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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR		
DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, JULY 07, 2025	L\$199.3690/US\$1.00	L\$201.7645/US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn
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French Version Inside

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HPX

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Investigation should focus on WFP

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- Tweah insists COVID-19 US\$30 million was managed by WF

Samuel D. Tweah

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Continental News

Senegalese PM Sonko says international order is shifting to a more balanced, multilateral world

Senegalese Prime Minister Ousmane Sonko has expressed concerns about the erosion of international norms and the growing tendency of some powerful countries to unilaterally impose their own rules.

In an interview with China Media Group (CMG), Sonko, who was in Tianjin for the 2025 Summer Davos, criticised US tariff hikes on its trade partners, emphasising that certain nations have historically asserted their influence by establishing rules that primarily serve their own interests.



Senegalese opposition leader Ousmane Sonko addresses journalists following his release from police custody in Dakar, Senegal, Monday, March 8, 2021.

Ivorian diaspora in Paris calls for democratic and inclusive presidential election in October

Four months ahead of Côte d'Ivoire's presidential election, the Ivorian diaspora is mobilizing in Paris, and calling for democratic and inclusive elections. This rally was organized by the Youth of the Democratic Party of Côte d'Ivoire (JPDCI), the main opposition party. Handrey Fanoux was at the rally: "It's important for me to be here to support my party and to show the whole of Côte d'Ivoire that, even if we're abroad, we participate in the expression of democracy in the country where we live." The demonstrators are protesting the exclusion of their presidential candidate, Tidjane Thiam, from the electoral list for the October vote. "Precisely our concern is that the president refuses to include our leader on the electoral list," says Mélanie N'dri Amoin. "And that won't please us. Not at all, really not at all." Mickael Kadji, is Vice President of JPDCI diaspora: "This election must be inclusive, and all political party presidents must be able to stand, so that at the end of the day, the winner truly

However, he noted that these countries now seek to break away from these rules because the world is now shifting towards a more balanced order.

"Increasingly, the concepts of international order, international rules, and the international community are losing their significance because we have certain countries, due to their power, that unilaterally assume power at every moment in history and set the rules for themselves.

But it was these countries that created these rules because they felt powerful and thought that this would benefit them at the expense of the rest of the world.

Today, things are tending to balance out. They want to break away from these rules or impose different rules," said Sonko.

He underscored the significance of initiatives from the Global South, particularly within the BRICS, a group of emerging economies, as vital steps toward fostering a more equitable, multilateral world.

"I think that today, what is being done in the Global South, and at the BRICS level, is quite important, and such work must continue for a much more balanced, multilateral world, and for a continent like Africa, we must take advantage of this situation," said Sonko.

The three-day 2025 Summer Davos Forum, held in north China's Tianjin Municipality in late June, attracted over 1,700 influential figures from more than 90 countries and regions to discuss how entrepreneurship and emerging technologies can unlock dynamic and resilient economies.

represents the president of our country, which is Côte d'Ivoire." Beyond support their candidate, the party is speaking out against a climate of repression and fear in the West African country in the run up to the election. "We no longer have the right to demonstrate properly," Kadji says. "The president of the student JPDCI was arrested two days ago. The president of the rural JPDCI was also arrested. So we no longer have the right to speak out in Côte d'Ivoire. "Young people just want democracy

and peaceful elections. Côte d'Ivoire has never had peaceful elections. Today, in Côte d'Ivoire, when we talk about October, everyone is afraid. The population is frightened. You only have to hear 'October 2025.' We were born, and until now, we've never known peaceful elections. We want it to start now." For these members of the Ivorian diaspora, there can be no lasting peace without electoral justice. They are calling for a free, peaceful and inclusive election to write a new democratic page for Côte d'Ivoire.



Ivorian diaspora in Paris mobilises for free and fair vote

Empowering youth in agriculture could boost global economy, FAO report says

A new UN report says young people across the globe could be critical agents of change for the future of food security, economic growth, and climate resilience. But coordinated global action is needed to unlock their potential. Bridging the employment gap for youth in agriculture could increase the global economy by 1.4 percent with a benefit by accounting for about 1.5 trillion US dollars, according to the new report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). With 1.3 billion individuals aged 15 to 24 globally, and with nearly 85

dives into technical and policy initiatives designed to create decent job opportunities, enhance food security and nutrition, and enhance the resilience of young people to shocks. It highlights youth as key change agents in the agricultural sector, positioning them as the next generation of producers, processors, service providers, and consumers. They will confront a wide range of challenges, including increasing food production for a growing population, replacing an aging workforce, and adapting to the impacts of the climate crisis, water scarcity, and urbanization. The report provides detailed data on



Farmers process climate-smart beans in Machakos, Kenya, Monday, March 18, 2024.

percent of global youth today living in low- and lower-middle-income countries, "The Status of Youth in Agrifood Systems" report examines and emphasizes the crucial role of youth in transforming agrifood systems to improve food security, nutrition, and economic opportunities. The report notes that over 20 percent of youth are not in employment, education, or training (NEET), with young women twice as likely to fall into this category. Eliminating youth unemployment and providing employment opportunities for youth aged 20 to 24 years old and that are not in employment, education or training could boost global gross domestic product by 1.4 percent, equal to USD 1.5 trillion in additional value-added activity, with about 45 percent of that increase stemming from agrifood systems. Globally, 44 percent of working youth rely on agrifood systems for employment compared to 38 percent for working adults. However, that global average covers a large span ranging from 82 percent in protracted crisis agrifood systems to just 23 percent in industrial agrifood systems. Alarminglly, food insecurity among youth has risen from 16.7 percent to 24.4 percent between 2014-16 and 2021-23, especially affecting young people in Africa. Climate shocks Climate extreme events and shocks pose a significant threat, with an estimated 395 million rural youth living in locations expected to experience declines in agricultural productivity, particularly in traditional agrifood systems and sub-Saharan Africa. The report

youth demographics, indicating that 54 percent live in urban areas, with the highest concentrations in Eastern Asia. In contrast, rural youth account for only 5 percent of the population in industrial agrifood systems, signaling potential labor shortages if agricultural careers are not made more attractive. Many rural youths reside in areas with high agricultural productivity potential, presenting significant investment opportunities in market access and infrastructure. To empower youth, the report advocates for interventions that enhance their voice and agency, improve access to training and resources, and boost productivity both on and off the farm. It also highlights the need for increased social protection programs, especially given youth's limited access to traditional financing. Inquire, Include, Invest To address the challenges and seize the opportunities, the report emphasizes three main strategies: bridge knowledge and data gaps and strengthen the evidence for youth-inclusive agrifood systems (Inquire more); amplify the voices of diverse youth in policy and decision-making processes (Include more); and drive targeted investments to expand economic opportunities for youth and empower them (Invest more). Adopting these strategies will require, expanding economic opportunities, investing in modernization, facilitating access to resources, promoting orderly youth migration by supporting safe and youth-responsive migration pathways to address labor shortages, and enhancing digital access.

EDITORIAL

Questioning GoL's decision on HPX Rail Access amidst AML's ongoing MDA

The recent decision by the Government of Liberia (GoL) to grant HPX (High Power Exploration) access to the national railway, while ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) continues to hold an active Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) with the government, raises several questions about national interest and strategic priorities.

At the heart of the matter is whether the GoL's actions serve Liberia's long-term goals, or whether they prioritize foreign interests over national interests or those of its own people.

Granting HPX access to the railway while AML MDA is still in effect creates a climate of uncertainty for current and potential investors.

AML's existing agreement with the government represents not only a legal commitment but also an implicit promise to prioritize the company's expansion and its resultant contributions to Liberia's economy.

While it is true that the railway is a state asset, by signing an access agreement with HPX, GoL appears to compromise the spirit, if not the letter, of its ongoing agreement with AML. This raises critical questions:

How does GoL justify entering into a new, potentially conflicting arrangement while its prior commitments remain unresolved?

What assurances exist to prevent operational or legal clashes between AML's expansion plans and HPX's anticipated access?

The optics of this new agreement suggest that foreign iron ore shipments are being prioritized over Liberian developmental interests.

AML's expansion is not merely a matter of corporate growth; it represents an opportunity for increased employment, local procurement, tax revenue, and infrastructural development.

This move may set a concerning precedent for future negotiations, signaling to both domestic and international actors that Liberia's commitments are manipulable and that foreign pressure can yield preferential treatment, even at the expense of national development.

This perception could impede AML's ability to finance future expansions, as investors may question the reliability of GoL's assurances and the stability of their investments.

It is no secret that HPX has been mounting pressure, pushing GoL to sign this agreement, but not necessarily with Liberia's broader interests at heart.

Rather than develop, the company's strategy appears driven by the prospect of securing a lucrative deal, one that would enhance the value of the Guinean concession granted to HPX, thereby enabling it to “flip” the asset for significant profit.

In this regard, HPX's persistent lobbying can be seen less as a commitment to contributing to Liberia's long-term growth and more as a calculated move to maximize short-term gains, potentially at Liberia's expense.

These developments suggest a troubling narrative: Liberia, despite being the landlord and custodian of its own resources and infrastructure, is at risk of being the net victim in a zero-sum game orchestrated by external actors.

The benefits accrued by HPX, facilitated by GoL's acceptance, come at the cost of Liberia's own interests and the aim of AML to expand and deepen its economic impact.

In conclusion, the GoL's decision to sign a rail access agreement with HPX/Ivanhoe, while an existing agreement with a major investor remains unresolved, raises fundamental doubts.

Unless adjusted, this deal with HPX/Ivanhoe threatens to leave the nation at a disadvantage, undermining both sovereignty and future prosperity for the fleeting advantage of others.

COMMENTARY

by Tidjane Thiam

Côte d'Ivoire's Make-or-Break Election

YAMO USSOUKRO – When I announced my candidacy for the presidency of Côte d'Ivoire earlier this year, I had certain expectations of what the campaign would entail: long journeys to meet voters in small towns, spirited debates with my opponents on national television, and late nights poring over polling data.

Six months later, those expectations seem quaint. With October's presidential election approaching, the electoral process has become entangled in endless legal battles. Instead of engaging with voters on the campaign trail, I have had to spend too much of my time confined to meeting rooms, surrounded by legal advisers.

In May, my name was removed from the ballot after a court ruled that the French citizenship I held at the time I announced my candidacy invalidated my Ivorian citizenship. This ruling enforced a legal provision that, despite having existed since 1961, had never been applied to any dual national. As a result, I was declared ineligible to run for or hold high office.

Although I renounced my French citizenship in March, the Independent Electoral Commission (ICE) claims it was too late and insists that there is not enough time before the October presidential election to reinstate my name on the ballot. This position is especially confounding, given that I am far from a fringe candidate. In 2023, I was elected leader of the Democratic Party of Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally (PDCI-RDA), the country's main opposition party, with 96.5% of the delegates' votes. Multiple polls suggest I would win a head-to-head race against President Alassane Ouattara, should he choose to run for a fourth term.

I am not the only opposition leader being forced out of the race. Also excluded from the recently finalized electoral list are former President Laurent Gbagbo, his longtime ally Charles Blé Goudé, and exiled former Prime Minister Guillaume Soro. Together with my disqualification, these exclusions have led many observers to question whether the October election can truly be considered competitive.

As matters stand, the more likely scenario is that Ouattara – should he confirm his intention to seek re-election – will face little to no credible opposition in his bid for a fourth consecutive term. Such an outcome would be disastrous for Côte d'Ivoire, effectively accelerating

the country's slide toward one-party, if not one-man rule.

Unsurprisingly, Ouattara's government denies any judicial interference. But such denials have done little to assuage growing concerns among the public that the legal system is being weaponized to crush any opposition leader who might stand a chance of winning the presidency.

To be sure, the rise of electoral authoritarianism is not unique to Côte d'Ivoire. We have seen the same tactics deployed in other countries, where the courts are used to silence opposition voices and preserve the status quo. But Côte d'Ivoire's tumultuous recent history makes this especially dangerous. Most notably, a disputed election in 2010 plunged the country into a brutal civil war that claimed the lives of at least 3,000 people.

We owe it to our citizens to do better. That is why I am calling for calm and appealing to the United Nations Human Rights Committee to review my case.

The great tragedy is that the current wave of lawfare is diverting attention from the urgent issues facing Côte d'Ivoire. In a country where life expectancy is only 62 years – lower than in both Liberia and Mauritania – we should focus on rebuilding our health-care system.

Given that Ivorian schools rank 13th out of 14 Francophone African countries in mathematics, fixing our broken education system should be a national priority. And Côte d'Ivoire's recent addition to the Financial Action Task Force's Grey List for money laundering should prompt a serious discussion about crime prevention and financial transparency.

Instead, we find ourselves trapped in a bogus legal process, drifting toward sham elections and deepening authoritarianism. A small clique has been allowed to corrupt our institutions and weaponize the machinery of the state to suppress civil society.

This is no way to run a country. On our current trajectory, Côte d'Ivoire is at risk of plunging once again into the crises of the past. Only a truly democratic Côte d'Ivoire can deliver the stability necessary to drive the country forward and build lasting prosperity for its people.

In a region where poverty and instability have too often been the norm, I believe Côte d'Ivoire has the potential to become a beacon of progress. But if we let the guardrails of democracy break down, we will squander that opportunity.

OP-ED

by Bertrand Piccard

Turning Ocean Preservation Into an Economic Windfall

LAUSANNE – In 1960, my father, Jacques Piccard, reached the bottom of the Mariana Trench – nearly 11,000 meters (36,000 feet) below sea level. The mission was not to make headlines, but to disprove a dangerous misconception. Some experts had claimed that no life could survive in the crushing darkness of the ocean's depths, and that assumption had led to proposals to use the deep sea as a dumping ground for nuclear waste. But my father and his team encountered living fish – a discovery that prevented a potentially catastrophic mistake.

My father's mission underscores what exploration has always meant to my family. It is not about conquest and domination, but rather curiosity and understanding. Studying nature expands not only the frontiers of our knowledge, but also the scope of our responsibility as planetary stewards.

Today, the ocean is under greater threat than ever, and not only because the United States has just set the stage for private companies to pursue deep-sea mining in international waters. Despite decades of warnings, humanity continues to treat the ocean as an inexhaustible resource and a bottomless dumping ground. We are suffocating it with plastic, heating it with emissions, poisoning it with chemicals, and depleting it by overfishing. But the biggest danger is subtler: As was true in 1960, there is glaring gap between what we know and what we are doing.

While we speak of binding treaties and ambitious targets, our actions remain fragmented and insufficient. Even as the ocean's degradation accelerates, governments often take refuge behind the complexity of global consensus-building, using it as an excuse for inaction. As a result, fishing vessels engaged in illegal practices, such as destructive bottom trawling in marine protected areas, are still permitted to sell their catch freely in ports and markets. Although regulations exist, enforcement is weak, sporadic, or simply absent.

But we cannot afford to wait for the perfect implementation of perfect treaties. Nor should we use others' failure to address the problem as an excuse for our own inaction. After all, we already know the solutions, and we have the tools to pursue them. What is missing is the will.

At the Solar Impulse Foundation, we have identified more than 1,800 clean and profitable strategies and tools that reconcile economic growth with environmental preservation. Many focus on strengthening regenerative and sustainable practices in the blue economy – from technologies that track illegal fishing and monitor vessel movements from space, to innovations in low-carbon shipping, plastic waste prevention, and regenerative aquaculture.

Our recent Ocean Opportunity Guide, mapping ocean-focused innovation, shows just how broad and mature these solutions are. From bio-enhancing concrete that supports marine life to seaweed-based alternatives to single-use plastic and traceability platforms that eliminate greenwashing in seafood value chains, these are not theoretical models; they are real tools already being deployed around the world. Behind them stands a growing ecosystem of entrepreneurs, scientists, and engineers.

Equally, new financial mechanisms are emerging to bridge the gap between innovation and scale. Blended finance structures, results-based payments, and de-risking vehicles are beginning to unlock capital for nature-based solutions and sustainable aquaculture, particularly in vulnerable coastal economies. These developments show that diverse stakeholders, when aligned, can build an innovation ecosystem capable of solving one of the world's most complex challenges.

The solutions we highlight are tested, scalable, and economically sound. They do more than protect ecosystems; they also create jobs, stimulate new markets, and reduce long-term operational risk. Clean innovation in the ocean economy is already generating competitive advantages for forward-looking companies and countries. Financial instruments that de-risk nature-based investments are helping to stabilize coastal economies and expand access to new forms of capital. And circular-economy solutions like seaweed-based packaging and marine-life-friendly infrastructure are not only reducing environmental harm, but also lowering material costs and strengthening supply-chain transparency.

In short, ocean preservation is becoming an engine of industrial renewal and geopolitical resilience. As an economic development strategy, it is both future-proof and inclusive, and it appeals to investors, entrepreneurs, and policymakers alike. But to unlock this potential, we must change the narrative. Sustainability is not about sacrifice; it is about modernization, innovation, and efficiency.

Far from an environmental constraint, ocean preservation is a catalyst for a more dynamic, resilient global economy. As such, it should be recognized as the new frontier of exploration. Our task is to discover not uncharted depths, but better systems. Like the entrepreneurs featured in the Ocean Opportunity Guide, we should all be questioning what we have built and considering how it can be improved. The spirit of exploration must guide us toward regeneration, not exploitation. It must inspire us to stop waiting for others, and to start demonstrating the leadership that this moment demands.

OPINION

by Martín Guzmán, Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi, Joseph E. Stiglitz

How to Solve the Development Crisis With Quality Finance

SEVILLE – National delegations and practitioners gathering in Seville, Spain, for the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development face a sobering reality: Much of the developing world is in the midst of a deepening, multifaceted crisis. Major problems such as hunger, disease, economic fragility, climate vulnerability, underfunded education systems, poor infrastructure, and persistent joblessness remain – not for lack of solutions, but for lack of political will and basic human solidarity.

The first step toward addressing these challenges is to resolve the debt crisis that has crippled many low- and middle-income countries. While debt distress afflicts developing countries worldwide, the effects are most acute in Africa, a region that will shape the global economy for decades. With Africa's share of the global youth population projected to rise from 23% today to 35% by 2050, underinvestment now will not only undermine development on the continent; it will threaten stability elsewhere.

This persistent failure stems from several structural features of the international financial system. Money tends to pour into developing countries during global booms, and to rush out during downturns. For advanced economies, the pattern is reversed: capital flows toward them in times of crisis. The system thus reinforces global inequalities, decreasing wealthy countries' relative riskiness and the interest rates their governments and companies pay.

At the same time, developing countries suffer from chronic underinvestment in innovation, education, and infrastructure. Growth cycles are repeatedly cut short by crises and austerity, triggering a vicious cycle of stagnation and weakened state capacity. And efforts to fund public institutions and promote development are usually further undercut by illicit financial flows, tax avoidance, under-taxation of multinationals' profits, unfair extraction of natural resources, and large-scale dividend repatriation. Meanwhile, domestic elites historically have failed to build stronger institutions, allowed rent-seeking to flourish, and resisted reforms that would promote accountability and resilience.

To help break the cycle, particularly concerning debt, we and more than 30 other economists and legal experts contributed to the Jubilee Report that was commissioned by the late Pope Francis and recently published by the Vatican. The report offers a road map for addressing the current debt and development crisis and, critically, for preventing future ones. Though it calls for coordinated reforms of multilateral institutions, sovereign jurisdictions, and domestic governments, the core message is simple: If poor and developing countries are to transform their economies and fulfill their development ambitions, they need access to high-quality financing.

Achieving this requires three interlinked systems. First, we need an effective framework for addressing sovereign debt crises. The current system is not working, and recent attempts to improve it fell far short of what was needed. For example, the Common Framework for Debt Treatments, launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, sought to strengthen coordination across creditors, but failed to create incentives for timely restructurings.

As a result, since 2022, net private capital flows to low- and lower-middle-income countries have turned negative, even as international financial institutions have continued to disburse funds. Instead of supporting economic recovery, new financing has been redirected to pay private creditors – often at high costs – which means taxpayers around the world have funded a bailout for private lenders while financially distressed countries have had to slash spending on essential services. This cruel cycle is entirely avoidable. It should not be so easy for private creditors and debtors to avoid ever having to restructure debts.

Second, we need affordable long-term finance for development. Debt is not inherently bad. In fact, sustainable credit – planned and used correctly – can drive infrastructure development and broader economic transformation. The global system must shift from short-term, speculative flows to long-term, productive finance that supports widespread and long-lasting development. That means mobilizing more and better concessional lending and financing from multilateral development banks to low-income and developing countries, as well as facilitating stronger domestic resource mobilization and the development of local-currency capital markets.

But even if all the right reforms were enacted today, it would take decades for many low-income countries to meet their financing needs domestically. In their case, access to credit will remain critically important.

Third, we must ensure a fairer cost of capital. Markets and credit-rating agencies routinely exaggerate the risks facing African countries and other developing economies, which leads to interest rates far above what is needed to compensate for the risk of non-payment, let alone delayed payment. In fact, according to a Moody's analysis, African countries have the world's lowest default rates for infrastructure loans – just 1.9%, compared to 12.4% in Eastern Europe and 10.1% in Latin America. Nonetheless, African countries face unjustifiably high borrowing costs, rooted in risk perceptions that create perverse self-fulfilling prophecies, with the high interest rates actually causing more defaults.

Today, the most powerful countries remain reluctant to increase their contributions to multilateral financing. This hesitation undermines global economic, social, and political stability. Yet much more can still be achieved by making better use of existing resources; ensuring that funds from international financial institutions support development and recovery, rather than serving as de facto bailouts for private creditors; and adopting global policies that promote more timely and comprehensive debt restructurings to restore sustainability.

The returns would be significant. A forthcoming analysis by the African Center for Economic Transformation shows that lowering debt service to 5% of government revenues could allow Egypt to provide clean water to its entire population, Senegal to improve sanitation for 300,000 people, Ethiopia to enroll 340,000 more children in primary school, and Angola to save the lives of over 10,000 children under five.

Development always involves risk. A fair financial system would distribute that risk efficiently and equitably, assigning the burden to those best able to bear it. The current system does the opposite. Reforming it is a necessary step toward a more stable, prosperous, and fairer global future.



Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority

18th Street Sinkor, Monrovia-Liberia. Phone-0777110110

REQUEST FOR THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (REOI) FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES

The Management of the Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) is currently scouting the expertise of Consultants / Consultancy Firms to provide CONSULTING SERVICES to the entity for Fiscal period.

The LPRA intends to apply part of its budgetary appropriation for FY 2025 to payments under the contract for the provision of these Consulting Services for the indicated period.

The Consulting Services are outlined as follows:

No.	Consultancy Packages	REOI NO.	Brief Description of Package
1	Legal Consultancy – I	REOI NO: LPRA/SBA/QCBS/001/2025	Provision of in-country legal advisory services to support LPRA's operational, institutional, and regulatory functions.
2	Audit & Internal Controls	REOI NO: LPRA/SBA/FBS/001/2025	Provision of annual external audit services and comprehensive assessment of LPRA's internal control systems.
3	Information Technology (IT) Consultancy	REOI NO: LPRA/SBA/LCS/001/2025	Technical support for ongoing IT infrastructure deployment, systems maintenance, cybersecurity assurance, and digital transformation initiatives.
4	Legal Consultancy – II	REOI NO: LPRA/LCS/001/2025	Provision of international legal expertise to support implementation of the E&P Law, including drafting legal instruments, developing regulatory policy, and aligning model contracts with global best practices.
5	Strategic Advisory Services	REOI NO: LPRA/QBS/001/2025	Expert support in petroleum fiscal modeling, regulatory strategy, commercial planning, capacity building, and operational performance improvement.
6	Financial Advisory Services	REOI NO: LPRA/QBS/002/2025	Provision of financial advisory services including transaction support, quarterly and annual financial reporting, internal control reviews, and audit readiness assessments.
7	Legal & Commercial Advisory – Licensing Round	RFP NO. LPRA/QBS/003/2025	Lead the end-to-end planning, coordination, and execution of the 2025 licensing round. This includes designing the licensing process, preparing eligibility requirements documentation, managing bid evaluation, supporting contract negotiations, and finalizing agreements. The consultant will also facilitate business development activities and coordinate meetings with prospective investors to promote participation in the licensing round.
8	Technical & Financial Due Diligence	REOI NO: LPRA/FBS/001/2024	Conduct comprehensive technical and financial due diligence to assess the capabilities of companies responding to LPRA opportunities. The results will directly inform the prequalification of eligible and responsive firms for participation in regulated processes.

The LPRA now invites eligible consultants / Consultancy firms to indicate their interest in providing these services. ALL interested firms / individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the service of preference (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

A consultant or consultancy firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act of the Republic of Liberia.

Interested consultants or consultancy firms may obtain further information at the address below between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All REOIs must be delivered to the address below by 3:00pm on Friday, July 14, 2025.

The Procurement Department
Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA)
Libtelco Building, 2nd Floor, 18th Street, Sinkor, Tubman Boulevard
Tel #: 0777-110-110 / 0887-111-116
Contact Person: Rufus F. McCarthy

Only shortlisted Consultants / Consultancy firms will be forwarded a request for proposal.

Signed:
Rufus F. McCarthy
Procurement Director

Approved:
Hon. Marilyn T. Logan
Director-General & Chairman /PC



Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority

18th Street Sinkor, Monrovia-Liberia. Phone-0777110110

Invitation for Bid (IFB)

FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS & NON-CONSULTING SERVICES

- The Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) has received budgetary appropriation from FY 2025 National Budget and intends to apply portion of it towards the Procurement of goods and non-consulting services to enhance its service delivery and optimize productivity in its day-to-day operations.
- The Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) now invites sealed bids from eligible registered Businesses for the supply of these goods and the provision of non-consulting services to the entity for FY 2025.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) process as enshrined in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act (PPCA).

4. Specification and Quantity of Contract Packages:

No.	Contract Packages	Qty.	Bid Security	IFBNO.
1	Internet Service Provider (ISP)	Assorted	Bid Securing Declaration	LPRA/SBA/NCB/003/2025
2	Stationeries	Assorted	US\$1,800.00	LPRA/NCB/003/2025
3	Printing & Binding	Assorted	Bid Securing Declaration	LPRA/SBA/NCB/001/2025
4	Air Tickets	1 Firm	US\$11,360.00	LPRA/NCB/001/2025
5	Security Guard Service	1 Firm	US\$900.00	LPRA/SBA/NCB/004/2025
6	Garbage Disposal Service	1 Firm	Bid Securing Declaration	LPRA/SBA/NCB/005/2025

*Please obtain bidding document for more detailed instructions for bid submission

- Qualification requirements: (Please reference bidding documents of your preferred contract package)
- All interested eligible Businesses may obtain copy of the bidding document(s) of their preferred contract package(s) from the Procurement Department of the LPRA, Libtelco Building, 2nd Floor, 18th Street Sinkor, for a non-refundable fee of US\$40.00 beginning Monday, July 07, 2025 from 9:30am to 4:30pm daily.
- All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" (as in matrix) from a reputable bank and must have a validity period of 30 days after bid submission deadline.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the Procurement Unit of the LPRA no later than the times, dates and places indicated in the bidding documents or on the Bid Data Sheet (BDS). Late bids will be rejected and returned to bidders unopened. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders who choose to attend or their representatives at the times, dates and places indicated in the bidding documents or the Bid Data Sheet (BDS). NO ELECTRONIC BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. CONTRACTS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE FIRM THAT HAS FULLY COMPLETED THE PPCC VENDORS' REGISTRATION PROCESSES.
- All bids must be addressed to: The Procurement Department Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority (LPRA) Libtelco Building, 2nd Floor, 18th Street, Sinkor, Monrovia Tel #: 0777 110 110 / 0887 111 116

Signed:
Rufus F. McCarthy
Procurement Officer

Approved:
Hon. Marilyn T. Logan
Director-General/ Chairman PC



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Golden Veroleum (Liberia) Inc. (GVL) is an Oil Palm Company operating in Southeastern Liberia. The Company has an exciting opportunity for a General Mechanical Technical Advisor to join our Team.

Position : General Mechanical Technical Advisor
Number Needed : One (1)
Duty Station : Sinoe
Category : Local
Application Deadline: July 12th, 2025

General Scope of Work/Duties:

Duties and Responsibilities-

- Advise maintenance programs, workshop management, and workshop budgets per predetermined targets by considering the readiness of existing infrastructure workshops.
- Advise and supervise maintenance activities (spare parts & consumables, maintenance costs, etc.) in all unit lines so that they are per established systems and procedures to achieve set targets.
- Coordinating with purchasing, planners, and other teams to ensure part availability.
- Act as a problem solver advisor for daily unit problems and report to higher levels for unit issues that arise.
- Check and sign documents/reports, which include requests for goods requirements (PR), memorial journals, proof of financial transactions, operational reports, and wage lists, and report them periodically
- Give advice and provide quick and appropriate responses to all problems that require input and carry out good work coordination to achieve customer satisfaction (internal and external)
- Carry out any other task Management gives from time to time.

Education

Minimum bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering

Experience/Competencies/Skills:

- 12+ years' work experience in a fast-paced multinational/cross-border workshop operation, including over five years as Workshop Manager.
- Hands-on experience with international workshop management, SAP and knowledge of truck/heavy equipment repairs and services
- Experience in training a new, growing workshop team.
- Managing and developing multicultural workforce and management.
- Proactive, team player, loyal, honest, helpful, recognized good character.
- Adaptable to multicultural settings with mutual respect
- Ability to work in remote areas, under high pressure, and over long hours if necessary

How to Apply

Interested Candidates should address a cover letter with a CV & (2) two passport-size photos to:

The Human Resources Department
Golden Veroleum (Liberia) Inc.
Butaw Main Office
Sinoe County

Kindly note the following:

- the information & application shall optionally be dropped at the GVL Butaw Main Office (HR Department)
- applicants shall also email the application letter, cover letter & credentials to: alphonso.kofi@veroleum.com or daniel.cephas@veroleum.com
- Only selected candidates will be notified for the interview.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Rep. Cole joins Musa Bility's CMC

-Appointed as National Vice Chair.

By: Edwin N. Khakie

Representative Josiah Marvin Cole of Electoral District #3 has officially joined the Citizens Movement for Change (CMC).

Gbarnga, Bong County – July 7, 2025: His defection was confirmed at a well-attended ceremony held on Saturday in Gbarnga, the county's capital.

During the event, CMC Political Leader Musa Hassan Bility welcomed Rep. Cole into the party and immediately appointed him as National Vice-Chair for Operations, a key leadership role that positions Cole at the center of

“We are building a movement of serious-minded leaders who are ready to change Liberia,” Bility said. “Honorable Cole brings the kind of energy, discipline, and structure this party needs. His experience in government and connection with the people make him a powerful asset.”

Representative Cole, who has long been regarded as one of Bong County's most influential and outspoken lawmakers, said his decision to join the CMC was driven by a desire to be part of a “progressive force that puts the people first.”

“Today marks a new chapter not just for me, but for the people I represent,” Cole declared. “I

traction under Bility's leadership. It also signals a major shift in Bong County's political landscape, where Cole has built a loyal support base since winning the District #3 seat.

Prior to this announcement, Cole was widely speculated to be considering a move, following months of political tension with his former allies. His move to CMC is expected to trigger realignments both within Bong and among other political actors who may now see the party as a credible force.

Some citizens of Bong County say Cole's decision could boost the CMC's profile nationally, especially as the party prepares to field candidates in upcoming by-elections Nimba County and local government contests.

The event in Gbarnga drew a diverse crowd, including CMC partisans, local leaders, students, youth groups, and community members, many of whom expressed enthusiasm about what Cole's move could mean for the county and the country.

“This is not just politics as usual,” one attendee remarked. “This is about building something new, and Honorable Cole is the kind of leader who can help us do that.”

With his new role as National Vice-Chair for Operations, Cole is expected to lead CMC's efforts to organize across the 15 counties, recruit candidates, and coordinate outreach as the party expands its national footprint. -

Edited by Othello B. Garblah.



(l-r) Rep. Cole and Rep. Bility sharing stage

the party's organizational and strategic agenda heading into the 2027 elections.

Speaking at the ceremony, Bility praised Cole's political acumen and his track record of mobilization, both in the Legislature and at the grassroots level.

believe in the CMC's vision for a new Liberia, and I'm committed to using this platform to deliver real change.”

Cole's entry into the Citizens Movement for Change marks a significant moment for the relatively young political party, which has been steadily gaining

Yarsah Integrated Farm Poised for Rebirth as U.S. Investor Visits Bong County Site.

By: Edwin N. Khakie

Melekie Town, Bong County – July 7, 2025:

In a move that could breathe new life into one of Bong County's historically significant agricultural centers, Rev. Trafam Cookies, a visiting American investor, has completed a one-day exploratory visit at the Yarsah Integrated Farm in Melekie Town, Jorquelleh District #2.

Rev. Cookies' visit marks a promising step toward the potential revitalization of the once-thriving farm formerly known as the Taylor Farm which has long been dormant. The farm, located along the Suakoko Highway, was a symbol of agricultural productivity in its heyday and is now being eyed for restoration to its former prominence.

Accompanied by local farm authorities, Rev. Cookies toured key sections of the expansive Yarsah Integrated Farm, including a stop at the Liberia Multi-Purpose Cooperative (LMPC) compound, where he held discussions with local staff and community leaders.

Elder John Kwah, Administrator

of the Yarsah Integrated Farm, will regain its former glory and and Dupo Mengarzon, the Farm help reduce youth Manager, described the unemployment through investor's visit as a potential agricultural engagement.”

turning point for agriculture in The Yarsah Integrated Farm the region. Both officials spans hundreds of acres of fertile land, previously known for Cookies' interest could translate producing rice, vegetables, and into tangible investment, with other essential crops. Its decline far-reaching benefits for food over the years, due to lack of production and employment funding and technical support, mirrored the challenges faced by across Bong County.

“We see this visit as a great hope,” said Elder Kwah. “If Rev. Cookies follows through with his investment plans, the farm

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7



Gov't increases gasoline and fuel prices

-Citizens express concern over rising hardship

The Government of Liberia increases prices of petroleum products amid rising economic hardship across the country.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Monrovia, Liberia; July 7, 2025 - The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) in collaboration with the Management of the Liberia Petroleum Refining Company (LPRC) announces significant increases in prices of petroleum products across the country.

According to a price circular signed by Commerce Minister Magdalene Ellen Dagoseh and LPRC Managing Director Amos Tweh, the retail price for a gallon of gasoline (PMS) has been increased by US\$0.14, bringing it to US\$4.18 or LRD 830, while the price of fuel oil (AGO) has risen by US\$0.15, now standing at US\$4.46 or LRD 890.

more cautiously. “This decision will only deepen the financial burden on ordinary people,” said an official of a local market. “It contradicts the administration's previous promises of economic relief.”

Upon taking office, the Boakai administration reduced pump prices slightly, bringing gasoline from US\$4.47 to US\$4.28, and diesel from US\$5.23 to US\$4.81. However, the recent increases suggest a potential return to pre-administration levels, raising concerns about the government's long-term economic direction

The new price ceilings, jointly issued by the MoCI and LPRC, place wholesale and retail prices of petroleum products as follows:



These adjustments come amid a worsening exchange rate situation, with the Liberian dollar rapidly depreciating against the U.S. dollar at US\$1 to LD\$200. The result is a domino effect of increased transportation and market prices, compounding the financial pressure on already struggling Liberian households.

Notably, this marks the second price increase in just under a month. On June 7, 2025, the government raised petroleum prices by five cents, making this most recent hike particularly troubling for many citizens.

Fuel and gasoline products, widely considered politically sensitive commodities, should be handled

Gasoline (PMS): Wholesale – US\$3.90; Retail – US\$4.18. Fuel Oil (AGO): Wholesale – US\$4.18; Retail – US\$4.46.

Public reaction to the announcement has been largely negative. “The government should focus on reducing prices, not raising them,” said Ma Lorpua Tarr, an elderly woman. “To increase prices twice in a single month is a hard move. We are already suffering.”

As fuel and gasoline prices continue to rise, many Liberians are bracing for the ripple effects on transportation, goods, and services, an economic storm the government has yet to calm.

Editing by Jonathan Browne

Advertisement for The New Dawn newspaper, featuring contact information and a list of services offered.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Starts from page 6 **Yarsah Integrated Farm Poised for Rebirth**

During the visit, farm officials called on the Ministry of Agriculture, local government representatives, and agriculture-focused NGOs to seize this opportunity by providing complementary technical and financial support. They emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships to maximize the potential of the investor's interest and sustain long-term development in the agricultural sector.

"We're asking our government and development partners to join hands in helping restore this farm," said Farm Manager Mengarzon. "With the right support, this site can once again feed thousands and offer jobs to our youth."

The delegation also used the occasion to encourage Liberians particularly young people to embrace farming as a viable career path and a way to

contribute to national food security and economic resilience.

Rev. Cookies, who expressed satisfaction with the tour and the hospitality of local leaders, is expected to return to Liberia in the coming weeks to continue development discussions. His proposed plans include mechanized farming, agricultural training programs, and sustainable crop cultivation—all aimed at making the Yarsah Integrated Farm a model for rural agricultural renewal in Liberia.

As Liberia continues to grapple with food insecurity and high youth unemployment, the revival of the Yarsah Integrated Farm could serve as a beacon of hope for communities in Bong County and beyond.

A-Z launches food processing company

Liberians are to benefit home-processed food, with the launch of Liberia Food Processing Inc., manufacturer of Royal Mayonnaise here.

Monrovia, Liberia; July 7, 2025 - The Management of A-Z Incorporated has launched the Liberia Food Processing Inc., manufacturer of Royal Mayonnaise.

Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung and the Minister of Commerce and Industry Magdalene Ellen Dagoseh, among other officials of government graced the occasion.

Speaking during the launch Friday, July 5 opposite the National Transit Authority in Gardnerville, the Manager of the Corporation Mr. Kamal Merhi said the factory produces 1,000 tons of finished product per month.

"We have 26 employees, who have been trained by European specialists in the operation and maintenance of the facility. We expect to add a second shift to our production line, which will create additional jobs and training for more Liberians," Mr. Merhi added.

He disclosed that the investment is more than USD\$12m, which only constitutes Phase I of the facility.

"Our next phase, which will see additional investments, will include the production of tomato paste, tomato ketchup, and noodles. Seasoning and bouillon tablets.

As you may be aware, our affiliate (parent) company is the A-Z Corporation, which has been in business in Liberia for over 50 years."

Mr. Kamal Merhi recounted that A-Z Corporation stayed the course despite the coup d'état of 1980, that preceded the Liberian Civil War, and the Ebola and COVID-19 pandemic respectively, noting that this investment and other planned investments are a reflection of the confidence they have in the Liberian economy, including a

strong commitment to the Liberian people, who have supported the business in the country.

"But most important of all Mr. Vice President, this investment is a measure of our love for Liberia. Liberia has been good to A-Z Corporation over our 5 decades of existence. We owe our success to Liberia, and today we are proud to share with you an enterprise that will help strengthen your Government's ARREST Policy."

He promised that the Liberia Food Processing Inc. will create jobs, train Liberians, provide downstream supply chain opportunities for SMES, and save on valuable foreign exchange through import substitution.

"We will stand as a shining example to other investors of our confidence in the Liberian economy and encourage others to invest in food processing and light manufacturing", Mr. Merhi further pledged.

Mr. Vice President, permit me to assure you that A-Z Corporation and Liberia Food Processing Inc., are here to stay. We will continue to serve the Liberian people, while we also work to serve as an

The industry also looks forward to become an exporter of

Liberian produced goods within the Mano River Union countries, helping to contribute to Liberia's balance of trade.

In response, Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung welcomed launch of the LFPI and underscored that most merchandise businesses in the country turn to manufacturing and leave whole sale and retail distribution with Liberians.

VP Koung expressed prospect for investment in industries, as electricity supply is becoming reliable and will become stable in the coming year.

Remarking, Commerce Minister Magdalene Ellen Dagoseh, noted that the Liberian economy continues to face challenges, but it also holds tremendous potential.

She said the factory should represent a machinery era, and production lines, as well as symbolize opportunity, resilience, and a bright future for all. "It is an investment not only in food production, but in our people, our economy, and our national pride", she expressed.

Minister Dagoseh continued that by adding value to local products, Liberia will reduce dependency on imports, improve food security, and create jobs.

"This investment will have a ripple effect, not only through the jobs it creates but also by supporting local farmers,

Portray integrity, uprightness and ethical conduct

-Speaker Koon urges Public Accountants

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

Speaker Richard Koon urges certified public accountant graduates here to wear the caps of professionalism and become frontline defenders against corruption and the mismanagement of public resources.

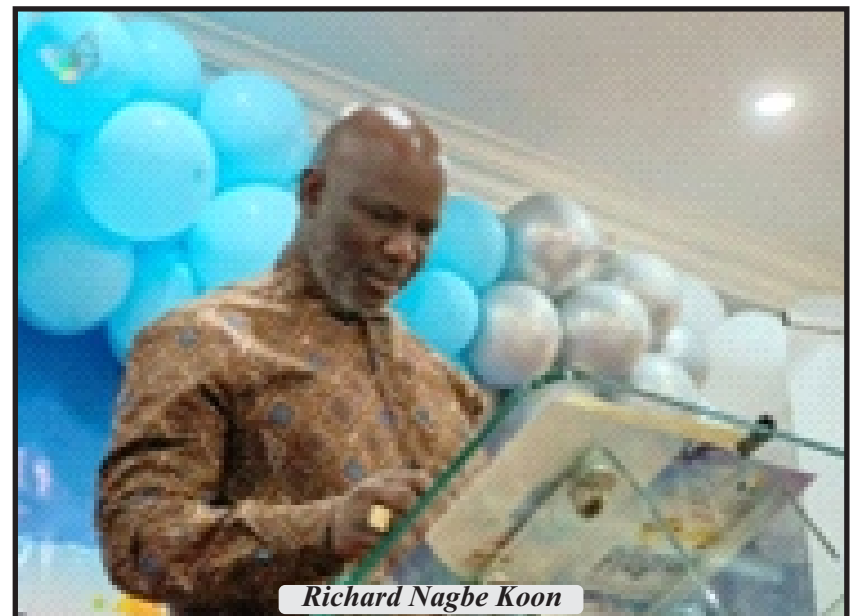
Monrovia, Liberia; July 7, 2025 - House Speaker Richard Nagbe Koon has urged public accountants here to serve as ambassadors of integrity and anti-corruption campaigners. Addressing Certified Public Accountant graduates, Speaker Koon, a professional Accountant and lecturer, emphasized the crucial role of public accountants in the fight against corruption.

"Do not carry professionalism and spoil your name; you must be anti-corruption campaigners", he said. He further urged the graduates to portray integrity, uprightness, and ethical conduct at all times as they push against corrupt practices.

Professionalization Initiative (API). "Your graduation is not just a celebration of academic excellence; rather, it is a declaration of Liberia's leadership in upholding international standards and transparency in public finance," he added.

Charles S. Kpadeh, Acting Executive Director of the Liberian Institute of Certified Public Accountants, commended Speaker Koon for the message, urging fellow graduates to take their professional roles seriously and work actively to ensure service to the nation.

Liberia's Auditor General, P. Garswa Jackson, congratulated the graduates on their commitment and



Richard Nagbe Koon

"Your graduation reflects Liberia's commitment to integrity, efficiency, and accountability. You are now guardians of public trust, and we depend on you, so please do not disappoint us."

The Speaker also wants the graduates to wear caps of professionalism and become frontline defenders against corruption and mismanagement of public resources.

Speaking on the theme, "Celebrating Excellence: Creating Value for the Public Sector," he hailed the graduates while issuing a call to nationalism and reaffirming the patriot's creed.

A total of 33 Certified Professional Public Sector Accountants (PPSAs), including Margibi County Electoral District 5 Representative Clarence Gahr, were conferred with certificates under the African

successful completion of rigorous training, while thanking the Liberia Institute of Certified Public Accountants and its partners for contributing to the country's leadership in public sector professionalization.

"There are many certified public accountants in high places in government and private institutions, yet you preferred us; we appreciate your preference and celebrate this milestone with you," AG Garswa said.

Meanwhile, the LICPA graduation ceremony brought together senior government officials, professional accountants, international partners, and family members of the graduates to celebrate a new era in public sector accounting and governance in Liberia. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



VP Koung flanked by Minister Dagoseh, Mr. Merhi and Presidential Advisor McDalla Cooper cuts the ribbon to the LFPI

transporters, retailers, and small business owners. This is exactly the kind of link between industry and SMEs that we must continue to strengthen."

She challenged Liberian entrepreneurs and business owners that now is their time to rise and make use of opportunities being provide, saying "Your government is committed to creating a more enabling environment, improving infrastructure, simplifying business registration, and expanding access finance. But you must take the lead. Start small

if you have to. Innovate. Grow. Be part of building our domestic industries."

The Minister said she also looks forward to exploring export opportunities for Liberian-made goods, particularly within the ECOWAS sub region and beyond, and underscored that with value-added production like the Liberia Food Processing Inc., the country can and will compete on the global stage, while those behind the vision. *Story by Jonathan Browne*

Français

Derrière l'invitation de Boakai par Trump – Le dossier HPX/Ivanhoe

Le président Joseph Nyumah Boakai doit se rendre cette semaine aux États-Unis, aux côtés de quatre autres chefs d'État africains, à l'invitation du président américain Donald Trump. Cette rencontre, prévue du 9 au 11 juillet à la

président Trump estime que l'Afrique recèle d'immenses perspectives économiques susceptibles de profiter à la fois aux populations africaines et américaines.

Une invitation sous conditions
Cependant, l'invitation adressée au président Boakai intervient dans un

conclure un accord d'infrastructure ferroviaire avant le voyage présidentiel.

Des sources au sein de l'Exécutif indiquent que des responsables liés à l'administration Trump et à Ivanhoe attendent que le président Boakai présente un contrat signé lors de sa rencontre avec le président Trump.

Ivanhoe Atlantic, qui exploite un site minier en Guinée voisine, sollicite un accès illimité au réseau ferroviaire national du Liberia afin d'acheminer son minerai jusqu'au port de Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa. Toutefois, des observateurs avertis estiment que la véritable finalité de cette démarche ne serait pas le transport du minerai guinéen – la Guinée devant inaugurer son propre chemin de fer en décembre – mais bien la revente de ces droits ferroviaires à un tiers.

Un précédent qui inquiète

Des sources bien informées rappellent qu'un paiement de 30 millions de dollars avait été effect

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Maison-Blanche, vise à explorer des opportunités commerciales entre les États-Unis et le continent africain. Selon des sources proches de la présidence américaine, le

contexte délicat : une société minière américaine, High Power Exploration (HPX), récemment rebaptisée Ivanhoe Atlantic, exerce une pression croissante sur le gouvernement libérien pour

L'enquête doit viser le Programme Alimentaire Mondial, affirme Tweah

L'ancien ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement, Samuel D. Tweah, a fermement rejeté les accusations de mauvaise gestion concernant les 30 millions de dollars américains destinés au Programme de soutien alimentaire des ménages lié à la COVID-19 (COHFSP). Selon lui, ces fonds ont été entièrement administrés par le Programme alimentaire mondial (PAM) et non par le gouvernement libérien.

Lors d'une conférence de presse organisée ce week-end au siège du Congrès pour le changement démocratique (CDC) à Congo Town, M. Tweah a précisé que les 25 millions de dollars alloués par le Fonds monétaire international (FMI) ainsi que les 5 millions provenant de la Banque mondiale avaient été transférés directement au PAM.

Selon les informations fournies par l'ex-ministre, le PAM avait déclaré avoir dépensé environ 23,8 millions de dollars à la date de juillet 2022, laissant un solde non utilisé de plus de 2 millions de dollars. Ce montant n'avait toujours pas été reversé au

gouvernement libérien ni à la Banque mondiale à la fin du mandat de l'administration CDC.

M. Tweah a affirmé disposer de documents détaillés et de notes officielles de passation démontrant que la gestion et la distribution des fonds relevaient exclusivement du PAM.

« Toute enquête sérieuse doit cibler le Programme alimentaire mondial, et non ma personne ni aucun autre responsable de l'administration dirigée par George Weah », a-t-il insisté.

Il a également dénoncé ce qu'il qualifie de « campagne soutenue de désinformation et de diffamation », accusant le journaliste Stanton Witherspoon d'avoir orchestré, selon lui, quatre années de dénigrement systématique à son

encontre.

M. Tweah a annoncé son intention d'engager des poursuites judiciaires contre M. Witherspoon pour diffusion de fausses allégations, notamment celles selon lesquelles il serait prochainement arrêté dans l'affaire des fonds COVID-19.

Dans sa défense, il a évoqué une lettre de l'actuel ministre des Finances autorisant l'utilisation d'une partie des fonds non dépensés pour des programmes d'alimentation scolaire, une décision qu'il affirme avoir refusée lorsqu'il était en poste.

Il a souligné que l'administration CDC avait laissé des recommandations écrites

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Éditorial

La doctrine Trump

NEW YORK – En à peine quatre mois de deuxième administration du président américain Donald Trump, les premiers signes d'une doctrine en matière de politique étrangère apparaissent d'ores et déjà. Comme bien d'autres aspects de la présidence Trump 2.0, cette doctrine marque une rupture majeure par rapport au passé.

Les doctrines jouent un rôle de premier plan dans la politique étrangère américaine. À travers la doctrine Monroe formulée en 1823, les États-Unis ont affirmé qu'ils s'imposeraient comme la puissance prééminente sur le continent américain, et qu'ils empêcheraient tout autre pays d'établir des positions stratégiques concurrentes dans la région. De même, au début de la guerre froide, la doctrine Truman a promis un soutien des États-Unis à tous les pays qui lutteraient contre le communisme et la stratégie de subversion soviétique. Plus récemment, la doctrine Carter a énoncé que les États-Unis ne resteraient pas spectateurs si une force extérieure cherchait à prendre le contrôle de la région du golfe Persique, riche en pétrole. La doctrine Reagan a promis assistance aux mouvements et pays opposés au communisme. Celle de George W. Bush, axée sur la liberté, a notamment adressé le message selon lequel ni les terroristes, ni ceux qui les protégeraient ne seraient à l'abri d'une intervention armée.

Point comme entre ces doctrines, elles font toutes savoir à différents destinataires quels sont les intérêts fondamentaux des États-Unis, et ce que le pays est prêt à faire pour les promouvoir. Les doctrines visent à rassurer amis et alliés, à dissuader ennemis réels ou potentiels, à galvaniser les agences en charge des questions de sécurité nationale, ainsi qu'à informer les citoyens.

Non formulée explicitement pas Trump, une nouvelle doctrine américaine émerge pourtant actuellement, que l'on pourrait qualifier de doctrine des « yeux fermés », du « rien vu, rien entendu », ou du « cela ne nous regarde pas ».

Quelle qu'en soit l'appellation, cette doctrine semble énoncer que les États-Unis ne chercheront plus à influencer ni à réagir à la manière dont les autres pays se comporteront à l'intérieur de leurs propres frontières. C'est ainsi que l'administration américaine s'est abstenue de condamner l'arrestation arbitraire d'un opposant politique de premier plan par le président turc Recep Tayyip Erdogan, les manœuvres répétées du Premier ministre israélien Benjamin Netanyahu pour affaiblir le pouvoir judiciaire dans son pays, ou encore la manière dont le Premier ministre hongrois de longue date, Viktor Orbán, ne cesse de malmenager les institutions démocratiques en Hongrie.

De même, Trump dénonce certes la politique étrangère du président russe Vladimir Poutine, ainsi que la politique économique du dirigeant chinois Xi Jinping, mais ne s'indigne en aucun cas de la répression que mènent l'un et l'autre contre leur propre population. L'administration Trump a par ailleurs décidé d'affaiblir voire de démanteler bon nombre des instruments – Voice of America, Agence des États-Unis pour le développement international, ou encore Dotation nationale pour la démocratie – employés depuis longtemps pour promouvoir la société civile et les mouvements démocratiques à travers le monde.

Ce qui se rapproche le plus d'une [formulation](#) publique de cette nouvelle doctrine a eu lieu en Arabie saoudite, le 13 mai dernier. Trump a en effet exprimé son admiration pour ce qu'il décrit comme une formidable transformation du Royaume, ajoutant que cette évolution n'était pas le fruit des efforts « d'interventionnistes occidentaux [...] qui vous donnent des leçons sur la manière de vivre et de gouverner vos propres affaires [...] Ces dernières années, trop de présidents américains ont considéré à tort qu'il était de notre devoir de sonder les âmes des dirigeants étrangers, et d'user de la politique américaine pour absoudre ou non leurs péchés ».

Les agissements de Trump, notamment sa recherche d'accords commerciaux avec plusieurs gouvernements autoritaires du Golfe et d'ailleurs, soulignent le poids de cette déclaration. À la différence de Reagan, de Carter, de Bush, de Barack Obama et de [Joe Biden](#), Trump adresse ici clairement le message selon lequel les États-Unis n'ont plus l'intention de défendre les droits de l'homme et la démocratie, de condamner les méfaits de dirigeants étrangers autoritaires, ni de faire pression pour la libération d'opposants politiques.

Cette doctrine du « rien vu, rien entendu » évite certes aux États-Unis une dérive caractéristique de la présidence Bush, durant laquelle le zèle dans la propagation de la démocratie avait conduit à une invasion irréfléchie et coûteuse de l'Irak. Elle facilite par ailleurs pour les États-Unis un travail constructif auprès de gouvernements appliquant chez eux des politiques qui, en temps normal, constitueraient un obstacle aux relations commerciales ou à la coopération sur des questions bilatérales, régionales ou mondiales essentielles.

Ce sont néanmoins les retombées négatives de cette approche qui l'emportent. La doctrine Trump accroît la probabilité que les gouvernements engagés sur cette voie redoublent d'efforts de répression intérieure et de subversion de la démocratie – régime politique caractérisé par davantage de liberté pour les individus, mais également par des marchés libres, soutenus par l'État de droit, et par une politique étrangère généralement moins agressive. La promotion de la démocratie est par conséquent bénéfique pour les investisseurs américains, et limite le risque que l'Amérique s'enlise à l'étranger dans des conflits coûteux ou prolongés.

Richard Haass, président émérite du Conseil des relations étrangères, conseiller principal chez Centerview Partners, et chercheur universitaire émérite à l'Université de New York, est l'auteur de la newsletter hebdomadaire Substack [Home & Away](#).

Français

Starts from page 8 Derrière l'invitation de Boakai par Le gouvernement renforce sa lutte contre la corruption

par HPX à l'ancienne administration Weah, sans qu'aucun accord définitif ne voie le jour, ce qui aurait conduit à l'imposition de restrictions de voyage à l'ex-ministre des Finances, Samuel D. Tweah. Ces mêmes sources estiment qu'Ivanhoe chercherait, via un accès illimité au rail, à accroître la valeur de cette infrastructure en vue de sa cession à un opérateur tiers, un schéma qui rappelle le contrat controversé avec MedTech Scientific, lequel continue de siphonner près de 80 % des recettes nationales issues des importations au profit d'une entreprise étrangère. Une telle opération risquerait également de réduire les recettes fiscales issues des sociétés déjà présentes, notamment ArcelorMittal Liberia. En effet, ces entreprises pourraient considérer les frais supplémentaires comme des charges déductibles, diminuant d'autant les impôts dus au Trésor libérien.

Qui contrôle Ivanhoe Atlantic ?

Basée dans l'État du Delaware et utilisant une simple boîte postale comme adresse officielle, Ivanhoe Atlantic est l'ancienne HPX, renommée en décembre 2024 par Robert Friedland. Ce dernier est également le fondateur d'Ivanhoe Mines Ltd, société minière canadienne, et d'I-Pulse, Inc., actionnaire majoritaire d'Ivanhoe Atlantic.

Un contrat qui entre en conflit avec l'accord existant d'ArcelorMittal

En parallèle de ces tractations, un accord minier amendé lie déjà le gouvernement libérien à ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML), lui octroyant le droit exclusif d'exploiter la ligne ferroviaire

pendant 25 ans.

Cet accord de développement minier, signé en 2021 et récemment étendu de 800 millions à 1,2 milliard de dollars, prévoit notamment la construction d'un concentrateur moderne de minerai de fer, l'augmentation de la capacité de production, la création de plus de 2 000 emplois directs ainsi que le renforcement des chaînes d'approvisionnement locales et de la formation professionnelle dans les communautés minières. Cependant, cet accord a fait l'objet de controverses persistantes, certains accusant ArcelorMittal de vouloir monopoliser la gestion du chemin de fer et de se comporter à la fois en juge et partie. L'entreprise a fermement démenti ces allégations, affirmant soutenir un modèle d'utilisation partagée et réglementée.

« Quand ArcelorMittal est arrivée au Liberia, la ligne ferroviaire n'était plus opérationnelle et l'État n'avait pas les moyens de la remettre en état. Dans le cadre de son accord, AML a financé la réhabilitation complète et assure depuis sa maintenance, permettant la poursuite des exportations minières et le transport des marchandises », a rappelé la société.

Des risques juridiques majeurs

La perspective d'un accord d'accès ferroviaire avec Ivanhoe, alors qu'un contrat exclusif demeure en vigueur avec ArcelorMittal, suscite des inquiétudes quant à de potentielles poursuites judiciaires, le MDA en vigueur conférant à AML un contrôle intégral de la ligne reliant Yekepa à Buchanan.

La Commission anticorruption du Liberia (LACC) a officiellement demandé au Service de l'immigration du Liberia (LIS) de restreindre temporairement les déplacements de plusieurs anciens et actuels responsables publics soupçonnés d'implication dans des affaires de corruption. Dans une correspondance datée du 1er juillet 2025, signée par la présidente de la LACC, Mme Alexandra Kormah Zoe, la Commission a prié le commissaire général du LIS, M. Elijah F. Rufus, d'interdire aux personnes concernées de quitter le territoire libérien, le temps de finaliser les actes d'accusation.



La lettre, également adressée au ministère de la Justice et à d'autres institutions de sécurité nationale, décrit l'affaire comme « urgente » et liée à des enquêtes de « haute priorité portant sur des individus soupçonnés d'actes graves de corruption et de malversations financières ».

« Afin de préserver l'intégrité de ces procédures et d'éviter tout risque de fuite hors de notre juridiction, nous sollicitons respectueusement l'assistance du Service de l'immigration pour interdire temporairement le départ du Liberia des personnes listées en annexe », précise la communication.

Parmi les personnes visées figurent d'anciens cadres de l'Autorité des télécommunications du Liberia (LTA), de la Commission pour les réfugiés, le rapatriement et la réinsertion (LRRRC), de la Compagnie nationale pétrolière du Liberia (NOCAL) ainsi que des responsables du projet « Yellow Machine » du comté de Gbarpolu.

Liste des responsables concernés :

Autorité des télécommunications du Liberia (LTA)

- Abdullah Kabara, ancien PDG de TAMMA Corporation
- Edwina C. Zackpa, ancienne présidente de la LTA
- Maria G. Harrison, ancienne présidente de la LTA
- Israel Makinsaya, ancien commissaire de la LTA
- Ivan G. Brown, ancien commissaire de la LTA
- Zotawon D. Titus, ancien commissaire de la LTA

Commission pour les réfugiés, le rapatriement et la réinsertion (LRRRC)

- Patrick T. Worzie, directeur exécutif
- Alieu Fofana, directeur du suivi et de l'évaluation
- Joseph Wea, comptable
- Jeredine Koleh, directrice du département humanitaire

Compagnie nationale pétrolière du Liberia (NOCAL)

- Rustonlyn Suacoco Dennis, PDG
- Richmond Jallah, comptable
- Edmond K. Massaquoi, technicien informatique, ministère des Transports

Projet « Yellow Machine » du comté de Gbarpolu

- Sam K. Zinnah, superintendant du comté de Gbarpolu
- Omaru Sheriff, PDG de City Lion Inc.
- J. Keyah Saah, superintendant du comité de gestion du projet (GPMC)
- Anthony Yorker, superintendant financier, GPMC
- Robert Benda, président du GPMC

La LACC a souligné que ces enquêtes sont à un stade « avancé » et que des poursuites judiciaires seront engagées prochainement. « Nous restons confiants dans votre engagement constant afin que les personnes suspectes répondent de leurs actes par les voies légales appropriées », a déclaré la présidente Zoe.

Starts from page 8 L'enquête doit viser le Programme

s claires sur le traitement de ces fonds pour le gouvernement entrant.

Déplorant ce qu'il décrit comme une « culture du silence » chez ceux qui connaissent la réalité mais refusent de s'exprimer publiquement, M. Tweah a lancé un appel aux journalistes, responsables politiques et acteurs de la société civile pour qu'ils fassent preuve de plus de rigueur et de responsabilité.

« Ces récits fallacieux sapent le débat national et nos efforts collectifs contre la corruption », a-t-il averti, ajoutant que l'instrumentalisation politique de la désinformation portait atteinte au progrès démocratique du Liberia.

Il a réaffirmé sa confiance dans le système judiciaire libérien et déclaré être prêt à se soumettre à toute enquête légitime.

M. Tweah a par ailleurs mis en avant l'héritage de l'administration CDC en matière de financement à

long terme d'infrastructures essentielles – routes, électricité – qui, selon lui, profiteront aux gouvernements futurs.

Sur le front de la lutte contre la corruption, il a rappelé les réformes engagées sous la présidence de George Weah, qui ont renforcé l'autonomie et les prérogatives légales de la Commission anticorruption du Liberia (LACC), tout en limitant l'ingérence de l'exécutif.

En conclusion, il a exhorté les Libériens à dépasser les « querelles politiciennes » et à se recentrer sur la vérité, la réconciliation et le développement national.

Il a mis en garde contre les « chasses aux sorcières » politiques et les campagnes de désinformation qui, selon lui, ne font que diviser la nation et détourner l'attention des véritables enjeux auxquels le peuple libérien est confronté.

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FEATUREARTICLE

A Call for Swift Confirmation of Justice Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay as Liberia's Next Chief Justice:

BY: Austin S Fallah-
A True Son of the Planet Earth Soil:

In a moment of significant importance for the future of the Liberian judiciary, President Joseph Nyumah Boakai has nominated the esteemed Justice Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay as the next Chief Justice of Liberia. This nomination has been met with overwhelming support from his fellow legal minds and the meaningful community. The Senate must act quickly and positively in response to this nomination, reflecting the will of the well-meaning Liberian people. Justice Gbeisay's confirmation embodies the hope for a reformed justice system in Liberia. It represents a critical step toward protecting the rule of law, human rights, and democratic principles within our nation. To better appreciate the urgency and necessity of confirming Justice Gbeisay, one must first recognize

His commitment to promoting fair trial rights and upholding human rights is particularly noteworthy in a society striving to heal from its tumultuous past. The Need for an Effective Judiciary: The need for a skilled Chief Justice is related to the judiciary's effectiveness in Liberia. The country has long endured the consequences of legal ineffectiveness mixed with corruption and abuse, leading to widespread distrust among the public toward judicial institutions. Now, more than ever, the people of Liberia yearn for a judiciary that is transparent, accountable, and dedicated to protecting the fundamental rights of all individuals. President Boakai's nomination of Justice Gbeisay is a significant stride in this direction. His experience and vision for reform can lead to groundbreaking changes in a justice system that has

Public Will and Civic Responsibility: The Senate's role in the confirmation process is vital to upholding the principles of democracy in Liberia. Since Justice Gbeisay has been endorsed by various legal experts and recognized by well-meaning public members as a qualified candidate, the Senate must heed the people's support for his nomination. The Senate must urgently act to hold confirmation hearings and provide the necessary approval for Justice Gbeisay. Citizens across Liberia have expressed their desire for a competent and fair judiciary. The public's trust in the judicial system is foundational to the functioning of a democratic society. By swiftly confirming Justice Gbeisay, the Senate would fulfill its constitutional duty and embrace its role as the guardian of the people's interests. Such action would demonstrate to the citizens that



his qualifications, the need for an effective and trustworthy judiciary, and the historical context that underpins Liberia's struggle for justice and democracy. A Distinguished Legal Career: Although I have not met or seen Justice Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay, his resume shows him as a figure of utmost integrity and accomplishment within the legal community. Reseached as done thus far, with years of experience as a judge, he has consistently showcased his profound understanding of the law and his commitment to justice. His background is not merely a checklist of academic qualifications and professional titles. It is a testament to his mastery of the complexities of the Liberian legal system through hard work and determination. The significance of a capable Chief Justice can not be overemphasized. For a nation recovering from decades of civil conflict and hooliganism through unwarranted, baseless, ill-advised, undemocratic, and unconstitutional demonstrations, turmoil, the judiciary must function as a bastion of fairness and equity. Through his previous rulings and engagements, Justice Gbeisay has demonstrated an understanding of the law and an empathetic approach to justice that prioritizes the rights of all citizens.

often failed to safeguard the rights of the vulnerable. Justice Gbeisay's confirmation would represent a shift towards a genuine commitment to upholding the rule of law and respecting human rights, thereby enhancing public confidence in the judiciary. Historical Context of Liberia's Judicial System: To understand the importance of this nomination and the necessity for confirmation, we must look back at Liberia's history. Liberia has faced numerous challenges, including civil wars, political instability, and public distrust in governmental institutions. The judicial system has often been controversial, with political interference, corruption, and inefficiency allegations. The consequences of this systemic failure have been dire, leading to an environment where impunity prevails. Justice Gbeisay's nomination is not merely a chance for the Senate to confirm a candidate. Still, it is an opportunity for the country to demonstrate its commitment to overcoming a troubled past. A swift confirmation of Justice Gbeisay would send a strong message to the citizenry that the Senate is aligned with the people's democratic aspirations, values an independent judiciary, and is willing to support necessary reforms to ensure justice for all.

their voices resonate within the halls of power. A Collective Step Towards Justice: Justice Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay's nomination represents a defining moment in Liberia's commitment to justice, accountability, and the rule of law. The combined factors of his distinguished legal career, the urgent need for judicial reform, and Liberia's historical context necessitate a prompt confirmation by the Senate. Justice Gbeisay stands ready to lead a judiciary that can restore faith in Liberia's legal systems and uphold the rights of all Liberians. The Senate has a moral and civic obligation to act swiftly in confirming Justice Gbeisay. This decision is not merely an administrative formality but a critical juncture for Liberia's pursuit of justice. In confirming Justice Gbeisay as the next Chief Justice, the Senate would honor the Liberian people's wishes and reinforce its commitment to democracy, justice, and human rights in our beloved country. As a collective society, let every well-meaning Liberian push for Justice Gbeisay's confirmation and pave the way for a brighter future where justice prevails and the rule of law is upheld. The time to act is now, and Liberia's judiciary deserves a Chief Justice who embodies integrity, competence, and the unwavering belief in justice for all.

Behind Boakai's Trump invitation

President Joseph Nyumah Boakai is expected to join four leaders from the continent this week in the United States to discuss “commercial opportunities,” thanks to an invitation from US President Donald Trump.

By Lincoln G. Peters
Monrovia, July 7, 2025:
Per the invitation, President Trump will host leaders from Liberia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, and Senegal at the White House from July 9 to 11 to discuss business opportunities in Africa.



President Trump is said to hold the view that African countries have incredible business opportunities that could benefit the people of America and countries on the African continent.

The Boakai invite

However, the invitation for President Boakai comes at a time that an American-owned Mining Company, High Power Exploration (HPX), now Ivanhoe Atlantic, with strong political ties with individuals within the Trump administration, is pushing the Boakai administration to seal a railway infrastructure deal with the company as a condition precedent before he travels.

Sources within the corridor of the Executive Mansion say Trump officials with a link to Ivanhoe want President Boakai to present the signed deal to him (Trump) at the meeting.

Ivanhoe currently owns a mining site in neighboring Guinea and is pushing the idea that it wants unlimited access to Liberia's national asset (the Railway) to transport its ore from Guinea through the Port of Buchanan, in Grand Bassa County.

But sources say Ivanhoe's demand for unlimited access and, if possible, semi-control of the Liberian railway is not to transport iron ore from Guinea, because Guinea is set to

commission its own railway in December.

Pushing for a deal to swing Liberia's railway.

Sources clothed with information about the HPX deal, which have seen former Finance Minister Samuel D. Tweah unjustly

slapped with a US-Travel restriction because of US\$30 million paid to the Weah regime in good faith for a deal that was never sealed say Ivanhoe's push for unlimited access to the railway is to swing it to a third party.

The source stated that Ivanhoe's push for unlimited railway access aims to increase its value for sale to a third party, which would, in return, operate the railway in a deal reminiscent of the MedTech Scientific deal, which continues to divert 80 percent of the country's import revenue to a foreign company.

This would also, in return, reduce revenue intake from existing companies like ArcelorMittal Liberia, which will now count such payments as expenditures, thereby reducing their taxes owed to the Liberian Government.

Who owns Ivanhoe Atlantic?

Ivanhoe Atlantic, based in Delaware and using a Post Office box as its mailing address, was previously known as High Power Exploration (HPX) and was renamed Ivanhoe Atlantic in December 2024 by Robert Friedland.

Friedland is the founder of Canada-based Ivanhoe Mines. LTD. Friedland also founded I-Pulse, Inc., the majority stockholder of Ivanhoe Atlantic.

The deal comes amid ArcelorMittal Liberia's existing MDA

Despite the imminent deal between the Government of Liberia and Ivanhoe Liberia, an existing agreement exists between the Liberian Government and ArcelorMittal Liberia, which grants the latter the right to operate the railway for 25 years.

The amended Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) signed in 2021 between the Government of Liberia and ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) is at the center of this dilemma. The agreement, originally valued at \$800 million and now expanded to \$1.2 billion, outlines a bold commitment by AML to invest in a modern iron ore concentrator, increase production capacity, create over 2,000 new direct jobs, and revitalize local supply chains and vocational training across mining communities.

The new MDA has been bedeviled with controversies and conspiracies over the claim that AML wants to monopolize the railway and serve as a player and referee, a claim the company has continued to debunk.

Recently, AML debunked claims that it is blocking other companies from using the Yekepa-Buchanan railway as false. “This is simply not true,” the company said.

According to the company, AML supports a system where multiple companies can use the railway fairly, under clear rules set by the government.

“When AML first came to Liberia, the railway was not working, and the government didn't have the money to fix it. As part of its agreement, AML fully repaired and has been maintaining the railway so that mining exports and other businesses could continue,” it said.

Fear of legal issues

There are fears of potential legal issues, as the Government of Liberia signs a railway access deal with Ivanhoe amidst an existing MDA with AML, which gives it 100 percent control over the Yekepa-Buchanan railway. -

Writes Othello B. Garblah.

Investigation should focus on WFP

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Former Finance and Development Planning Minister Samuel D. Tweah has strongly denied allegations of mismanagement involving the US\$30 million COVID-19 Household Food Support Program (COHFSP), asserting that the entire fund was solely managed by the World Food Programme (WFP), not the Liberian government.

Addressing a press conference convened over the weekend at the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) headquarters in Congo Town, Tweah emphasized that the full US\$25 million from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), along with an additional US\$5 million from the World Bank, was directly transferred to the WFP.

By July 2022, according to Tweah, the WFP

Starts from Back page **Gov't gets tough on anti-corruption fight**

g & Evaluation; Joseph Wea, Comptroller; Jeredine Koleh, Director of the Humanitarian Department.

From the National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL): Rustonlyn Suacoco Dennis, CEO; Richmond Jallah, Comptroller; Edmond K. Massaquoi, IT Technician, Ministry of Transport.

From the Gbarpolu County Yellow Machine Project: Mr. Sam K. Zinnah, Superintendent of Gbarpolu County, Omaru Sheriff, CEO of City Lion Inc. Mr. J. Keyah Saah, Superintendent, Gbarpolu Project Management

Committee (GPMC), Anthony Yorker, Fiscal Superintendent, GPMC; and Mr. Robert Benda, Chairman, GPMC
The LACC emphasized that these investigations are at “advanced stages” and that legal action is forthcoming. “We remain confident in your unwavering support to ensure that suspected individuals are made to account through proper legal channels,” Chairperson Zoe stated. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah.**

reported spending approximately US\$23.8 million, with just over US\$2 million unspent, an amount that had yet to be returned to the Liberian government or the World Bank by the time the CDC administration left office.

According to him, he presented detailed documentation and official turnover notes to support his claim, stating unequivocally that the WFP maintained full control over the disbursement and management of the funds.

“Any investigation should be directed at the WFP, not me or any other official of the George Weah-led administration,” he asserted.

Tweah went on to condemn what he described as a “sustained campaign of misinformation and character assassination,” singling out media personality Stanton Witherspoon,

among individuals and institutions aware of the facts but unwilling to speak out publicly.

He called on journalists, politicians, and civil society actors to uphold higher standards of truth and accountability.

“This false narrative is undermining our national discourse and efforts to combat corruption,” Tweah said, adding that political weaponization of misinformation is damaging to Liberia's democratic progress.

He reaffirmed his trust in Liberia's judicial system and expressed his readiness to face any legitimate investigation.

He further highlighted the CDC administration's legacy of securing long-term financing arrangements for critical infrastructure projects, including



whom he accused of leading a four-year defamation campaign against him.

He announced plans to sue Witherspoon for spreading false claims, including recent allegations that he [Tweah] would soon be arrested in connection with the COVID-19 funds.

In his defense, Tweah referenced a letter from the current Finance Minister approving the use of a portion of the unspent COVID-19 funds for school feeding programs, an approval he claimed to have previously denied during his tenure.

He emphasized that the CDC administration left clear written recommendations regarding the unspent funds for the incoming government.

The former minister also decried what he called a "culture of silence"

roads and electricity, which he said will benefit future administrations.

On the issue of anti-corruption, Tweah noted reforms under President George Weah's leadership that granted the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) greater autonomy and legal authority, even limiting presidential interference.

In closing, Tweah urged Liberians to move beyond “trivial politics” and focus instead on truth, reconciliation, and national development.

This, he warned that political witch-hunts and misinformation campaigns only serve to divide the nation and distract from the real issues affecting the Liberian people. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah.**

Gov't gets tough on anti-corruption fight

-As LACC restrains alleged corrupt officials with travel bans

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) has formally requested the Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) to impose temporary travel restrictions on several current and former public officials linked to ongoing corruption investigations.

F. Rufus prohibit the individuals from departing Liberia while the Commission prepares to issue indictments.

The letter, which was copied to the Ministry of Justice and other national security institutions, described the matter as urgent and tied to "high-priority investigations involving individuals suspected of

letter reads, "we respectfully request the assistance of the Liberia Immigration Service in temporarily restricting the departure of the individuals listed in the attached document from the Republic of Liberia."

Among those listed are former officials from the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA), Liberia Refugee, Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC), the National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL), and the Gbarpolu County Yellow Machine Project.

The list includes:

From the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA): Abdullah Kabara, former CEO of TAMMA Corporation; Edwina C. Zackpa, former LTA Chairperson; Madam Maria G. Harrison, former LTA Chairperson; Mr. Israel Makinsaya, former LTA Commissioner; Mr. Ivan G. Brown, former LTA Commissioner; Zotawon D. Titus, former LTA Commissioner.

From the LRRRC: Patrick T. Worzie, Executive Director; Aliou Fofana, Director of Monitoring

committing serious acts of corruption and financial misconduct."

"To safeguard the integrity of these proceedings and prevent flight from jurisdiction," the



In a communication dated July 1, 2025, and signed by Executive Chairperson Alexandra Kormah Zoe, the LACC requested that LIS Commissioner General Elijah

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