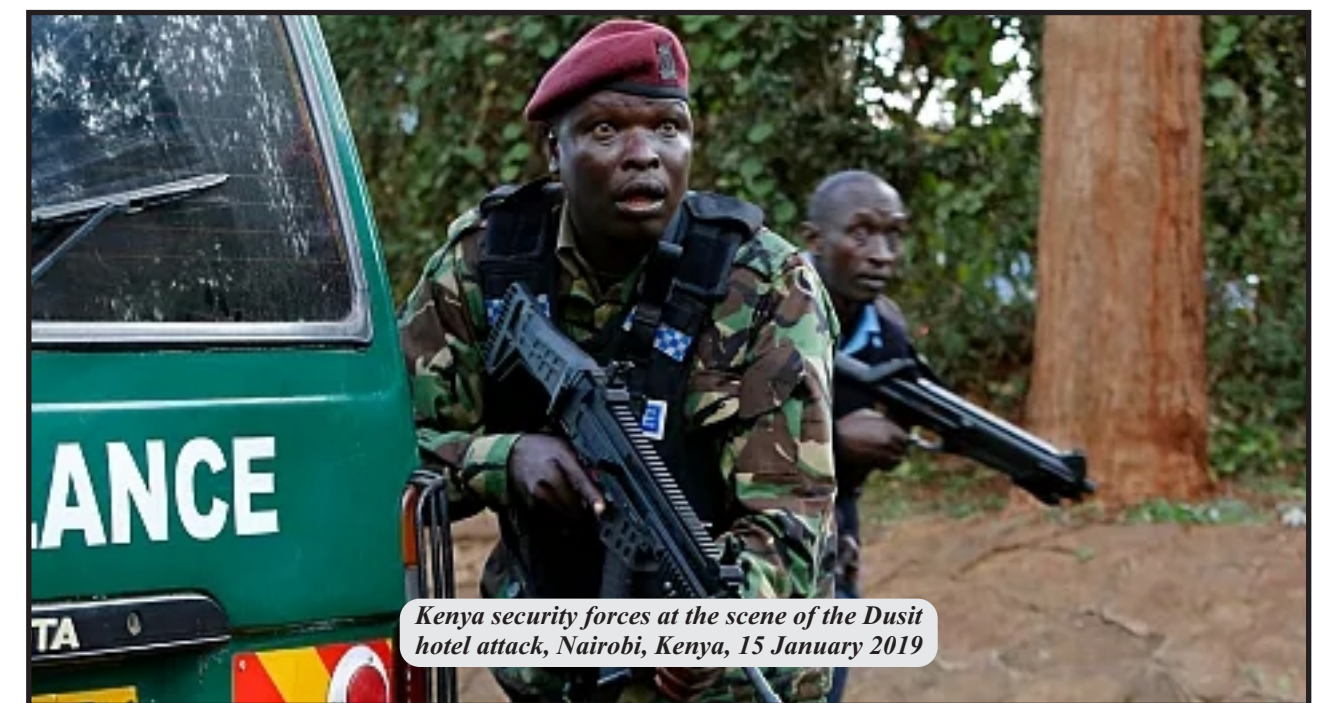
villagers who were asleep and setting their homes ablaze, survivors and the local farmers' union said. Many of those killed were sheltering in a local market after fleeing violence in other parts of the state. Authorities in Benue state blamed herdsmen for the attack, a type of violence frequently seen in northern Nigeria's decades-long pastoral conflict. Opposition leaders and critics have accused Tinubu of a delayed response to the killings, noting his office stated over 24 hours

Kenya court sentences two to jail terms for aiding 2019 hotel attackk

A court in Kenya on Thursday sentenced two men to 30 years in prison for aiding al-Shabaab militants in a 2019 attack on a Nairobi luxury hotel complex. In January that year, gunmen shot their way into the Dusit hotel and office complex, killing 21 people in a siege that lasted 19 hours. All five militants died in the attack.

Hussein Mohamed Abdille Ali and Mohamed Abdi Ali, both Kenyans, were convicted last month on charges of facilitation and conspiracy to commit a terrorist act. The judge said they had played a critical role by helping two of the attackers escape from a refugee camp using fake identity cards. They had also provided financial assistance to the group.

Both men have denied the charges and now have 14 days to appeal their sentences. The Al-Qaeda-linked Al-Shabaab regularly carries out attacks in Kenya. It aims to pressurise the government into withdrawing its peacekeeping troops from Somalia where it is waging an insurgency in a bid to seize power.



Kenya security forces at the scene of the Dusit hotel attack, Nairobi, Kenya, 15 January 2019

South Africa declared a national disaster on Thursday following severe weather in several parts of the country last week.

The province declared Thursday a day of mourning for the victims and a memorial service was held at a school in Mthatha, one of the few left around the city Mthatha in the intact.

Eastern Cape was the hardest hit. More than 4,000 people have been left homeless as a result of the heavy rains which damaged infrastructure, homes, and interrupted services in one of the country's poorest provinces.

The death toll from flooding in the region has increased to 92, with that figure likely to rise as mop-up operations continue. Officials say that 31 children were among the dead.

At least two school children who were in a bus that was washed away are among the unverified number of missing persons according to local media reports.

The Eastern Cape government said work was underway to restore water and power supplies. Declaring a national state of disaster allows the government to release funding for relief and rehabilitation in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal, Western Cape, and Free State provinces. Authorities have appealed for



Rescue workers transport a person in a body bag after floods in Mthatha, South Africa, 12 June 2025

DRC and Rwanda to sign peace agreement on 27 June

Congo and Rwanda will sign a peace agreement in Washington on June 27, a joint press release from the nations and the U.S. State Department said Wednesday.

Both countries have agreed to the terms of the deal aimed at ending fighting in eastern Congo. Congo has accused Rwanda of backing M23 rebels in the east of the country. U.N. experts say the rebels are supported by about 4,000 troops from the neighboring nation. The decades-long conflict escalated in January, when the M23 rebels advanced and seized the strategic Congolese city of Goma, followed by the town of Bukavu in February. The draft agreement includes "provisions on respect for territorial integrity and a prohibition of hostilities; disengagement, disarmament, and conditional integration of non-state armed groups," the joint statement said. The agreement that will be signed also includes a commitment to respecting territorial integrity and the conditional integration of non-state armed groups. Both countries have in the past held peace talks that have largely stalled, including talks hosted by Qatar. Corneille Nangaa, leader of the Congo River Alliance, a coalition of rebel groups, told The Associated Press in April that international sanctions and Congo's proposed minerals deal with the United States in search of peace would not stop the fighting. M23 is one of about 100 armed groups that have been vying for a foothold in mineral-rich eastern Congo near the border with Rwanda. The conflict has created one of the world's worst humanitarian crises and has displaced more than 7 million people.



EDITORIAL

Weah should accept his mistake

CDCians and supporters of former President George Weah are blaming everyone else but Mr. Weah himself, for the current soaring bad blood between him and Veronica Mamie Doe, daughter of the late First Lady of Liberia, Nancy B. Doe that led to her returning two cows, 50 (25kgs) bags of rice and 1 million Liberian Dollars the former President presented to the family, as they mourn the death of Ms. Doe.

Mr. Weah made the gesture here on Sunday, 8 June when he visited home of the late First Lady, Madam Doe, who died last month following a brief illness. But the daughter of the deceased, Mamie Doe, ordered the items returned to Mr. Weah’s Congress for Democratic Change headquarters in Congo Town on Monday, a day after he personally presented them.

Veronica is unhappy with the former President, just like her late mother had expressed prior to her passing. It all started after the late former First Lady went before the ECOWAS Court and won a petition for benefits, totaling several millions from the Government of Liberia, as a former stateswoman.

She reportedly met Mr. Weah during his Presidency on the matter, but received no favorable response from the Weah Administration until it lost the 2023 election. The late Madam Doe went on radio later and lamented her experience with the man her late husband, slain President Samuel Kanyon Doe took as a son, for his soccer skills on the National Team, the Lone Star during Mr. Doe’s Presidency in the 80s.

Madam Doe was emotionally disappointed and felt neglected, lest expected from a President that her late husband, Samuel Doe, practically reared. She never received a penny from the Liberian government under Mr. Weah,, and lived rest of her life with this grieve up to her death. What went wrong? Why was it so difficult for Mr. Weah to intervene during his Presidency, especially at a time when the former First Lady had been made a widow from the Liberian Civil War, and needed all of the attention she should could get to keep surviving after she has lost her husband.

As a daughter, Veronica Mamie Doe may have spent time with her mother long before her death. She may have heard her late mother lamenting and recounting her ordeal with the state, especially under former President Weah. These are common experiences between a child and a mother made a widow, from a bloody civil war, leaving them with no source of support emotionally and otherwise. They ran to a President whom they had thought could have come to their aid, but he did nothing.

Unfortunately, CDCians and supporters of the Mr. Weah don’t seem to see roots cause of Veronica Doe’s outrage against the former President. They think the current administration is instigating her to behave the way she did to Mr. Weah.

We can but only join reported call by a prominent son of Grand Gedeh County, and member of the former Weah Administration, Kanio Bai Gbala, for Mr. Weah to apologize to the Doe Family, rather than shifting blames. We strongly believe that this would calm the current flare of emotions and tensions, even in the face of Mrs. Doe’s remains still awaiting burial.

The people of Grand Gedeh, where the Doe Family hails consistently voted for Mr. Weah in all elections since 2005, because they saw in him a deep connection with their late son, slain President Samuel Kanyon Doe, and have always stood by him politically. Mr. Weah should not feel too big to say sorrow to Veronica for whatever feeling or disappointment she harbors against him personally, for treatments meted against her late mother.

COMMENTARY

By Fernando Amorim
Teixeira

A BRICS+ Development Agenda for the Global South

RIO DE JANEIRO – On July 6-7, Rio de Janeiro will host the BRICS+ Summit of presidents and heads of state. With ten current member states and many others seeking to join, the BRICS+ brings together countries with diverse political, cultural, and civilizational outlooks, but which share a commitment to fostering South-South cooperation and pursuing a more equitable, multipolar global order. Such efforts are needed more than ever, because climate-change mitigation and adaptation cannot be separated from socioeconomic development. From a production standpoint, responding to such a complex, multifaceted challenge requires integration into higher rungs of the value chain, through strategies underpinned by strong sustainability principles. In practice, that means adopting policies to incentivize energy-efficient production methods and an expansion into higher value-added industrial outputs. But industrial decarbonization depends on knowledge-intensive sectors and technologies, and investments in these areas do not arise organically from market dynamics. They require political will, strategic planning, a risk appetite for long-duration projects, and – crucially – increased productivity through the more efficient use of natural resources. Such an agenda demands empowered states; it calls for a strategic mobilization of public institutions that can operate with relative independence from fiscal constraints. In this context, the BRICS+ should focus on identifying complementarities across strategic sectors and activities, so that member states can drive innovation and strengthen their international competitiveness without undermining each other. Initiatives such as the Partnership for the New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) represent important steps in this direction. But moving beyond dialogue is essential. To translate commitments into concrete action, policymakers must engage a broader coalition of stakeholders – including companies, civil society, trade unions, and academia – to co-develop policies, guiding principles, and common standards. Creating shared value among businesses and communities not only strengthens relationships but also enhances sustainability and those businesses' reputations. This, in turn, fosters greater public acceptance and reduces the potential for resistance or conflict.

Specifically, new investments could require labor safeguards such as fair working conditions, the prohibition of child and forced labor, and protection of freedom of association and collective-bargaining rights, all in accordance with international agreements and national legislation. Additionally, safeguards promoting gender equality and the elimination of racial discrimination would support a more inclusive and comprehensive understanding of sustainability, informed by the perspectives of the Global South. Finance is another critical pillar. Here, the discussion should be led by members' state-

owned financial institutions, since these are best positioned to direct capital to strategic sectors and coordinate their efforts with private investors. BRICS+ countries already have dozens of public development banks and sovereign wealth funds with patient-investment (long-term) mandates, technical expertise, and demonstrable experience in supporting structural change and sustainable development initiatives. These institutions offer fertile ground for further cooperation, particularly through innovative financial instruments that could strengthen the role of the New Development Bank. Importantly, public development banks and sovereign wealth funds must go beyond merely correcting market failures. They should serve as early-stage investors to catalyze the necessary structural transformation, including by attaching social and environmental conditionalities to their investment frameworks to influence private decisions across the value chain. For example, a company could be required to share its technology and knowledge to receive public financing. That is how the state can foster new markets and ensure that public support contributes to building more inclusive and sustainable economic models. With clear short-, medium-, and long-term targets – like the BRICS+'s goal of tripling renewable energy capacity by 2030 – public programs to direct resources toward specific sectors would naturally enhance coordination. Each member state will need to adopt policies to target sectors that are ripe for productivity and efficiency enhancements. Input-output dynamics can be shaped through a number of channels, including effective demand, derisking mechanisms, reduced unit production costs, and measures to encourage private investment, including through public procurement. The value chains for critical minerals and energy bio-inputs (such as sustainable aviation fuel) are two such sectors. Countries like Brazil have already made advances in these domains and are in a position to share some technologies and expertise in exchange for strategic financing. An effective BRICS+ development agenda will require a coordinated mobilization of resources and institutional efforts, with the state playing a central role in steering the overall strategy. More than just an investor or financier, the public sector is uniquely positioned to anchor private expectations in an increasingly uncertain world. Brazil's BRICS+ presidency, which comes at a time of rising protectionism and global economic fragmentation, offers a historic opportunity to advance a model of cooperation attuned to the Global South's economic realities and development imperatives.

Fernando Amorim Teixeira is Coordinator of the Industrial Working Group of the Brazilian Network for the Integration of Peoples (Rebrip), Director of Sustainability and Special Projects at the Forum of Brazilian Sovereign Wealth Funds (FFSB), and Coordinator of Public Policy at the Brazilian Centre for Sustainable Finance (CeFiS).



Lord, let them leave my learned friend small na

Dear Father:

They say everybody just on my man back ooh. Can you imagine since ley man went and put him mouth on ley people at ley Palava Hut, him life has not been easy. They say da whatin him do?

Father, ley man say why ley elder them at ley Palava Hut mon say, ley thin ley chief them from ley Traditional Council doing ay wrong. Him say da bad example there so. Him say, how they will talk da kina thin, when ley Rebel them pass ley ingredients for ley Village cake, da ley elder them are eating their own-no noise.

Him say, if they say it leh da, den they mon bring their owner cake back, since ley Rebel them who fixed it na have ley right to fix it.

Hmm, my son, ley thing your friend talky small sense inside oo.

Yes, oo Father, my learned friend say da bad example ley people from ley Palava Hut na set so. Him say why they mon say all ley thing them ley rebel chief them doing at tey Traditional Council bad, den they mon bring their share of ley cake back. Da ley fire ley man put in ley hole so oo. Um, my son, you sure nathin behind this whole thin here.

Aah, Father my name ooh. Bor I hear say small money bisnay inside oo. You say whatin!

Aah, Father, da ley reason il na wan talk for ooh. You know dis whole wahala here da so, so money bisnay inside. Ehn you remember da chief from ley borough -“You eat, I eat” and ley other one I will see what to do.” Hmm, ley people them.

Yes, oo Father, ehn da them there they just chopping our village money leh da. All ley noise on da Hill, particularly to da Traditional Council there da so, so money bisnay.

Father, ley people money bisnay too strong leh goat peppe. And all da thing den they doing so ley suffering da inside dis village here ay na easy. Da small thin!

Yes, ooh Father, ay na easy in dis village here ooh, da only God manning us here oo. Imagine, people work no money to take pay.

Hmm, den you can just imaingey ley people den who na doing nathin, just sitting down home. So, da whatin ley Oldman doing na?

Father, da small fuel ley Papay putting inside ley fire. Ay na small fuel oo. All ley thing den ley Oldman used to be talking against, da ley thin dem him doin. In fact, even worse things. Bor da who dem advising him so?

Father, who know to him? Him gat so, so him children around him, no good advice. They just want for their pockets and their girlfriend dem.

Bor we inside, ehn we say, we na wan short man, we side good, good. We just pray for God to continue manning us oo-ay na easy.

OP-ED

By Elisabeth Reynolds, Eran Ben-Joseph, and Vir Chachra

Congress Can Secure America's Clean-Energy Industrial Future

BOSTON – The US Senate is currently revising President Donald Trump's self-proclaimed “big, beautiful bill” that the House of Representatives passed last month. Among the bill's many provisions are major cuts to the clean-energy tax credits included in former President [Joe Biden's](#) 2022 Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The paradox here is that maintaining these credits would actually help the Trump administration achieve two of its main goals: reindustrializing the United States and strengthening the country's energy position.

Since the IRA's enactment, the private sector has invested over [\\$100 billion](#) in manufacturing plants producing clean technologies – from batteries and electric vehicles (EVs) to solar panels and critical-minerals processing – that are fundamental to America's energy and industrial future. Of the 380 planned facilities, [nearly half were operational](#) by the end of March. Ninety additional projects, worth over \$50 billion, are in the [pipeline](#).

These projects have helped the US – which has experienced significant deindustrialization over recent decades – increase its manufacturing capacity through “learning by building.” As China pushes the frontier of advanced manufacturing and green technologies, the US cannot afford to lose this momentum if it wants to secure long-term competitiveness.

The Trump administration and Republicans in Congress would also do well to remember that most of this manufacturing boom has taken place in Republican-led states: Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and Texas. The average investment size is more than [\\$425 million per site](#) with some notable outliers, such as Toyota's [nearly \\$14 billion](#) battery facility in North Carolina. In Texas, which leads the country in both [crude-oil](#) and [wind-energy](#) production, [more than \\$8 billion](#) has been poured into EV, solar, battery and critical-minerals projects, illustrating how such investments can help meet surging energy demand and strengthen the industrial base.

The long-term benefits are even more compelling. These industrial investments create jobs, build domestic supply chains, reduce reliance on China, and expand and advance US manufacturing capabilities in the clean-energy sector and more broadly. Worryingly, since the start of the year, [six announced projects](#), representing around \$7 billion in investment, have been canceled, as companies wait to see how policy debates about tax credits and tariffs play out.

If the Trump administration is serious about restoring America's manufacturing strength and establishing a new era of US energy dominance, private investment is essential. And emphasizing carrots over sticks has proven effective in mobilizing it: for every dollar in clean-energy tax credits, [businesses have invested \\$4-5](#).

Compared to broad-based US tariffs, this approach to industrial development is more targeted, efficient, and market-friendly. Moreover, it helps investors address some of the main obstacles to scaling up manufacturing in America: longer time horizons and greater capital intensity, often in riskier technologies. The decades-long effort to increase US nuclear-energy capacity underscores these challenges, as does the more recent effort to leverage America's drilling expertise to accelerate the deployment of geothermal technologies.

Even legacy industries like critical-minerals production benefit from the clean-energy tax credits, receiving [nearly \\$4.5 billion in investment](#) since their enactment. Given China's recent decision, following the imposition of US trade tariffs, to restrict exports of rare-earth elements that are used in automotive, semiconductor, and aerospace manufacturing, increasing America's domestic supply of critical minerals has taken on new importance. These investment incentives, coupled with a robust innovation ecosystem for [critical-minerals processing](#) (including harvesting materials from [mining waste](#)), chart a path forward for reducing US dependence on China in an area where demand is growing exponentially.

The industrial transformation underway in the US – with a new focus on developing resilient supply chains – is the most significant domestic manufacturing resurgence in a generation. It is reviving communities with new manufacturing jobs, restoring industrial strength, and positioning the US to compete globally in industries that underpin the twenty-first-century economy.

In such a polarized US political environment, it is rare to find a policy that advances both national-security and economic-security goals, while also gaining some degree of bipartisan support. The clean-energy tax incentives do just that. Rather than cut or reduce them, the Senate should ensure that they are well targeted, and focus on accelerating permitting and building.

The US is on the cusp of a clean-energy manufacturing revolution. But it will happen only if Congress does the right thing.

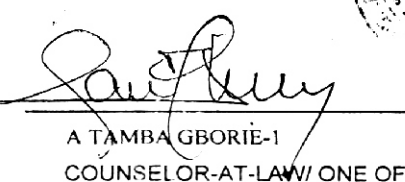
Elisabeth Reynolds, former Special Assistant to the President for Manufacturing and Economic Development at the National Economic Council (2021-22), is Professor of Practice at MIT. Eran Ben-Joseph is Professor of Landscape Architecture and Planning at MIT. Vir Chachra is a graduate student at MIT.

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Healing the wounds of Liberia's Civil War

-Memorial monuments are unveiled
These events will be overseen by designated INCHR Commissioners, UNDP staff, media personnel, and a range of county- and district-level officials, traditional leaders, and civil society representatives.

Monrovia, Liberia; June 20, 2025 - According to the Center for Justice and Accountability, an estimated 250,000 people lost their lives during Liberia's civil war from 1989 to 2003.



In a bid to promote closure, healing, peacebuilding, and reconciliation, the Independent National Commission on Human Rights (INCHR), with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), has constructed nine memorials at massacre and mass grave sites across the country. Five of these memorials are in Grand Bassa, Rivercess, Lofa, Gbarpolu, and Bong counties. They are intended to humanize and honor those who perished

Recommendation 17.0 of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC), which calls for reparations and memorialization. To foster community ownership and encourage use of the sites in ways that support the goals of the TRC's Memorialization Program, the memorials will be officially handed over to their respective communities this June. The presence of these memorials is expected to offer solace and healing to families of civil war victims. Their formal dedication provides a meaningful opportunity for communities to

remember lost loved ones and seek closure. These spaces serve not only as sites of remembrance but also as symbols of the nation's collective rejection of violence as a means of resolving conflict. Additionally, the memorials may promote local tourism, attracting visitors and bringing economic and cultural benefits to the surrounding areas. The premier dedication ceremony, marking the official handover of the memorials to local communities, will take place on the 17th of June 2025 in Behn Town, Grand Bassa County. This historic occasion was attended by the INCHR Chairperson and Commissioners, dignitaries from the European Union and the Swedish Embassy, as well as community and religious leaders, representatives of civil society organizations, women and youth leaders, local officials, and members of the Memorial Committee. Subsequent ceremonies will be held in Bloe Town (Rivercess County), Bopolu City (Gbarpolu County), Kpotomai Town (Lofa County), and Gbonyea (Bong County).
Editing by Jonathan Browne

Shara community embarks on road rehabilitation

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh
Paynesville, Liberia; June 20, 2025 - Shara Community in Paynesville has commenced a road construction project, after years of deplorable road condition faced by residents. The community located in electoral District #4, Montserrado County, has suffered from deteriorated road, as residents faced challenges, especially during rainy season, hindering access to healthcare services, schooling, among others. Speaking to The NEW DAWN, Chairlady Deiode Davies Garnett, stressed the significance of road infrastructure, describing it as very vital to community development. She acknowledged the deplorable condition of the road that has led to limited access to essential services, such as health and markets, constraining residents to rely on commercial motorbikes for daily transport. "Some dwellers and visitors had to use bypass before accessing our community, which is so unfortunate. Children get late for school and other difficulties".

Madam Garnett lamented. She said the ongoing road project will cost over US\$100,000, as its stretches from the main community to its entrance with cement pavement, thereby enhancing road connectivity in the area. Madam Garnett highlighted support from community dwellers, including District Representative, Michael Thomas, and other prominent personalities, who had contributed initial 100 bags of cement. She revealed that the project is



IMF approves Liberia's economic outlooks

-Following Staff Team visitation
By Lincoln G. Peters
The International Monetary Fund (IMF), through its Staff team has expressed appreciation and pleasant opinion regarding Liberia's economic outlook, following conclusion of a consultative visit to Monrovia.

The IMF staff team, headed by Mr. Daehaeng Kim, Mission Chief for Liberia, visited Monrovia from June 4 – 17, 2025. The objective of the visitation is to conduct the 2025 Article IV Consultation and the Second Review under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) arrangement. The group in its statement, disclosed that the Policy dialogue under the Article IV Consultation focuses on structural reforms to tackle significant development needs, mitigate climate risks, and promote private sector growth and economic diversification to achieve sustained and inclusive growth. During its visit here, the team met with leadership of the 55th Legislature, Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Augustine K. Ngafuan, Executive Governor of the Central Bank of Liberia, Mr. Henry F. Saamoi, senior government officials, development partners, representatives of the private sector and civil society. Following the conclusion of the Staff visit to Liberia, the team issued a press statement but clarified that the end-of-Mission press releases

macroeconomic policies for the second review of the ECF arrangement. Discussions on a few outstanding issues will continue virtually, with the goal of finalizing the staff level agreement (SLA) in the coming weeks. IMF staff express its gratitude to the authorities and all other counterparts for their warm hospitality and constructive engagement", the statement noted. The team noted that during conversations here, it established that the Liberian authorities have continued to make progress in maintaining macroeconomic stability, and their commitment to reform remains strong. "Slow mining activity and fiscal adjustment were key factors that moderated economic activity in 2024. A significant reduction in unproductive expenditures combined with recovery of tax revenues contributed to an impressive fiscal outturn, with the primary fiscal balance improving from a deficit of 4.2 percent of GDP in 2023 to a surplus of 1.3 percent of GDP in 2024. Inflation reached 13.1 percent in February 2025,



include statements of IMF staff teams that convey preliminary findings after a visit to a country. Henceforth, the views expressed in the statement are those of the IMF staff, and do not necessarily represent the views of the IMF's Executive Board, therefore, the mission will not result in a Board discussion. The IMF Staff team in its press release dated June 17, 2025, cataloged the visit and discussion held with relevant stakeholders and institutions. Meanwhile, the team lead by Mr. Kim in a press statement, said that the IMF staff held engaging and constructive discussions with Liberian authorities on recent macroeconomic developments, economic outlook, and medium-term policy priorities under the Article IV Consultation, as well as the performance and policies supported by the Extended Credit Facility arrangement. "IMF staff and the Liberian authorities have reached understandings on most key

driven primarily by domestic food prices, but has come down to 11.7 percent in May. The current account has improved significantly. Overall, program performance has been broadly satisfactory", the statement pointed out. The group further indicated that the medium-term outlook of Liberia has been marked down due to the sudden stop of aid flows and less favorable global environment. Also, the growth outlook of Liberia is supported by a rebound in mining activity, a recovery in agriculture and sustained growth in manufacturing and services. "Inflation is projected to return to single digits, supported by prudent fiscal and monetary policies and projected lower global food and crude oil prices. The current account is expected to narrow further, while the debt-to-GDP remains on a sustainable path", the statement concluded.
Editing by Jonathan Browne

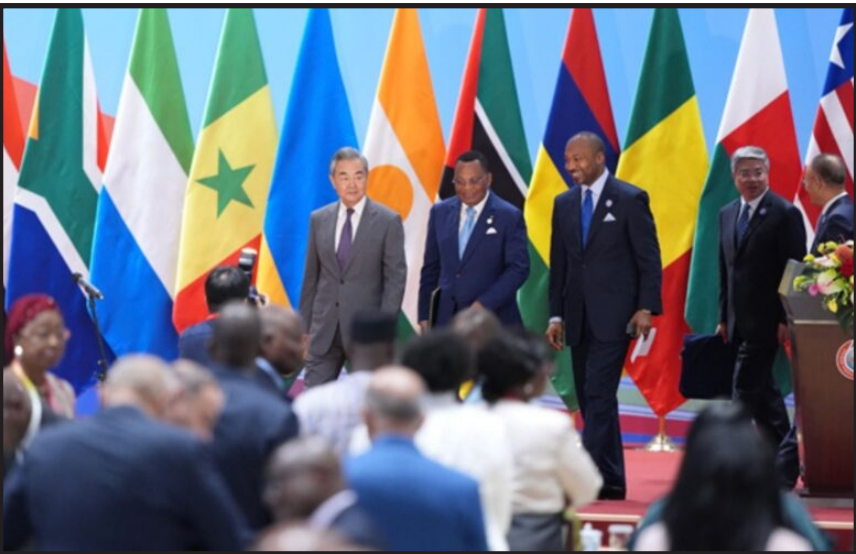
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China-Africa trade prosperity grows to US\$295.6 Billion

By Lincoln G. Peters

Beijing, China, June 20, 2025 - The People's Republic of China, Director-General for African Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has disclosed that China-Africa trade prosperity has



increased to US\$295.6 billion, while announcing President Xi Jinping's commitment to developing African infrastructure, technology capabilities and Artificial Intelligence to further boost trade and enhance economic cooperation.

Addressing an elaborate press conference on Wednesday, June 18, 2025, in Beijing on the outcome of the implementation of the follow-up action of the Beijing summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Du Xiaohui

China-Africa Director General outlined dozens of achievements and impacts of China in Africa.

"Trade prosperity: China-Africa trade volume in 2024 reached US\$295.6 billion, setting a new record high. The bilateral trade between January and March in

2025 registered US\$72.6 billion, increasing by 2.7% year on year. President Xi Jinping has commits the China-Africa cooperation to reaching a new height in 2026 where infrastructure development, technology and AI will be developed to boost trade and e-commerce. China-Africa cooperation is based on friendship, solidarity, sincerity and mutual cooperation" He stated.

Accordingly, the experienced Chinese diplomat further

indicated that the zero-tariff treatment for hundred percent tariff lines given to all LDCs having diplomatic relations with China had come to effect since December 1, 2024.

He pointed out that this gesture has increased export from relevant countries into China, adding that China has signed a framework agreement on economic partnership for shared development with more than twenty African countries, something he believes marks a distinct contrast with the United States action of imposing tariff wars on all African countries.

"China has signed twenty-two protocols on agriculture export to China with eighteen African nations, and more than 2,400 food enterprises from 53 African countries and regions have registered in China, which expand access for African products to China. Deepening cross-border e-commerce cooperation between China and Africa, a special session of online lecture on e-commerce for Africa was held, with six hundred representatives from ten African countries attending the event. Africa digital economy trade day was held during the 2024 Global Digital Trade Expo", Director xiaohui noted.

Govt sets five key focus areas for 2025 PMCS Cycle

By Kruah Thompson

The Government of Liberia has unveiled five strategic focus areas for the 2025 cycle of the Performance Management and Compliance System (PMCS), as part of its efforts to drive public sector accountability and improve service delivery in line with President Joseph Boakai's ARREST agenda.

The PMCS, a transformative framework introduced in October 2024 at the conference hall of the foreign of ministry aimed to assess and enhance institutional performance, to ensure that ministries and agencies deliver measurable results to the Liberian people while aligning their operations with national development priorities.

The first cycle of the PMCS, which assessed more than 90 public institutions across various performance indicators concluded in March 2025.

in April, An official appraisal was conducted, culminating in the recent certification of ministries and agencies that met or exceeded the benchmarks of the PCM

He emphasized that the 2025 cycle will adopt a more holistic and targeted approach, focusing on five core performance areas, including the Development of a Five Year Strategic Plans that aligned with the (AAID); the mplementation of Service Delivery Charters to guide institutional responsibilities; Resource Mobilization strategies to enhance operational efficiency; Strengthening Internal Systems and Capacity to sustain reforms, and Performance Reporting and Compliance to track progress and ensure accountability.

He says, at the beginning of this cycle all government Ministry and Agency will be mandated to Development a Five-Year Strategic Plans that aligned with the(AAID).

However, while acknowledging that some institutions underperformed during the pilot phase, he clarified that the government is focused on capacity building rather than punitive measures.

"This is not about sanctions; it's about solutions. Institutions that



MCC Suspends several City Police Officers Over Public Complaints

By: Kruah Thompson

Monrovia City Mayor, John Charuk S. Siafa, has suspended several officers of the Monrovia City Police following numerous complaints from the public about alleged misconduct.

The decision comes in response to mounting criticisms against some members of the City Police Taskforce, who have been accused by the public of engaging in dubious activities, and other unchecked behaviours. Making the disclosure recently at a press briefing in Monrovia, Mayor Siafa without outlining the types of misbehaviours revealed that after investigating several of the complaints, several officers were found culpable and have since been suspended.

He further disclosed that the suspended officers are expected to face prosecution in the coming days.

"Those officers who were found guilty of misconduct have been suspended, and we are preparing to turn their cases over to the court for prosecution."

Mayor Siafa further emphasized that while many officers continue to serve with

dedication, the city receiving complaints and is administration will not tolerate any form of corruption within its ranks. He assured the public that disciplinary measures will be taken swiftly whenever credible complaints are brought forward.

"While we recognize the hard work of many officers in maintaining order, we will not tolerate any misconduct. We are committed to acting when complaints arise," Mayor Siafa emphasized.

He assured the public that his administration remains open to



dedication, the city receiving complaints and is administration will not tolerate any form of corruption within its ranks. He assured the public that disciplinary measures will be taken swiftly whenever credible complaints are brought forward.

We applaud the good work done by many in the City Police, but we will not hesitate to act against those who tarnish the institution's image," he added. "The public deserves transparency, and we remain open to addressing any concerns raised by citizens." -

Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

All the 90 Institutions were evaluated based on a 100-point scale, with performance indicators covering charter development (20%), public dissemination (20%), internal system strengthening (50%), and performance reporting (10%). Speaking Thursday at the Ministry of Information's regular press briefing, Hon. Nathaniel Kwabo, Director General of the President's Boikai Cabinet, announced that 93% of the assessed institutions successfully developed and published its public service charters, revealing their collective commitment to improved public service delivery acoros the country.

He notes while the president was aavle to recognized 13 institutions for their outstanding performance during the pilot phase, the 2024 evaluation was limited in scope.

fell short will be supported through the Presidential Performance Improvement Plan, we want every entity to succeed," he added.

Kwabo assured, that they remains committed to providing technical support and resources to all ministries and agencies throughout the 2025 performance year.

"The President has made it clear: this is the end of business as usual. Our success will be measured not by what we promise, but by what we deliver."

Meanwhile, He hinted that in future cycles, the government ministries that consistently fail to meet performance benchmarks may face potential sanctions though the current focus remains on improvement and support.

Français

Révélation fracassante dans l'affaire de l'incendie du Capitole : John Nyanti dénonce tentative de corruption et de coercition par l'État

Dans un rebondissement spectaculaire, John Nyanti, l'un des principaux suspects dans l'affaire de l'incendie criminel du 18 décembre 2024 ayant

devant la Cour criminelle « A » de Monrovia, Nyanti a affirmé devant la presse que le gouvernement lui aurait proposé la somme de 200 000 dollars américains pour porter de fausses accusations contre l'ex-président de la Chambre.

dont le nom n'a pas été révélé, ainsi que d'autres individus. Il affirme avoir été détenu sous surveillance au Lifestyle and Luxury Hotel, sur la Robertsfield Highway à Paynesville, précisant que des reçus à son nom peuvent en témoigner.

D'après l'enquête de la Police nationale du Liberia, Nyanti aurait activement participé à l'incendie du Capitole avant de fuir le pays par Lugatuo, une ville frontalière entre le Liberia et la Côte d'Ivoire. Il aurait bénéficié de l'aide du député Dixon Seboe, lui aussi mis en cause dans cette affaire.

Outre Koffa et Seboe, les députés Abu Kamara et Jacob Debee II font également face à des accusations d'incendie criminel, mise en danger imprudente, tentative de meurtre, complicité et conspiration. Ces poursuites sont soutenues par la députée Priscilla Cooper, pressentie comme témoin clé à charge.

Le 17 juin, la famille Nyanti a dénoncé publiquement l'arrestation jugée illégale de

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



gravement endommagé les Chambres conjointes du Capitole libérien, accuse l'État de tentative de corruption et de coercition afin de le pousser à témoigner contre l'ancien président de la Chambre des représentants, J. Fonati Koffa, ainsi que d'autres hauts responsables.

Présenté le mercredi 18 juin

« Vous avez des preuves, alors pourquoi me donner 200 000 dollars pour mentir sur Koffa ? » a-t-il déclaré, visiblement agité.

Nyanti a cité plusieurs personnalités comme étant impliquées dans cette tentative, notamment l'ancien directeur de la police Marc Amblard, des officiers de haut rang identifiés par les codes « 106 » et « 103 », un ambassadeur

Le Ministère de la Santé récompense les lauréats du concours de slogans sur la santé maternelle

– 50 000 LRD

Sous l'égide de la ministre de la Santé, Dr Louise M. Kpoto, le Ministère de la Santé a officiellement clôturé le **Concours national de slogans sur la santé maternelle**, une initiative visant à sensibiliser l'opinion publique et promouvoir la santé des mères à travers le pays.

À l'occasion de cérémonies organisées sur les différents campus des lauréats, **Me Malayah Tamba Chieyoe**, représentant la ministre, a remis des prix en espèces aux gagnants, saluant leur créativité exceptionnelle dans la formulation de messages percutants en faveur de la santé maternelle. Selon un communiqué officiel, les lauréats du concours sont :

- **1er prix : Precious David**, élève du *Drims School System* – 100 000 LRD
- **2e prix : McAlbert Ireland**, élève de *Don Bosco School* – 70 000 LRD
- **3e prix : Nehemiah Daye**, également du *Drims School System*

Me Chieyoe a félicité les lauréats pour leur esprit d'innovation et leur contribution significative, soulignant le rôle essentiel de l'engagement des élèves dans l'amélioration des résultats en matière de santé maternelle.

« Vos slogans serviront d'outils puissants dans notre campagne nationale. Ils porteront haut et fort ce message : nous ne voulons plus que des femmes enceintes ou des bébés meurent », a-t-il déclaré.

Organisé en partenariat avec des établissements publics et privés, le concours visait à mobiliser la jeunesse libérienne autour d'une cause cruciale, en l'invitant à

s'exprimer de manière créative sur la santé maternelle.

Les slogans primés seront intégrés dans les futures campagnes nationales de sensibilisation, renforçant ainsi leur portée et leur impact.

Le Ministère de la Santé a exprimé sa reconnaissance à tous les participants, aux établissements scolaires et aux partenaires ayant soutenu l'initiative, et a réaffirmé son engagement ferme en faveur de la santé des mères et des enfants à travers tout le Liberia.



Éditorial

Par Jayati Ghosh

La Conférence sur le financement du développement a-t-elle des chances de succès ?

NEW DELHI – Le pessimisme est aujourd'hui compréhensible en ce qui concerne le multilatéralisme. Les récents rassemblements internationaux – Sommet de 2023 sur les Objectifs de développement durable, Sommet de l'avenir 2024, ainsi que les multiples Conférences des Nations Unies sur les changements climatiques – n'ont en effet donné lieu qu'à des promesses non tenues. Le président américain Donald Trump abandonnant actuellement les engagements internationaux des États-Unis, et rejetant les initiatives multilatérales tout en semant le désordre et la confusion dans le commerce mondial, la Conférence sur le financement du développement (FfD4) qui se tiendra à la fin du mois pourra-t-elle produire de meilleurs résultats ?

Certes, il faut s'attendre à ce que les États-Unis jouent les trouble-fête à Séville, ou à ce qu'ils se montrent indifférents aux accords conclus. Cela ne signifiera pas pour autant l'échec de cette conférence. En effet, le retrait des États-Unis de l'accord de Paris 2015 sur le climat durant le premier mandat de Trump – quelques mois seulement après l'entrée en vigueur du texte – n'a pas conduit à sa disparition. Bien que l'action climatique demeure limitée, presque tous les protagonistes admettent que le changement climatique se produirait encore plus rapidement si cet accord n'avait pas été conclu.

Les États-Unis se sont par ailleurs [retirés](#) en avril des négociations sur la décarbonation du transport maritime menées au sein de l'Organisation maritime internationale (OMI) des Nations Unies, menaçant de prendre des « mesures réciproques » si de nouvelles taxes étaient imposées aux navires américains pour leur consommation de carburant. Or, l'OMI est malgré tout [parvenue](#) à convaincre 108 États – qui représentent 97 % de la flotte marchande mondiale en termes de tonnage – d'approuver une nouvelle norme obligatoire concernant le carburant des navires, ainsi qu'un mécanisme mondial de tarification des émissions, dont les recettes sont destinées à soutenir notamment le développement d'infrastructures dans les économies en voie de développement.

Il est clairement possible pour le monde de progresser sans les États-Unis face à des défis communs. Le manque d'implication des États-Unis dans la FfD4 pourrait même s'avérer avantageux, compte tenu de leur tendance habituelle consistant à obtenir des compromis favorables à leurs propres multinationales, pour ensuite refuser de signer ou d'appliquer quelque accord que ce soit – comme l'illustrent les négociations relatives à l'accord fiscal mondial de l'OCDE, finalisé en 2021.

Pour que la FfD4 soit une réussite, il faudra néanmoins que d'autres États viennent combler le manque de leadership mondial, et qu'ils démontrent un engagement crédible en faveur de la coopération multilatérale, qui est essentielle à notre survie. Fort heureusement, la [première version](#) du document final de la FfD4 reconnaît cet impératif, et formule de nombreuses propositions politiques utiles et pratiques, dont plusieurs sont issues du [rapport final](#) de la Commission internationale d'experts sur le financement du développement (dont j'étais membre).

L'un des points clés du document consiste à permettre une plus grande mobilisation des ressources nationales. Un système fiscal international obsolète et des contrôles insuffisants des flux financiers illicites pèsent lourdement sur les budgets des pays à revenu faible et intermédiaire. Des réformes dans ces domaines contribueraient grandement à réduire les inégalités de revenus et d'actifs, ainsi qu'à faire croître des recettes fiscales indispensables pour financer les investissements dans la santé, l'éducation, l'atténuation et l'adaptation au changement climatique.

Il est plus largement nécessaire que les participants au sommet de Séville s'efforcent de remédier à l'absence de filet de sécurité financière mondiale. Une première étape pourrait consister à mettre en place des allocations régulières de droits de tirage spéciaux, l'actif de réserve du Fonds monétaire international. Pour renforcer l'impact de cette démarche, les DTS pourraient être distribués en fonction des besoins – en rupture avec l'approche actuelle, qui alloue les DTS proportionnellement aux quotas du FMI, ce qui signifie que les parts les plus importantes reviennent aux États qui en ont le moins besoin. Le FMI pourrait également introduire des swaps de DTS afin de répondre aux besoins de liquidités immédiats des économies qui ne bénéficient pas des swaps de liquidités de la Réserve fédérale américaine.

Français

Starts from page 8

Capitole incendié : Fonati Koffa dénonce la faiblesse

John et son rapatriement forcé depuis le Ghana.

Sa sœur, Madame Priscilla Nyanti, désignée porte-parole familiale, a révélé que John avait fui au Ghana par crainte pour sa vie. Elle affirme que son retour, survenu le 6 juin 2025, résulte d'une opération secrète menée par des agents libériens, et non d'une décision volontaire.

« John n'est pas rentré de son plein gré ; il a été contraint », a-t-elle martelé. « Il a été immédiatement conduit à l'hôtel Lifestyle à Thinkers Village, placé sous surveillance constante par des agents de la NSA et de la police nationale. »

Selon elle, son frère avait accepté de revenir sur la base d'un accord verbal incluant un statut de témoin de l'État, un paiement de 50 000 dollars (dont seulement 2 000 auraient été versés), ainsi qu'une relocalisation dans un pays européen de son choix.

Madame Nyanti a également mis en lumière la récente nomination d'un proche, Koffa Nyanti, en tant qu'ambassadeur plénipotentiaire et envoyé spécial pour le commerce et l'investissement, y voyant une contrepartie politique dans le cadre de négociations douteuses.

« C'est un abus flagrant de pouvoir. Notre frère a été utilisé, puis abandonné », a-t-elle accusé.

Le 16 juin, soit dix jours après son retour, John a été remis à la police et soumis à un questionnaire de trois pages dans le cadre de sa préparation à témoigner. Contre toute attente, il aurait catégoriquement refusé de coopérer.

« Ce n'est pas un criminel. Il ne mentira pas pour faire tomber d'autres personnes, surtout après que les promesses faites ont été rompues », a insisté sa sœur.

John Nyanti affirme désormais vouloir prouver son innocence devant la justice, ce qui pourrait bouleverser profondément la stratégie de poursuite du gouvernement, qui comptait visiblement sur son témoignage.

Cette affaire suscite une vive controverse et soulève des inquiétudes croissantes quant à l'instrumentalisation possible des services de sécurité à des fins politiques. Des juristes et défenseurs des droits humains appellent à l'ouverture d'une enquête indépendante, transparente et impartiale sur les circonstances de l'arrestation de Nyanti et les modalités de son retour au Liberia.

Alors que le procès de l'incendie du Capitole doit s'ouvrir dans les prochaines semaines, le refus de Nyanti de témoigner, couplé à ses allégations explosives, risque de fragiliser considérablement les accusations portées contre plusieurs députés. Des analystes politiques préviennent que cette affaire pourrait relancer le débat sur l'indépendance de la justice, la responsabilité gouvernementale et la conduite des agences de sécurité nationales.

La famille Nyanti affirme de son côté qu'elle poursuivra toutes les voies légales afin de défendre les droits de John et d'exiger vérité et justice.

Le président de l'INCHR réaffirme l'engagement pour l'établissement d'un Tribunal des crimes de guerre au Liberia

Le président de la Commission nationale indépendante des droits de l'homme (INCHR), Me T. Dempster Browne, a réaffirmé l'engagement ferme du gouvernement libérien et de ses partenaires à mettre en place un Tribunal pour les crimes économiques et de guerre, en vue de poursuivre les auteurs de crimes atroces et de violations graves des droits de l'homme perpétrés durant la guerre civile libérienne. S'exprimant lors d'une cérémonie de commémoration à Behn Town, dans le comté de Grand Bassa, Me Browne a souligné la nécessité d'en finir avec la « culture de l'impunité » qui, depuis trop longtemps, protège les responsables de ces crimes. « Trop, c'est trop. L'époque de l'impunité est révolue. Les auteurs de ces atrocités seront traduits en justice », a-t-il déclaré avec fermeté. Il a salué la signature par le président Joseph Boakai d'un décret exécutif autorisant la création de la Cour pour les crimes économiques et de guerre, en reconnaissant que les violations des droits humains ont été l'une des causes majeures des quatorze années de conflit ayant déchiré le pays entre 1989 et 2003.

Me Browne a rappelé que l'INCHR a pour mandat de surveiller, promouvoir et protéger les droits humains au Liberia, et de conseiller le gouvernement en matière de violations. Toutefois, il s'est dit préoccupé par le fait que certaines personnes impliquées dans des exactions durant le conflit occupent aujourd'hui des fonctions stratégiques au Sénat et à la Chambre des représentants, d'où elles tentent de faire obstacle à l'établissement du tribunal.



Bassa, Rivercess, Lofa, Gbarpolu et Bong.

M. Kuukpen a souligné que ces sites humanisent les victimes et constituent des lieux de mémoire collective, tout en symbolisant le rejet de la violence par la nation. Il a encouragé l'INCHR à collaborer avec les autorités locales et les communautés pour gérer ces lieux, former des guides locaux comme conteurs d'histoire, et a réitéré l'engagement du PNUD à soutenir cette initiative.

La cérémonie a réuni le président et les commissaires de l'INCHR, des représentants de l'Union européenne, de l'ambassade de Suède, des leaders communautaires et religieux, des organisations de la société civile, des responsables locaux, des jeunes, des femmes, ainsi que les membres du Comité mémoriel.

Des cérémonies similaires sont prévues à Bloe Town (comté de Rivercess), Bopolu City (comté de Gbarpolu), Kpotomai Town (comté de Lofa), et Gbonyea (comté de Bong) dans les jours à venir.

Shree Mahant Trading inaugure un centre de pièces détachées pour motos à Paynesville

L'une des marques de motos les plus réputées au Liberia, **Shree Mahant Trading (SMT)**, a officiellement inauguré un **centre moderne de vente de pièces détachées** pour motos à **Paynesville**, marquant une étape importante dans le secteur automobile du pays.

Situé dans l'enceinte de **Cocola Factory**, ce nouveau centre commercialise des pièces de rechange pour motos **TVS** et propose également divers **services techniques** destinés aux motards. Selon **M. Dhaval Korat**, directeur général de SMT, ce nouveau centre de pointe vise à **révolutionner le marché des pièces de motos TVS** à l'échelle mondiale tout en **créant des centaines d'emplois** pour les Libériens.

« Aujourd'hui marque un tournant pour le paysage automobile au Liberia. Ce projet contribuera de manière significative à la création d'emplois pour les Libériens », a-t-il déclaré lors de la cérémonie de lancement.

M. Korat a expliqué que la création de SMT au Liberia répond à un besoin pressant : l'indisponibilité des pièces détachées TVS sur le marché local. Il a exprimé son inquiétude quant aux nombreux motards contraints de parcourir de longues distances jusqu'en Sierra Leone pour se procurer des pièces, une situation qu'il a qualifiée d'inadmissible et pénalisante.

Selon lui, l'arrivée de SMT sur le marché libérien constitue une avancée majeure pour les conducteurs de motos TVS, en leur garantissant **un accès plus facile, rapide et local** aux pièces et aux services.

Dans une perspective ambitieuse, M. Korat a révélé que **SMT envisage d'implanter une unité locale d'assemblage de motos d'ici**



trois ans, renforçant ainsi la contribution de l'entreprise à la croissance économique du pays et à l'autosuffisance du secteur automobile libérien.

Actuellement présente dans les **comtés de Montserrado et Nimba**, SMT prévoit d'élargir ses services à d'autres régions afin de répondre à une demande croissante.

Le lancement de ce centre ne représente donc pas seulement l'ouverture d'une boutique, mais **l'amorce d'une nouvelle ère pour la communauté automobile libérienne**.

Par ailleurs, plusieurs conducteurs de motos commerciales ont salué cette initiative, soulignant l'impact positif sur leurs activités.

« Nous sommes heureux de l'ouverture de ce centre. Cela va nous permettre d'acheter nos pièces ici, sans avoir à nous rendre en Sierra Leone ou en Guinée », a témoigné **Patrick Mason**, un motard professionnel.

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FEATUREARTICLE

ESIA and EPA permits disprove Sen. Twayen's claim

Yekepa, Nimba County – June 16, 2025

A detailed environmental assessment and two official permits issued by Liberia's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have debunked recent claims by Senator Nya Twayen that ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) built its new iron ore concentrator in Toledoh, Nimba County without a proper environmental impact study.

Last week Senator Nya Twayen complained ArcelorMittal Liberia to the Senate enabling the senate Plenary to mandate its Secretary of Senate, J. Nanborlor F. Singbeh, Sr. to communicate with the Environmental Protection Agency

(EPA) “to submit copies of the Environmental Impact Assessment (FIA) study, report, and the corresponding environmental permit issued in relation to the ongoing construction of a multi-million-dollar iron ore processing plant by ArcelorMittal in Yekepa, Nimba County”.

For weeks now, Senator Twayen has harbored the belief that there was no environmental and safety impact assessment was done prior to the construction of the concentrator.

Contrary to the Senator's assertions, AML conducted and submitted a full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Tokadeh Iron Ore Processing Plant, as required by law. The study was prepared by URS/AMEC Foster Wheeler, an internationally recognized environmental consultancy, in partnership with Earthtime Inc., and was formally submitted to the EPA.

Documents seen also revealed 21 separate reports environmental and social impact assessment reports that covered the concentrator, including a Framework Resettlement action plan, environmental management plan, Noise pollution, Geo mapping, climate change studies, Zoogical impact report.

Botanic Grassland report, Forest Botanical Impact report, landscape Character report and even assessments reports submitted by conservation internation that enabled the EPA to renew two environmental permits for the construction and procession of ore from Tokadeh and operations at the Port of Buchanan

The ESIA report specifically states:

“This ESIA has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection and Management Law (EPML) of Liberia and EPA guidelines for Category A projects.”

The study classified the concentrator project as a Category A development, meaning it had potentially high environmental and social risks and therefore required full environmental review, public consultation, and official approval prior to implementation.

What the ESIA Covered

The ESIA provided an in-depth review of

environmental baselines including air quality, surface and groundwater conditions, biodiversity, noise, and soil in the Tokadeh and Yekepa areas. It also examined social factors such as population density, health indicators, livelihoods, and cultural heritage. The report noted:

“Potential impacts of the project include dust emissions, noise from machinery, sediment runoff into local watercourses, and biodiversity disturbance. Mitigation measures include dust suppression systems, buffer zones, controlled clearing of vegetation, and the implementation of a community health and safety plan.”

Summary of Project Outline from ESIA Report

drainage management, borrow pit locations, and Yekepa township planning, remain at early design stages and will be further assessed as details become available.

Importantly, the ESIA emphasized that **no involuntary resettlement** was necessary, as the project falls entirely within AML's previously authorized mining concession. It further documented that extensive public consultations were held across Nimba County involving local leadership, women's groups, youth, and local government, as part of the approval process.

EPA Permit Confirms Project Legitimacy

The EPA issued a renewed environmental permit on **August 10, 2024**, signed by **Dr. Emmanuel K. Urey Yarkpawolo**,

Executive Director of the EPA. The permit reference number is **EPA/EC/ESIA/EMPS/004-0113R** and covers the processing (concentration) ore extraction at Tokadeh, operation of the concentrator in Yekepa, and associated stockpiling and processing activities at the Port of Buchanan.

The permit is explicit:

“This permit is issued pursuant to the Environmental Protection and Management Law of Liberia (2003), Part III, Sections 8 (1), 11 (1), and 13. It authorizes ArcelorMittal Liberia Limited to conduct the Phase II iron ore mining and processing activities within the coordinates specified herein.”

It also warns:

“Any deviation from the approved Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), including misinformation or failure to

comply with monitoring obligations, shall be subject to suspension, cancellation, or prosecution.”

The permit remains in effect until **20 December 2027**, covering AML's current operations and establishing a clear regulatory framework for environmental oversight. It mandates the submission of periodic environmental audit reports, monitoring dust and water quality, noise control, biodiversity protection, and sustained community engagement.

Conclusion: Senator's Claim Refuted by Facts

The facts are clear.

A full ESIA was conducted, reviewed, and approved. The EPA granted AML a valid environmental permit grounded in Liberian law. Construction of the concentrator was not only legal but also subject to some of the highest environmental standards applied in Liberia's mining sector to date.

Senator Twayen's claims that “there was no environmental report before the concentrator was built” is directly contradicted by documentary evidence. The public should be guided by verified records, not political statements that risk undermining national regulatory systems and discouraging responsible investment.



(Phase II Expansion – ArcelorMittal Liberia)

According to the ESIA report, the concentrator mining project involves extracting, crushing, screening, and magnetically/flotation-concentrating approximately 15 million tonnes of iron ore annually over 20 years (2015–2034). Mining will occur at Yuelliton (up to 200m deep), Gangra (175m), and Tokadeh (100m), covering a total mining area of about 1,200 hectares, including stockpiles and waste dumps.

“A 303-hectare Tailings Management Facility will be constructed at Tokadeh, and treatment ponds will cover another 146 hectares. The total mine exclusion zone, inaccessible to the public for the life of the mine, spans 2,146 hectares, the ESIA report stated.

“Ore will be concentrated at Tokadeh and transported by rail. There will be new township developments in Yekepa and Buchanan, including housing, sewage, and waste management systems. A temporary camp for up to 1,250 construction workers and a railway maintenance camp at Greenhill in Bong County will support operations”.

This Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) draws from prior studies (2010, 2011) and includes updated physical, biological, and social surveys to reflect Phase II expansion needs of which the concentrator is a part of. Some aspects, like

Race car on racetrack

President Joseph Boakai says those Liberians that think that he is still a race car parked u the garage should think again, because he is now on the racetrack, cruising with development for the Liberian people.

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh
Monrovia, Liberia; June 20, 2025 - President Joseph Nyuma Boakai responds to critics here, who have been unkind about his



administration, saying that he has done nothing since taking office and that the government would not succeed But speaking to reporters briefly when he toured the China- aid Refurbished Liberia Broadcasting System (ELBC) Multi-Purpose ongoing construction project Wednesday, President Boakai was upbeat about progress achieved at the entity, as he slammed critics, who had mocked him from his days as Vice President of Liberia to present, to see progress of his Administration. “For those, who used to ask me, what is it you could do as President that you couldn't do as Vice President? Tell them the race car is on the racetrack. We're moving this

country forward”, President Boakai boldly stated. He invited critics to see progress of his administration that is on track in elevating lives of Liberians, while improving

infrastructure developments. The President, who was very zealous and excited by ongoing construction works at the LBS, reiterated his steadfast commitment to developing Liberia. “Like I'm always saying, “I'm not here for Presidency; I'm here, with a commitment to build this country that will represent the people; it is not talking issue, but that is the job we are here to do”, President Boakai said. He argued that his government is on path, reiterating his quest to rebrand ELBC is aimed at doing away with wrongful dissemination of information that could send out bad image about

Liberia. Mr. Boakai emphasized openness of his administration to Public Broadcast, while assuring supports to ELBC. “What we want for this country, is for Liberians to be proud of their country, and the public to be informed about this country and that this country and we will learn the truth,” President Boakai said. He also slammed against criticisms and condemned negative propagandists on social media. “What we want for this country is for people to learn the truth and every day, we hear gossips on Social Media; that is why we are committed to changing the narrative”, the President added.

Also speaking briefly, LBS Director General Eugene Faghon, describes works on the multi-state-broadcast Studio as a testament of statement in motion. “This is testament of Statesmanship in play, and statement of craft in motion. You know these are big people, and when big people give you work, you execute”, DG Faghon said. He assured that the new LBS Complex that is comprised of seven modern studio, including other infrastructure, will be ready by November this year, stating that LBS is ready to take its role as Liberia's number one broadcast institution. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Govt.'s crackdown faces scrutiny

A government restriction on street parades by students is greeted here with public criticism.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah
Monrovia, Liberia; June 20, 2025 - The Government of Liberia's latest decision to ban street parades by students across the country triggers widespread public debate here, with mounting calls for a more balanced approach. Speaking from the United States via OK FM on Thursday, Montserrado County Senator Saah Joseph, appealed to the government to reconsider its stance. He emphasized that students' parades are not merely celebratory events but an essential part of Liberia's educational and cultural identity. “These parades are more than just celebration; they are part of our educational culture,” on government to revise the directive and implement safety measures, instead. The crackdown, which takes immediate effect, prohibits student parades during school gala days, graduation ceremonies, and WASSCE (West African Senior School Certificate Examination) celebrations. The move comes in response to increasing concerns over student safety and public disruption. Authorities say unsanctioned parades have led to injuries, traffic congestion, and violations of public order. In many cases, students have been seen sitting atop moving vehicles or engaging in dangerous stunts during street celebrations. “This is not a ban on



Senator Joseph said. “We must find safer ways to continue them, rather than canceling them outright.” The Ministry of Education, in a joint statement with the Liberia National Police on Wednesday, clarified that the intention is not to stifle joy but to ensure public safety and order. “Our priority is the safety of every child,” the statement reads. “Let us work together to celebrate responsibly and safeguard our future.” Despite these reassurances, many parents, who called on the show, expressed disappointment. They argued that the ban strips students of a cherished tradition, and called celebration,” said Education Minister, Dr. Jarso Maley Jallah. “We are urging schools to celebrate responsibly in safety, supervise environments like stadiums or open fields, not on public streets.” The Ministry and Police cited legal authority from the Liberian Constitution, Penal Law, and the Education Reform Act to justify the enforcement. Police Inspector General, Gregory Coleman, announced that officers will be deployed across all 15 counties to implement the directive. Schools and students found in violation will face penalties. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Residents of Nenlah Town relocate

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have endured for decades. However, they are concerned about road access. One of the major issues Nenlah Town faced over the years was poor condition of roads, which left them isolated during emergencies and made transportation of goods and services nearly impossible. Residents are now calling on the Government of Liberia and the Nimba County local leadership to prioritize rehabilitation of roads leading to the new site, to avoid repeating past struggles. In addition to road improvement, the citizens have emphasized the need for strong support in the areas of education and healthcare. They believe that access to schools and clinics will not only improve their lives but will also help them thrive in the new community. They stressed that basic infrastructure, such as clean water, sanitation, and electricity, are essential if the relocation effort is to succeed in long-term. The people of Nenlah are hopeful that this move will mark the beginning of a new chapter—one that brings relief, dignity, and a sense of belonging after years of hardship. Now more than ever, they are urging the county and national government to stand with them, support their transition, and ensure they are no longer forgotten. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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