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

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Continental News

Nigerian ex-president Buhari dies at 82 in London

Muhammadu Buhari died Sunday in London, where he had been receiving medical treatment. He first took power in Africa’s most populous nation in 1983, after a military coup, running an authoritarian regime until fellow soldiers ousted him less than 20 months later. When he was elected in 2015 on his fourth attempt, he became the first opposition candidate to win a presidential election there. Buhari rode into power in that election on a wave of goodwill after promising to rid Nigeria of chronic corruption and a deadly

death, with muted disillusionment in some quarters and sadness in others, is a reflection of how difficult it is to unite a country and his inability to do so after decades in the public eye,” said Afolabi Adekaiyaoja, an Abuja-based political scientist. Coming from Nigeria’s north, the lanky, austere Buhari had vowed to end extremist killings and clean up rampant corruption in one of Africa’s largest economies and oil producers. By the end of his eight-year tenure, however, goodwill toward him had faded into discontent. Insecurity had only grown, and corruption was more widespread. Nigeria also fell into a recession

Buhari’s attempts at managing the problems were complicated by prolonged medical stays abroad. His absences, with few details, created anxiety among Nigerians and some calls for him to be replaced. There also was anger over his seeking taxpayer-funded health care abroad while millions suffered from poor health facilities at home.

“I need a longer time to rest,” the president once said in a rare comment during his time away. His presidency saw a rare bright moment in Nigeria’s fight against Boko Haram — the safe return of dozens of Chibok schoolgirls seized in a mass abduction in 2014 that drew global attention.

But others among the thousands of people abducted by Boko Haram over the years remain missing — a powerful symbol of the government’s failure to protect civilians.

At the end of 2016, Buhari announced that the extremist group had been crushed, driven by the military from its remote strongholds.

“The terrorists are on the run, and no longer have a place to hide,” he boasted.

But suicide bombings and other attacks remained a threat, and the military’s fight against Boko Haram continued to be hurt by allegations of abuses by troops against civilians. In early 2017, the accidental military bombing of a displaced persons camp in the northeast killed more than 100 people, including aid workers. The U.N. refugee chief called the killings “truly catastrophic.”

As Nigeria’s military reclaimed more area from Boko Haram’s control, a vast humanitarian crisis was revealed. Aid groups began alerting the world to people dying from malnutrition, even as government officials denied the crisis and accused aid groups of exaggerating the situation to attract donations.

Somalia-Ethiopia tensions escalate as port deal talks stall

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan hosted Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in Ankara on Friday for a high-level meeting focused on strengthening bilateral relations, particularly in the areas of counterterrorism and regional cooperation.

The talks were held behind closed doors at the Presidential Complex, according to a statement released by Türkiye’s Communications Directorate.

The meeting comes as tensions between Somalia and Ethiopia escalate as mediation efforts over

strongly opposes the deal, calling it a violation of its sovereignty.

Mogadishu has launched a diplomatic campaign to block the agreement and has appealed to the United Nations for intervention.

On July 3, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed reiterated his government’s position, describing sea access as essential for Ethiopia’s economic development. His comments echoed earlier statements from January that were strongly condemned by Somali officials. Somalia again denounced the deal, referring to it as a “land



Muhamadu Buhari

security crisis. He led until 2023, during a period marked by Boko Haram’s extremist violence in the northeast and a plunging economy. Current President Bola Tinubu in a statement described Buhari as “a patriot, a soldier, a statesman ... to the very core.” Tinubu dispatched the vice president to bring Buhari’s body home from London. Others across Nigeria remembered Buhari as a president who left the country of more than 200 million people — divided between a largely Muslim north and Christian south — more at odds than before. “The uneven response to Buhari’s

amid slumping global oil prices and attacks by militants in the sprawling oil-rich Niger Delta region. The currency faltered as Buhari pursued unorthodox monetary policies to defend its fixed price to the dollar, and a massive foreign currency shortage worsened. Inflation was in the double digits.

Civil society accused him of authoritarian tendencies after protesters were killed during a protest against police brutality and over his decision to restrict access to social media, as young people vented their frustrations against economic and security problems.

Uganda reopens border with M23-held eastern DRC

Six months after closing key border crossings due to rebel advances, Uganda has reopened its border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The move comes after the seizure of Goma by the M23 rebel group, which led to the shutdown of crossings at Bunagana and Ishasha in Congo’s North Kivu province.

Ugandan military assistant Chris Magezi confirmed the reopening on social media, stating that it was ordered directly by President Yoweri Museveni. Magezi also noted that those responsible for initially closing the crossings and disrupting trade between the two communities will be investigated.

The decision follows the recent signing of a peace agreement in Washington, where Rwanda and the DRC agreed to support future talks between the M23 rebels and the Congolese army.

The M23 rebel group, largely made up of ethnic Tutsis, resumed its offensive in late 2021. Fighting

intensified significantly this year, with the group capturing large areas of eastern Congo, including the strategic city of Goma.

The Congolese government has repeatedly accused Rwanda of supporting M23 with weapons and troops. These claims have been backed by the United States, which has cited credible intelligence reports. Rwanda has denied any

direct involvement with the rebel group.

With the border reopened and international diplomacy underway, regional dynamics are shifting. The success of upcoming peace talks will depend heavily on continued pressure from international stakeholders and a willingness among parties to compromise.



Thousands of people flee a refugee camp, near Kibumba some 40 kilometers (25 miles) north of Goma in eastern Congo, Monday, Oct. 27, 2008.



resident Recep Tayyip Erdoğan meets with President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud of Somalia.

a controversial port access agreement stall. The talks, brokered by Turkey since February 2024, aim to resolve a dispute triggered by a deal signed on January 2024 between Ethiopia and the self-declared Republic of Somaliland.

Under the agreement, Ethiopia would gain access to a 20-kilometre stretch of Somaliland’s coastline. In exchange, Somaliland would receive support for its long-sought international recognition. Somalia, which considers Somaliland part of its territory,

grab,” and urged the international community to take action.

The standoff has attracted the attention of regional powers. Earlier this week, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi met with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud. During the meeting, Egypt pledged to strengthen military cooperation and support Red Sea maritime security.

No breakthrough has been reached in the Turkey-led negotiations, and no further rounds of talks have been scheduled.



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PRESS





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 Seltue Karweaye Sr.

President Boakai Comes to Washington

America has long been regarded as Liberia's strategic ally. Liberia has been modeled after the USA. The country was founded by freed African-American slaves in 1822 and declared independence in 1847. We adopted the American presidential system of government, which strengthened our ties with America. As the largest donor to Liberia, we aspire to be seen as America's closest ally in Africa, given our historical connection. Wednesday's meeting at the White House between President Trump and the new Liberian President Joseph Boakai was more than just a courtesy call; it was an opportunity to revitalize a relationship that has the potential to become America's most significant strategic partnership on the African continent. The timing of this visit is no accident. It comes on the heels of the Concession and Access Agreement signed between the Government of Liberia and the U.S.-owned Ivanhoe Atlantic, a company owned by an American-Canadian billionaire, on July 4, 2025. Despite Liberia's geopolitical and economic importance, the country's relationship with the United States went through a rough patch during the latter part of former President George Weah's tenure. Boakai's historic victory over his predecessor, coupled with the latter's dignified concession and the seamless transition of power that occurred less than two years ago, stands as a landmark achievement for Liberia, a nation striving for stability and democratic growth. This event not only represents a crucial moment in the country's political landscape but also reflects a significant success for the U.S. administration, which has made the promotion of peaceful and fair elections a central focus of its foreign policy. By tirelessly mobilizing political and diplomatic resources, the U.S. has demonstrated a commitment to democracy that is all too rare in recent history.

During the American Independence Day celebration at the U.S. mission in Monrovia, President Boakai took a moment to highlight the vital role that the United States has played in Liberia's democratic journey. He expressed heartfelt gratitude towards the U.S. for its unwavering support, stating, "The United States has remained a steadfast ally, backing Liberia in its democratic endeavors, reinforcing our institutions, and standing beside us during challenging national moments." His remarks were met with enthusiastic applause, reflecting a shared appreciation for the partnership between Liberia and the United States as they continue to navigate the complexities of governance and development together. From his polished and dignified demeanor during meetings with President Trump and other high-ranking American officials at the White House to his exceptionally well-crafted and eloquently delivered speech, President Boakai left a lasting impression on everyone present. His articulate presentation not only captivated the audience but also showcased his command of the English language. His eloquence prompted President Trump's demeaning remark, "Such good English, it's beautiful. Where did you learn to speak so beautifully?" In response, President Boakai shared details about his educational background, revealing the institutions that shaped his language skills. This revelation intrigued Trump, who looked around the table and added, "That's very interesting. I have people at this table who can't speak nearly as well." President Trump elaborated. I consider myself a detail-oriented and somewhat meticulous person, yet I found little to remark negatively about Boakai's ongoing visit to the United States, particularly when compared to then-President Weah's earlier meeting with then-President Joe Biden. During Weah's visit, he opted to watch a World Cup soccer match alongside Biden and other African leaders, which seemed to lack the seriousness expected in diplomatic engagements. In stark contrast, Boakai demonstrated a deep understanding of the protocols and conventions essential for state visits. Unlike Weah, Boakai carried himself with exceptional self-confidence and a graceful ease that made a strong impression. His demeanor was not only warm and approachable but also polished and sophisticated, reflecting a keen awareness of his role on the international stage. Boakai maintained complete control during his interactions, embodying the essence of a statesman. His wise and measured speech conveyed not only his ideas but also a sense of gravitas and respect for his audience. Even the somewhat condescending remark from the President. Trump, regarding Boakai's command of the English language, inadvertently gave Liberia significant attention in the world media, causing the country to continue trending

on social platforms since Boakai's visit to the White House. I couldn't have asked for a more impressive representation of our nation on such a prominent platform. At 80 years old, Boakai stands as a remarkable figure in the realm of politics, having attained a prestigious array of titles, including president, vice president, minister, etc. His extensive experience in political roles equips him with a profound insight into political dynamics. Additionally, his education in the United States has allowed him to engage deeply with American culture, making him one of the most familiar faces to many Americans. Given this impressive background, one might wonder why former President Trump would praise Boakai's command of the English language as if it were a surprise. Is it possible that Trump is demonstrating what George W. Bush once described as the "soft bigotry of low expectations"—a tendency to set lower standards for individuals based on preconceived notions about their backgrounds? Recently, Liberia made a groundbreaking discovery of substantial mineral deposits rich in vital resources, including uranium, lithium, manganese, cobalt, and neodymium. This significant finding has sparked major concerns regarding the potential exploitation of these resources by foreign entities, which could threaten the country's sovereignty and economic stability. In light of this situation, I strongly urge President Boakai to conduct a thorough and critical examination of the concession and access agreement established between Robert Friedland, the American-Canadian billionaire, and his company, Ivanhoe Atlantic, and the Liberian government. The agreement, valued at an impressive \$1.8 billion, has the potential to reshape our economic landscape, but it also carries risks that need careful assessment. We must prioritize transparency and accountability in foreign investments in Liberia's mineral sector. A well-regulated approach is necessary to safeguard our nation's valuable resources and ensure that their benefits extend to all Liberian citizens, fostering long-term economic growth and sustainable development. Only through diligent oversight can we prevent the pitfalls of resource exploitation and secure a promising future for our people. Why am I appealing to the President? A long-time friend of mine in Monrovia expressed his outrage recently concerning President Boakai's visit to the United States. He was so frustrated that he couldn't see any positive aspects of the state visit, dismissing it as a meaningless spectacle when critical issues at home remain unresolved. He questioned the rationale behind meeting with a U.S. president who once infamously referred to African nations as "shithole countries" during his first tenure as President. Given Donald Trump's previously unflattering comments about African nations, it is indeed puzzling why he extended an invitation to the leader of a country he so openly disparages. Moreover, my friend wonders why President Boakai accepted the invitation in the first place. He argued that Boakai might be viewed as a puppet of the United States, pointing to the fact that the U.S. Embassy was the first to announce the \$1.8 billion concession and access agreement with Ivanhoe Atlantic to the Liberian public instead of the Liberian government. While I can understand the merits of my friend's argument, suggesting that President Boakai should prioritize tackling pressing national issues, I believe that his visit to the White House was a strategic move. The exposure from this high-profile meeting offers a unique opportunity for Liberia. President Boakai and his delegation must seize the opportunity presented by Trump's remark, "Such good English, it's beautiful. Where did you learn to speak so beautifully?" by engaging with prominent media outlets in the United States, such as the New York Times, CNN, FOX, MSNBC, and BET, etc and effectively highlight Liberia's potential as a vibrant destination for investment, retirement, and tourism. Specifically, President Boakai could emphasize the country's rich cultural heritage, stunning landscapes, and the warmth of its people. Promoting key sectors like agriculture, tourism, and technology could attract foreign investors looking for promising opportunities. Additionally, showcasing Liberia as a safe and welcoming nation would encourage American tourists to explore its beautiful beaches and historical sites. By taking advantage of this moment, President Boakai can not only enhance Liberia's global image but also invite Americans to discover the many opportunities that await them in our country. Welcome to the United States of America, Mr. President.

OP-ED

By Koichi Hamada

How to Negotiate With Trump

NEW HAVEN – Since Donald Trump returned to the White House in January, it has been virtually impossible to keep up with all the [extreme measures](#), incendiary rhetoric, [personnel changes](#), [policy reversals](#), and breaches of rules and norms, from [intelligence leaks](#) to [defiance of court orders](#). That is by design: like European fascists in the twentieth century, Trump knows that it is far easier to manipulate and suppress an overwhelmed, divided, and disoriented public than an informed, engaged, and assured one.

The relentless stream of declarations, policy U-turns, and legal violations confuses and exhausts Trump's opponents, making it difficult to devise a clear strategy for resisting him. And the flood of often-false or misleading information, combined with continued appeals to popular grievances, prevents Trump's supporters from recognizing that he is often actively working against their interests.

For example, cuts to Medicaid under the just-passed “Big, Beautiful Bill” – which will [amount to](#) about \$1 trillion over a decade – will leave [millions of Americans](#), including many Trump voters, without health care. Yet Trump's supporters remain largely fixated on the “enemies” against whom Trump promises to “protect” America. If you have an angry base and can conjure scary bogeymen, you do not have to justify your policies; you need only keep stoking voters' anger and fear.

Trump's domestic opponents cannot expect to make progress simply by calling out his hypocrisy, such as promising to rein in the budget deficit, and then signing a tax and spending bill that will [increase the deficit](#) by \$3.4 trillion over the next decade. Highlighting the consequences of his policies for ordinary Americans – such as the inflationary effects of his tariffs – is similarly ineffective.

The international community, too, has been struggling to figure out how to respond to Trump's behavior, from his bombing of Iranian nuclear sites to his rejection of multilateral agreements. When it comes to tariffs, however, the path forward should be clear.

On April 2, Trump unilaterally announced “reciprocal” tariffs on countries running trade surpluses with the United States. But on April 9 – less than 24 hours after the tariffs took effect – he announced a 90-day “pause,” during which the affected countries were supposed to reach new trade agreements with the US. True to form, the Trump administration has just moved the deadline again: now, countries apparently have until August 1.

Trump's tariffs [defy economic logic](#). A well-established theoretical framework, based on centuries of evidence, explains why international trade is fundamentally a win-win proposition: each country can produce and sell goods and services in the fields where it has a comparative advantage.

Many factors can contribute to that advantage, from demographics to natural-resource endowments to technological innovation. Japan, for example, is better equipped than most other countries to produce and export high-quality cars, thanks to decades of technological development and trust-building in foreign markets. When everyone is making the most of their comparative advantages, living standards rise everywhere.

The Trump administration, however, treats trade like a zero-sum game: if other countries are benefiting, then the US must be losing. Trump hopes that by weaponizing tariffs, he will secure “victories” for US industry. The problem is that the added costs fall primarily to domestic importers – not foreign producers – and are then passed on to consumers. The result is reduced access to foreign goods, weaker domestic competition, and higher prices. But Trump either does not understand this, or simply does not care, and his supporters remain in thrall to his “Make America Great Again” myth-making. So, other countries feel considerable pressure to strike timely deals with his administration. They must resist that pressure. As game theory [indicates](#), patience is crucial for finding cooperative solutions to seemingly intractable conflicts – especially when the uncooperative party is showing impatience. Countries should also remain open to the possibility that trade negotiations can bring mutual benefits, particularly if their scope is broadened beyond industrial products, to include agricultural products and even security issues.

Trade talks between the US and Japan are a case in point. So far, bilateral negotiations have focused not only on automobiles – US imports of Japanese cars are far higher than Japanese imports of American cars – but also on rice, an industry that Japan protects with tariffs and subsidies. But reports of excess production capacity suggest that these protections are not doing Japan much good. Add to that high prices – a reflection of high production costs – and Japan has good reason to liberalize the sector, quite apart from facilitating a trade agreement with the US.

Trump's aggressive tactics have already motivated Europe to take responsibility for its own security – a welcome development in an increasingly insecure world. At last month's NATO summit, member countries (with the exception of Spain) committed to increasing their defense spending to 5% of GDP by 2035. Incorporating defense considerations into trade negotiations could prove constructive.

Japan's share of defense spending was affected by the US occupation policy after World War II, which was intended to prevent Japan from becoming a major military power again. Now confronted with the military might of neighboring China and North Korea, and with new demands for increased defense spending from the US, the Japanese will need to consider the issue seriously.

None of this justifies Trump's economically counterproductive, highly destabilizing policies. But rather than become overwhelmed or distracted, and end up striking unfavorable trade deals, countries must take their time, think strategically, and, where possible, bring mutually beneficial offers to the table.

Koichi Hamada, Professor Emeritus at Yale University, was a special adviser to former Japanese Prime Minister Abe Shinzō.

NASSCORP offers US\$50 Anniversary Bonus to Beneficiaries

By: Kruah Thompson

As a means of celebrating its 50th Anniversary, the National Social Security & Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP) has announced that Management will give a one-off payment of US\$50.00 to each beneficiary per month for standing by the Corporation to achieve this milestone.

The establishment of this new benefit floor is NASSCORP's way of contributing to poverty alleviation and cost-of-living adjustment in Liberia.

Making the disclosure at NASSCORP's 50th Anniversary held in Monrovia over the weekend, the Corporation's Director General, Dewitt B. VonBallmoos, noted that hereafter, the least benefit that will be paid to a beneficiary is US\$50.00 per month.

Additionally, he noted that while operating only the Employment Injury Scheme during the decade of the '80s, the young corporation was able to pay out benefits to beneficiaries in the total amount of US\$3.4 million, thereby rekindling the hopes of the Liberian workers and their dependents.

VonBallmoos, who was first appointed by President Sirleaf and reappointed by President Weah, was delivering a stirring keynote address on the occasion when he made the disclosure.

He thanked the United Nations and the International Labor Organization (ILO) for the technical assistance they provided

government administrations to serve as Director General of this cherished institution. It has been an honor and a privilege to lead NASSCORP through various phases of growth and transformation."

He expressed deep appreciation to all their partners for ensuring that they continue to fulfill their social responsibility of providing security, dignity, and welfare to their retirees and the wider community.

“NASSCORP's journey over the past decades reflects a collective commitment to excellence, resilience, and progress. We look forward to continued growth, innovation, and service to the nation as we strive to build a more inclusive and prosperous future for all.”

He thanked Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., former President George Manneh Weah, and former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who first gave him the opportunity, privilege, and honor to serve the Corporation as Deputy Director General and Director General successively, and the Chairman and members of the Board of Directors for their diligence and support.

"As we observe the 50th Anniversary of NASSCORP, I take this time to pay deserved tribute to the founding fathers and other trailblazers who laid the firm foundation upon which the Corporation is being built. I salute all the former Directors General of this noble institution for individually contributing to its growth and development. I



NASSCORP, which entailed actuarial studies, surveys, and the drafting of legislations that ensured the birth of the Corporation in 1975 and continued thereafter, leading to the launching of the Employment Injury and the National Pension Schemes on February 1, 1980, and September 1, 1988, respectively.

"The remarkable achievements of the Corporation stand as a testament to the unwavering dedication, efficiency, and hard work of our committed employees. Their collective efforts have been instrumental in transforming NASSCORP into a vital institution that not only upholds its core mandate but also fosters growth, innovation, and service excellence. We are justly proud of our workforce, whose professionalism and commitment continue to propel us forward."


He added that over the past 12 years of his administration, he has spared no effort in embedding the principles of good governance, discipline, transparency, and unwavering dedication to duty throughout all facets of the Corporation's operations.

"These principles have become the bedrock of our organizational culture, ensuring accountability and integrity in our delivery service. I am sincerely grateful for the trust placed in me by both the previous and current

Deputy Director General, for the mentorship, grooming, and great latitude he gave me in the administration of NASSCORP, in sharing in the execution of all of its programs, and believing in my ability to succeed him. Reflecting on this Corporation's past, I am reminded of the transformation it went through from a subsidy receiving entity under the aegis of the then Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs to an autonomous double-digit multimillion-dollar Corporation within five years (by 1985), after the launching of the Employment Injury Scheme on February 1, 1980. I am also reminded of a little entity that rented several private buildings for its offices for nearly three decades, that now has its own corporate headquarters and regional hubs."

In conclusion, VonBallmoos indicated that NASSCORP's journey over the past decades reflects a collective commitment to excellence, resilience, and progress. “We look forward to continued growth, innovation, and service to the nation as we strive to build a more inclusive and prosperous future for all.”

“Happy 50th Anniversary to NASSCORP! Happy and enjoyable celebration to all and sundry!"



Liberia Petroleum Regulatory Authority

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1/2

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.

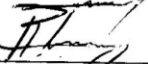
A consultant or consultancy firm will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act of the Republic of Liberia.

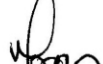
Interested consultants or consultancy firms may obtain further information at the address below between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.


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

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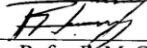
Invitation for Bid (IFB)


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).
- 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

Jahmale Diagnostic Center to Evolve into a Fully Operational Medical Facility.

By: Kruah Thompson

The Director General of the National Social Security & Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP), Dewitt B. VonBallmoos, has revealed plans to transform Jahmale Diagnostic Center into a fully operational medical facility that will provide essential healthcare services in Liberia.

Jahmale Diagnostic Center is a Liberian-owned outpatient medical center situated at the A.B. Tolbert Road ELWA Junction in Paynesville, providing diagnostic and specialized clinical services to Liberia and the West African sub-region.

It was commissioned as a private investment by the National Social Security Corporation (NASSCORP) to address the issue of transferring workers who sustain injuries on the job to Ghana and instead have them treated locally with first-class equipment, including MRI, CT scan, and a digital X-ray machine, among many others.

The facility has been used for basic healthcare services, including diagnostic examinations and treatments, for which some of Liberia's ruling class and other elites travel abroad to obtain.

The facility, which comprises a three-story imaging and laboratory building with an adjoining four story outpatient clinic and pharmacy building, offers a clinic boasting board certified physicians in General Medicine, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Orthopedics, Neurosurgery, Urology, and Otolaryngology, significantly increasing the range of diagnostic and therapeutic options available in Liberia.

Disclosing this over the weekend at the 50th anniversary celebration of the National Social Security & Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP) in Monrovia, Mr. VonBallmoos described the plan as a strategic investment that will serve as a revenue-generating asset for NASSCORP.

He says, while infrastructure development remains crucial, and human capital

development is at the core of their long-term vision, they have prioritized staff capacity building through targeted in-house training workshops and participation in international seminars and conferences.

Accordingly, these initiatives aim to equip their personnel staff with the essential skills and knowledge necessary to meet the evolving demands of their operations and, at the same time, serve their beneficiaries effectively.

"Our success is also rooted in the unwavering support of the government and the private sector. Their contributions, financial, logistical, and moral, are vital for the sustainability and expansion of our pension program."

Also, he says, "We remain deeply grateful for this partnership, which ensures that NASSCORP continues to fulfill its social responsibility of providing security, dignity, and welfare to our retirees and the wider community."

Meanwhile, he extends profound gratitude to President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., President of the Republic of Liberia, former President George Weah, and former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf for allowing him to serve in his results-oriented administration. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah.**



Section I. Invitation for Bidders
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS
(OFFICE EQUIPMENT & FURNITURE)
IFB NO.: UL/NCB/014/2025

July 3, 2025

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its GOL budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and intends to apply it towards the Procurement of Office Equipment & Furniture of the University of Liberia.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Procurement of Office Equipment & Furniture.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method as specified in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act, (PPCA), 2010 and it's open to all eligible bidders in the Country.

5. Specification and Quantity:

Item No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	MODE
1.	OFFICE EQUIPMENT & FURNITURE	ASSORTERD	Pieces

6. Qualification requirements include:

- Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with appropriate activities code
- Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
- Must be registered with the PPCC updated vendor register
- Company's Profile to include: Name of Professional Personnel for Installation and assembling
 - Past performance records of similar works including the names and contact details of at least four (4) clients.
- Bids will be examined for proper signature, stamp and completeness before consideration for further evaluation. Bid document must include a table of content.

- A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus, beginning July 15, 2025 – August 15, 2025 between the hours of 10:00a.m – 4:00p.m, Monday – Friday.

- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 90 days after the opening of bids.

- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., on or before August 15, 2025 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right Wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:

In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:

"(OFFICE EQUIPMENT & FURNITURE)"

IFB NO.: UL/NCB/014/2025


Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
 Administrative Building, Right Wing, Room #: AC1-09
 University of Liberia
 Fendall Campus, Liberia
 Cell# 0777525575/0776455647/0886682379

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: 
 Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
 DIRECTOR/Procurement Dept.

Approved: 
 Mrs. Benetta Joko Tarr
 Vice President for Administration/UL

Section I. Invitation for Bidders
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS
(GENERAL BUILDING MATERIALS)
IFB NO.: UL/ICB/002/2025

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its GOL budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and intends to apply it towards the Procurement of GENERAL BUILDING MATERIALS.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of the GENERAL BUILDING MATERIALS.
- Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) method as specified in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act, (PPCA), 2010 and it's open to all eligible bidders in and out of the Country.

5. Specification and Quantity:

LOT- 1

ITEM No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	MODE
1.	General Building Materials	Assorted	Frame Work Agreement

Lot 2.

ITEM No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	MODE
1.	Painting Materials	Assorted	Frame Work Agreement

6. Qualification requirements include:

- Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with appropriate activities code
- Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
- Must be registered with the PPCC updated vendor register
- Must follow full Technical Specification as requested in the bidding document
- Past performance records including the names and contact numbers of at-least 4 clients who had purchased same/similar goods in the last 4 years. They will be used as references to check the performance and quality of the offered model, if necessary.
- Bids will be examined for proper signature, stamp and completeness before consideration for further evaluation. Bid document must include a table of content.

- A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus, beginning July 4, 2025 – August 5, 2025 between the hours of 10:00a.m – 4:00p.m, Monday – Friday.

- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 90 days after the opening of bids.

- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., on or before August 5, 2025 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right Wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:

In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:

"GENERAL BUILDING MATERIALS"

IFB NO.: UL/ICB/002/2025

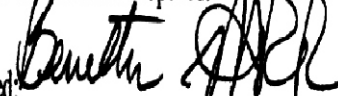
Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
 Administrative Building, Right Wing, Room #: AC1-09
 University of Liberia
 Fendall Campus, Liberia
 Cell# 0777525575/0776455647/0886682379

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: 
 Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
 DIRECTOR/Procurement Dept.

Approved: 
 Mrs. Benetta Joko Tarr
 Vice President for Administration

Section I. Invitation for Bidders
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS
(THE PROCUREMENT OF 200KVA GENERATOR AND RELATED ITEMS)
IFB NO.: UL/NCB/009/2025

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its GOL budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and intends to apply it towards the Procurement of 200KVA GENERATOR AND RELATED ITEMS.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of the 200KVA GENERATOR AND RELATED ITEMS.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method as specified in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act, (PPCA), 2010 and it's open to all eligible bidders in the Country.
- Specification and Quantity:

Item No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	MODE
1.	Generator (200KVA)	1	Pieces
2.	Hydrometers	4	Pieces
3.	De-humidifier	4	Pieces
4.	Stabilizers for Stabilizers for Equipment (Heavy Duty)	7	Pieces

- Qualification requirements include:
 - Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with appropriate activities code
 - Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
 - Must be registered with the PPCC updated vendor register
 - Must follow full Technical Specification as requested in the bidding document
 - Past performance records including the names and contact numbers of at-least 4 clients who had purchased same/similar goods in the last 4 years. They will be used as references to check the performance and quality of the offered model, if necessary.
 - Bids will be examined for proper signature, stamp and completeness before consideration for further evaluation.
- A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus, beginning July 8, 2025 – August 6, 2025 between the hours of 10:00a.m – 4:00p.m, Monday – Friday.

- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 90 days after the opening of bids.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., on or before August 6, 2025 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right Wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:

In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:

"THE PROCUREMENT OF 200KVA GENERATOR AND RELATED ITEMS"

IFB NO.: UL/NCB/009/2025

Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
 Administrative Building, Right Wing, Room #: AC1-09
 University of Liberia
 Fendall Campus, Liberia
 Cell# 0777525575/0776455647/0886682379

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
 DIRECTOR/Procurement Dept.

Approved: Mrs. Benetta Joko Tarr
 Vice President for Administration/UL

Section I. Invitation for Bidders
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS
CIVIL WORKS- 1 (RENOVATION OF RESTROOMS OF MAIN BUILDINGS)
IFB NO.: UL/ICB/001/2025

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its GOL budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and intends to apply it towards the Renovation of Restrooms of main buildings located on the campuses of the University of Liberia.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Renovation of all Restrooms, main buildings located on the campuses of the University of Liberia.
- Bidding will be conducted through the Restricted Bidding (RB) method as specified in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act, (PPCA), 2010 and it's open to all eligible bidders in the Country.
- Specification and Quantity:

Item No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	MODE
1.	Renovation of Restrooms, main buildings located on the four (4) campuses of the University of Liberia	211 Restrooms	Pieces

- Qualification requirements include:
 - Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with appropriate activities code
 - Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
 - Must be registered with the PPCC updated vendor register
 - Article of Incorporation
 - Ministry of Public Works (MPW) Certificate
 - Association of Liberian Construction Company (ALCC) Certificate
 - Detailed work schedule for work implementation
 - Current Bank Statement
 - Company's Profile to include: Name of Professional Personnel
 - Past performance records of similar works including the names and contact details of at least four (4) clients.
 - Audited Financial Statements over the last 2 years.
 - Bids will be examined for proper signature, stamp and completeness before consideration for further evaluation. Bid document must include a table of content.
- A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus, beginning July 3, 2025 – August 7, 2025 between the hours of 10:00a.m – 4:00p.m, Monday – Friday.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 90 days after the opening of bids.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., on or before August 7, 2025 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right Wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:
 In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:
"CIVIL WORKS (RENOVATION OF RESTROOMS OF MAIN BUILDINGS)"
IFB NO.: UL/ICBa/001/2025

Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
 Administrative Building, Right Wing, Room #: AC1-09
 University of Liberia
 Fendall Campus, Liberia
 Cell# 0777525575/0776455647/0886682379

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
 DIRECTOR/Procurement Dept.

Approved: Mrs. Benetta Joko Tarr
 Vice President for Administration/UL

Section I. Invitation for Bidders
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS
GENERATOR SPAREPARTS
IFB NO.: UL/NCB/004/2025

- The University of Liberia has allotted portion of its GOL budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and intends to apply it towards the Renovation of Restrooms of main buildings located on the campuses of the University of Liberia.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Renovation of all Restrooms, main, GENERATOR SPAREPARTS.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method as specified in the Public Procurement and Concessions Act, (PPCA), 2010 and it's open to all eligible bidders in the Country.
- Specification and Quantity:

Item No.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	MODE
1.	GENERATOR SPAREPARTS	ASSORTERD	Pieces

- Qualification requirements include:
 - Valid Government of Liberia (GOL) Business Registration with appropriate activities code
 - Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
 - Must be registered with the PPCC updated vendor register
 - Company's Profile to include: Name of Professional Personnel (Mechanic)
 - Past performance records of similar works including the names and contact details of at least four (4) clients.
 - Bids will be examined for proper signature, stamp and completeness before consideration for further evaluation. Bid document must include a table of content.
- A set of bidding documents in English can be obtained by interested bidders for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) from the Procurement Department, Fendall Campus, beginning July 8, 2025 – August 6, 2025 between the hours of 10:00a.m – 4:00p.m, Monday – Friday.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Notarized Bid Securing declaration valid for 90 days after the opening of bids.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:00 p.m., on or before August 6, 2025 and will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend in the Administrative Conference Room (AC1-01), Right Wing of the Administrative Complex, Fendall campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:
 In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:
"(GENERATOR SPAREPARTS)"
IFB NO.: UL/NCB/004/2025

Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address

In the middle of the envelop, print the address below:

Procurement Department
 Administrative Building, Right Wing, Room #: AC1-09
 University of Liberia
 Fendall Campus, Liberia
 Cell# 0777525575/0776455647/0886682379

- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: Fatu Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.)
 DIRECTOR/Procurement Dept.

Approved: Mrs. Benetta Joko Tarr
 Vice President for Administration/UL

Français

Boakai clarifie la controverse sur l'étude géologique

« Seules deux régions ont été étudiées par les Chinois »

Le président Joseph Nyuma Boakai a dissipé les malentendus entourant l'étude géologique menée par le gouvernement chinois au Libéria, en précisant que celle-ci ne concernait que deux comtés, et non l'ensemble du pays, comme le laissent entendre certaines spéculations. S'exprimant à son arrivée à

justifié sa récente demande aux États-Unis de réaliser une nouvelle étude couvrant l'ensemble du territoire national.

Le 9 juillet, lors du sommet africain organisé par le président Donald Trump avec cinq chefs d'État africains, dont le président Boakai, ce dernier avait lancé un appel à l'administration américaine pour l'aider à identifier de manière exhaustive les ressources minérales du Libéria, un pays largement reconnu pour son potentiel



l'aéroport international Roberts le vendredi 11 juillet, le chef de l'État a indiqué que l'étude chinoise était limitée à deux zones spécifiques, sans toutefois en révéler les noms. Il a ainsi

minier. Cette démarche a suscité une vague de critiques, certains se demandant pourquoi solliciter les États-Unis pour une étude supposément déjà réalisée par la Chine.

Répondant à ces critiques, le président Boakai a précisé que l'étude chinoise n'était ni complète ni représentative de la richesse minérale du pays. « Nous avons demandé aux Chinois d'effectuer une étude, mais elle n'a couvert que deux comtés. Aujourd'hui, nous demandons aux États-Unis de faire une évaluation plus étendue, car nous voulons savoir ce que le Libéria possède réellement afin de mieux planifier son développement », a-t-il expliqué.

Des voix critiques venues d'autres pays africains, notamment sur les réseaux sociaux, ont également mis en question le choix de faire appel à une puissance étrangère plutôt qu'à une entreprise indépendante spécialisée. Mais le président a maintenu que cette collaboration visait à mieux positionner le pays en matière de commerce et d'investissement.

« La décision que j'ai prise va dans l'intérêt du Libéria. Elle ouvre des perspectives sérieuses pour attirer les investissements et renforcer notre économie », a-t-il affirmé.

Le président Boakai a conclu en réaffirmant son engagement envers le peuple libérien : « Mon rôle est de servir le pays de manière positive. Mon ambition est de faire du Libéria une nation forte. C'est exactement ce que je m'emploie à réaliser. »

« La sécurité nationale n'est pas à vendre », Le sénateur Cyrus

Le président de la Commission Défense et Sécurité du Sénat libérien, le sénateur Momo Tarnuekolle Cyrus, a fermement mis en garde le gouvernement contre les risques liés à l'externalisation de fonctions sensibles de l'État à des entreprises étrangères. « La sécurité nationale n'est pas à vendre », a-t-il déclaré, en réaction à un protocole d'accord controversé signé entre le gouvernement et une société étrangère.

Cette déclaration intervient alors que les autorités s'apprentent à confier à *Liberia Traffic Management (LTM)* — une entreprise à capitaux étrangers — la gestion de l'immatriculation des véhicules et de la délivrance des permis de conduire, à compter du 13 juillet 2025. L'information a été confirmée par la Police nationale libérienne dans une communication publique récente.

Pour le sénateur du comté de Lofa, cette décision constitue une grave erreur de jugement, avec des conséquences potentiellement désastreuses pour la sécurité nationale, la souveraineté du pays, son économie et les mécanismes

de reddition de comptes.

« Il faut que les choses soient claires : aucun pays souverain ne confie la garde, la délivrance et la régulation de données aussi stratégiques que les identifiants personnels ou les informations sur la circulation à une entité commerciale étrangère. Cette mesure met dangereusement le Libéria en position de vulnérabilité face à d'éventuelles violations de données, tout en affaiblissant notre contrôle sur nos systèmes de transport », a averti le sénateur Cyrus.

Selon lui, les informations traitées dans le cadre de ces fonctions — données biométriques, traçage géographique, vérification d'identité et mouvements des véhicules — relèvent d'un noyau

dur de la sécurité intérieure. Leur gestion par une entité extérieure fragiliserait considérablement l'architecture sécuritaire du pays.

Le sénateur a également attiré l'attention sur les répercussions économiques du contrat, évoquant les termes d'un accord signé en 2019 : *LTM percevrait 70 % des revenus générés par les plaques d'immatriculation, les permis de conduire, les certificats de conformité et les enregistrements de véhicules, ne laissant que 30 % à l'État libérien.*

« C'est une répartition profondément déséquilibrée, bien

loin

► CONT'D ON PAGE 9



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 malmenier 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 « La sécurité nationale n'est pas Le Centre de Diagnostic Jahmale bientôt transformé en établissement médical à part entière

de modèles plus équitables comme l'accord CTN sur la gestion portuaire, où la part du gouvernement dépasse les 40 % », a-t-il précisé. Pire encore, le contrat ne prévoit ni montant minimum garanti, ni mécanisme de révision des revenus, ni plafonnement des bénéfices. Ainsi, même en période de forte affluence au guichet, les infrastructures nationales supporteraient la pression, mais les bénéfices partiraient à l'étranger. Le sénateur Cyrus a également dénoncé le fait que cet accord prive le ministère des Transports de ses prérogatives fondamentales ainsi que de ses revenus traditionnels, tandis que la Police nationale est réduite à un simple rôle d'exécution sans accès aux recettes qu'elle percevait auparavant.

Autre conséquence inquiétante : plus de 200 professionnels libériens travaillant au ministère des Transports et à la LNP seraient remplacés par des agents de la société étrangère, ce qui, dans un contexte de chômage massif, constitue un « acte économiquement irresponsable et moralement inacceptable », selon le sénateur.

« Il s'agit d'un affront à la souveraineté du Libéria,

d'une violation du monopole d'État sur les fonctions liées à la sécurité, et d'une trahison de la confiance du peuple libérien. À un moment où les citoyens réclament des emplois, plus de transparence et des institutions plus fortes, ce gouvernement choisit d'enrichir des intérêts étrangers au détriment de la dignité et de la sécurité nationale », a-t-il dénoncé.

Le sénateur s'interroge : qui a validé cette entreprise ? Quel est son parcours ? Quel cadre légal encadre un mandat aussi sensible ? Et pourquoi aucune clause ne garantit la transparence financière, la protection des citoyens ou le contrôle parlementaire ?

Face à ces interrogations, la Commission Défense et Sécurité du Sénat appelle à la **suspension immédiate** de l'accord et à l'ouverture d'une **enquête législative approfondie**. Le sénateur Cyrus exhorte le président de la République, Joseph Nyuma Boakai, à annuler sans délai cette décision afin de protéger la souveraineté nationale, rétablir la transparence et assurer l'équité économique.

Le gouvernement autorise la manifestation du mouvement STAND

Le gouvernement libérien, par l'intermédiaire du ministère de la Justice et de la Police nationale, a officiellement validé et encadré la tenue de la manifestation publique très attendue baptisée « *Nous, le peuple* », initiée par le mouvement **Solidarity of Trust for A New Day (STAND)**.

Cette mobilisation, annoncée pour les 15, 16 et 17 juillet 2025, a reçu le soutien de plusieurs formations politiques, dont la **Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique (CDC)** — parti au pouvoir — ainsi que d'autres partis d'opposition et organisations de la société civile.

Les organisateurs entendent attirer l'attention du gouvernement et de ses partenaires internationaux sur ce qu'ils qualifient de **crise économique persistante**, illustrée par l'augmentation généralisée des prix, le ralentissement du développement, la corruption, et des abus présumés de pouvoir sous l'administration Boakai-Koung.

Une réunion officielle s'est tenue le vendredi 11 juillet dans la salle de conférence du ministère de la Justice entre les autorités de la sécurité nationale (Police, sécurité conjointe) et les représentants de STAND, de la Ligue des

jeunes du CDC, du Conseil des Églises du Libéria et d'autres acteurs de la société civile.

Au cours de cette rencontre, les membres de STAND ont salué l'ouverture du gouvernement au dialogue. Ils ont confirmé avoir introduit une demande d'autorisation de manifester pacifiquement aux dates prévues, tout en réaffirmant leur engagement à respecter le cadre légal.

« Le Mouvement *We The People*, en partenariat avec plusieurs organisations de la société civile et la Ligue des jeunes du CDC, souhaite exprimer ses préoccupations sur la gouvernance actuelle et diverses injustices présumées sous le régime en place », a déclaré un représentant du groupe.

Les organisateurs ont assuré qu'ils **collaboreront pleinement avec les autorités**, et que leurs actions

resteront **strictement pacifiques**, conformément aux dispositions du permis qui leur sera délivré.

En réponse, l'inspecteur général de la police, **Gregory O. W. Coleman**, a rappelé l'importance du respect des droits de tous les citoyens pendant la manifestation. Il a exhorté les organisateurs à faire preuve de responsabilité. « Nous reconnaissons le droit constitutionnel à la liberté de réunion pacifique et d'expression », a déclaré Col. Coleman. « Toutefois, tout acte de violence, de provocation ou de trouble à l'ordre public sera fermement réprimé. »

Le ministère de la Justice, à travers la Police nationale, a **réaffirmé l'engagement du gouvernement à garantir les libertés démocratiques**, tout en veillant à la sécurité publique.

Le directeur général de la Caisse nationale de sécurité sociale et d'assistance (NASSCORP), M. Dewitt B. VonBallmoos, a annoncé un projet ambitieux visant à transformer le **Centre de Diagnostic Jahmale** en un établissement médical pleinement opérationnel, offrant des services de santé essentiels aux Libériens.

Situé au carrefour ELWA, sur la route A.B. Tolbert à Paynesville, le Centre de Diagnostic Jahmale est un établissement médical libérien de type ambulatoire, reconnu pour ses services de diagnostic avancés et ses soins spécialisés, destinés non



seulement au Libéria mais aussi à la sous-région ouest-africaine. Ce centre a été mis en service par NASSCORP en tant qu'investissement privé, dans le but de réduire le transfert coûteux de travailleurs blessés vers des hôpitaux à l'étranger — notamment au Ghana — en leur offrant des soins de qualité sur place grâce à des équipements de pointe tels qu'un IRM, un scanner CT, et un appareil de radiographie numérique.

Le centre propose actuellement des soins de santé de base, y compris des examens diagnostiques, traditionnellement recherchés à l'étranger par une partie de l'élite libérienne. Il se compose d'un bâtiment de trois étages dédié à l'imagerie et aux analyses de laboratoire, ainsi que d'un bâtiment adjacent de quatre étages abritant une clinique ambulatoire et une pharmacie.

La clinique dispose de médecins certifiés dans plusieurs disciplines : médecine générale, pédiatrie, médecine interne, gynécologie-obstétrique, orthopédie, neurochirurgie, urologie et oto-rhino-laryngologie — élargissant considérablement l'offre de soins diagnostiques et thérapeutiques disponibles dans le pays.

Lors des célébrations marquant le 50^e anniversaire de la NASSCORP, organisées ce week-end à Monrovia, M. VonBallmoos a présenté ce projet comme un **investissement stratégique** visant à faire du centre un **actif générateur de revenus** pour l'institution.

« Si le développement des infrastructures reste une priorité, le renforcement du capital humain est au cœur de notre vision à long terme », a-t-il déclaré. Il a précisé que des ateliers de formation internes et la participation à des séminaires internationaux ont été mis en place pour doter le personnel des compétences nécessaires afin de répondre aux exigences croissantes du secteur.

M. VonBallmoos a également souligné que le succès de NASSCORP repose sur le **soutien constant du gouvernement et du secteur privé**, dont les apports financiers, logistiques et moraux sont essentiels à la pérennité et à l'expansion du programme de retraite.

« Nous sommes profondément reconnaissants pour ce partenariat, qui permet à NASSCORP de continuer à remplir sa mission sociale : offrir sécurité, dignité et bien-être à nos retraités ainsi qu'à l'ensemble de la communauté », a-t-il ajouté. Enfin, il a exprimé sa **reconnaissance envers les présidents Joseph Nyuma Boakai, George Weah et Ellen Johnson Sirleaf** pour la confiance qu'ils lui ont accordée au fil des années, lui permettant de servir au sein d'une administration axée sur les résultats.



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Gov't legitimizes STAND's protest

- With strong reservations

By Lincoln G. Peters
The Government of Liberia, through the Ministry of Justice and the Liberian National Police, has officially endorsed, legitimized, and stamped the most publicized "We the People" anti-government protest.

with representatives of STAND (Solidarity of Trust for a New Day), a civic advocacy group planning to hold peaceful protests beginning July 15-17, 2025. The meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Ministry of Justice. Representatives of the Solidarity for Trust attended it for a New Day (STAND), Youth

stated. Meanwhile, the Organizers of the STAND protest have confirmed that they will fully cooperate with law enforcement and work within the perimeters of the permit that will be issued to them.

STAND's leadership also reiterated that the planned protest activities on the dates requested will be conducted peacefully and in accordance with the law, emphasizing their intention to engage constructively with the national government.

Responding to the group's concern, Police Inspector General Gregory O. W. Coleman urged the protesters to respect the rights of other citizens while cautioning them against destructive actions.

Col. Coleman, ahead of the scheduled protest in the meeting, urged the organizers of the rally to remain peaceful and law-abiding during the march.

"We recognize the constitutional right to peaceful assembly and expression," IG Coleman said. "However, we urge STAND and its supporters to conduct themselves responsibly. Any acts of violence, provocation, or public disorder will not be tolerated," he stated.

The Ministry of Justice, through the Liberia National Police, reaffirmed the government's commitment to upholding democratic freedoms while ensuring public safety.



A Statement from STAND:

The centralized protest is organized by the Solidarity of Trust for A New Day (STAND) and endorsed by the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change and several other opposition political parties and Civil Society Organizations.

The motive of the anticipated protest is to call the government and international partners' attention to the alleged prevailing economic hardship, especially skyrocketing price elasticity, dangling development, corruption, and abuse of power, among others.

On Friday, July 11, 2025, the Ministry of Justice and members of the Joint Security officially met

League of the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC), the Liberia Council of Churches, and members of the Joint Security.

During the STAND and partners meeting, they expressed appreciation to the government of Liberia through the Joint Security for the meeting and dialogue.

"We The People Movement", participating in Civil Society Organizations as well as the Youth League of the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) have requested a permit to demonstrate on the dates mentioned above to voice concerns over alleged governance and injustice-related issues under the Boakai-Koung Administration," the group

Give Deaf Children a voice through education

- Advocates appeal to national government

By: Edwin N. Khakie

Civil society organizations and human rights groups continue to champion the plights of people living with disability as they call for more government intervention.

Mr. Octavius Vorkpor, Director of the Liberia Deaf Association, and disability rights advocate Anthony Z. Kollie are urging the Government of Liberia, parents, and philanthropists to take bold steps toward prioritizing the education of deaf children across the country.

Speaking through a sign language interpreter at the 3rd Closing and Graduation Ceremony of the Gbarnga Central School of the Deaf, Mr. Vorkpor emphasized that being deaf does not equate to being incapable of learning, adding that deaf children deserve equal opportunities to access education and thrive like their hearing peers.

Mr. Vorkpor lamented the gross underrepresentation of deaf education outside Montserrado County, revealing that the remaining 14 counties still lack formal schools for deaf students. As a result, hundreds of children with hearing

impairments remain at home, excluded from the national education system.

"There are deaf schools in Montserrado, but what about the children in Bong, Lofa, or Maryland?" Vorkpor questioned. "They have the same potential, the same right to learn and grow, yet

many of them are forgotten."

He cited statistics from the Gbarnga Central School of the Deaf to demonstrate the ongoing challenges. The 2024/2025 academic year began with 21 students, but only 14 completed the school year. According to him, this decline is directly linked to lack of parental support, stigma, and financial difficulties.

"It is heartbreaking to see parents abandon the education of their deaf children," he said. "We must stop referring to them as 'deaf and dumb'



NAYMOTÉ empowers 50+ Local Officials in Bong

-To advance decentralization and grassroots development.

By Edwin N. Khakie

Naymote Partners for Democratic Development, with support from the Embassy of Ireland, conducted a one-day intensive training session for over 50 local government officials from Lower Bong County.

Held on Friday under the theme "Strengthening Political Governance and Accountability in Liberia", the Local Governance Policy Dialogue brought together a diverse group of local actors, including statutory district commissioners, city mayors, paramount and clan chiefs, women leaders, youth representatives, and members of the County Council from Salala, Fuamah, Sanoyea, Konawolala, and Yelequellah districts.

The initiative is part of Naymote's broader efforts to empower local authorities to play more meaningful roles in Liberia's decentralization process, as outlined in the Local Government Act of 2018.

Prince Cooper, Naymote's Regional Program Officer, provided an overview of the event and emphasized the importance of equipping local leaders with the tools and knowledge needed to govern effectively.

"The Local Government Act has vested the power in you to lead your development efforts," Cooper said. "This training is designed to help you understand your roles and responsibilities and to enhance your ability to deliver meaningful development at the local level."

Cooper noted that empowering local leaders with a clear understanding of governance, accountability, and participatory development processes is essential for the realization of decentralization in Liberia. He also called on the officials to take proactive steps toward improving transparency, citizen engagement, and responsiveness in their communities.

"After the training, we expect you to be more transparent, accountable, and actively involved in discussions around community development priorities," he added. "Local governance is the foundation of national development."

Eddie Jarwolo, Executive Director of Naymote, echoed similar sentiments. He emphasized the need for stronger collaboration between local government officials, traditional leaders, and lawmakers.

"Decentralization cannot succeed without inclusive leadership and strong partnerships," Jarwolo said. "Effective governance requires the participation of all actors, especially at the district and clan levels. Your engagement with your lawmakers should be constructive and focused on advocating for the needs of your people."

Jarwolo urged the participants to not rely solely on national government allocations, but to explore innovative ways to mobilize local resources, encourage citizen participation, and attract

investment in their respective districts. Several attendees hailed the training as timely and transformative. Sam Elliot, Bong County Administrative Officer, praised the initiative as a step in the right direction.

"This training has opened our eyes to many critical aspects of local governance," Elliot said. "We are grateful to Naymote and the Embassy of Ireland for recognizing the need to build our capacity."

Aaron Sackie-Fenlah, Chairperson of the Bong County Council, also commended the organizers for the inclusive approach taken in selecting participants. He stressed that the lessons learned from the training would be applied to ensure the efficient implementation of development programs across the county.

"We must all now return to our communities with renewed commitment to the decentralization process," Sackie-Fenlah noted. "We have a duty to work collectively to improve service delivery and citizen engagement."

The training marks a significant milestone in Naymote's ongoing efforts to deepen democratic governance in Liberia. By equipping local officials with knowledge on decentralization, transparency, and citizen participation, the organization hopes to contribute to building a more accountable, inclusive, and responsive system of local governance.

The event concluded with a call to action for participants to return to their districts and begin applying the knowledge gained to improve service delivery, mobilize communities, and promote sustainable local development.

Naymote's Local Governance Policy Dialogue is part of a series of engagements aimed at bridging the gap between national and local governance and ensuring that citizens have a greater voice in shaping their communities' future. **Edited by Othello B. Garblah.**



they are neither. They can learn, communicate, and contribute to society meaningfully if given the chance."

Mr. Vorkpor called on the Government of Liberia to make strategic investments in deaf education by establishing schools in all counties, training sign language teachers, and allocating budgetary support for inclusive education.

"Deaf children are citizens too. They can become teachers, entrepreneurs, doctors, and public servants if only we invest in them," he stressed. "Exclusion from education is exclusion from opportunity."

He also urged philanthropists and development partners to support local initiatives and grassroots organizations working to promote inclusive education for people with disabilities.

Adding his voice, Mr. Anthony Z. Kollie, the newly appointed Liaison Officer for Disability in the office of Senator Prince Kermue Moye Sr., pledged his office's support in lobbying national and local authorities to expand services for the deaf community in Bong County and beyond.

"Education is empowerment," Kollie said. "It gives our deaf brothers and sisters the tools to rise above marginalization and live with dignity. We cannot claim to be developing as a nation if we leave them behind."

He called on parents to stop hiding or ignoring their children's disabilities and instead view education as the best way to break the cycle of poverty and

discrimination.

Kollie emphasized the need for a national conversation on inclusive education, where people with disabilities are no longer treated as afterthoughts but as active and capable members of society.

Both speakers stressed the importance of changing public perception and reducing stigma around deafness. Mr. Vorkpor particularly emphasized the need to stop using derogatory language such as "deaf and dumb," which perpetuates harmful stereotypes and dehumanizes people with hearing impairments.

"This school, though small, is a beacon of hope," he said. "But we need the community, the government, and our international friends to keep the light burning."

The graduation ceremony at the Gbarnga Central School of the Deaf was not only a moment of celebration but also a sobering reminder of the work still needed to achieve inclusive education in Liberia.

As Liberia moves toward educational reform and decentralization, advocates like Vorkpor and Kollie are calling on the nation to listen more attentively not just with ears, but with hearts and policy action.

Their message is clear: every child, regardless of ability, deserves a chance to learn and contribute to Liberia's future. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah.**

Boakai sets record straight

President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has cleared the air about the growing speculation surrounding the geological survey conducted by the Chinese government here.

By Kruah Thompson

Harbel, Margibi County, July 14, 2025: President Boakai told reporters upon his arrival at the Roberts International Airport on Friday, July 11, that the survey only took place in two counties and not across the whole country, as some have claimed. On July 9, 2025, during Trump's African Summit with five African leaders, including Mr. Boakai, the Liberian leader invited the Americans to conduct a geological survey of Liberia's minerals to ascertain the country's full potential of its mineral wealth. His invitation was greeted with criticism, with many asking why the President would invite the Americans to conduct a survey already conducted by the Chinese. But the President clarified that the initial geological survey conducted by the Chinese was done in two counties, which he did not disclose, though, adding



that his request is to cover the entire country. Liberia is rich in natural resources. The president's invitation also drew criticism from bloggers around the African continent, who questioned why the country couldn't hire an independent firm to conduct the survey instead of relying on Americans. However, Boakai said the rationale behind his request is to ensure Liberia knows the extent of its mineral worth. "While we asked the Chinese to survey, we are also asking the U.S. government to conduct the same survey because we want to know what the country has, to plan for it, so we are open," he said. President Boakai believes that the decision he took was a positive move for the country when it comes to trade and investment. Meanwhile, he revealed that his role as president is to serve Liberia positively, and he hopes to make Liberia great, which is precisely what he's doing. - Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

"National security is not for sale"

Senator Cyrus red flag security & economic implications over the government's secret outsourcing through MoUs to foreign companies

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Liberian Senate Defense and Security Committee Chair, Momo Tarnuekollie Cyrus, has warned the government of Liberia that national security is not for sale. **Capitol Hill, July 14, 2025:** Sen. Cyrus' comment comes in the wake of the government's plan to outsource vehicle registration and driver's license Issuance to a foreign company, while outlining the security and economic Implications. The Senate chairperson on Defense, Security, Intelligence, and Veteran Affairs, Lofa County Senator issued the stern and unwavering condemnation of the decision by the Government of Liberia to outsource the critical national function of vehicle registration and driver's license issuance to Liberia Traffic Management (LTM), a foreign-controlled entity over the

weekend. This decision, set to take effect on July 13, 2025, and confirmed by the Liberia National Police in its recent public statement, he said, constitutes a gross misjudgment with grave national security, economic, sovereignty, and accountability implications. "Let it be made abundantly clear: no sovereign nation entrusts the custody, issuance, and regulation of vital identification and vehicular data to a foreign commercial interest. This act dangerously exposes Liberia to the risk of data breaches, undermines national control over transportation systems, and creates a direct pipeline for the exploitation of sensitive citizen information. National security is not for sale." He urged. According to him, outsourcing this core security function — which entails biometric data, geographic tracking, identity verification, and vehicular movement — to a foreign entity is tantamount to weakening the very foundations of



Four AML local staff complete leadership

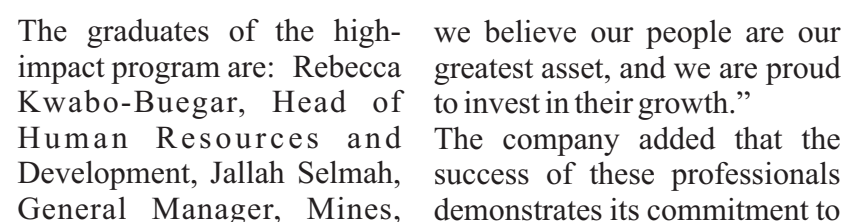
opment, infrastructure maintenance, and community relations. Demonstrating AML's investment in local talent ArcelorMittal Liberia has consistently made education and human capacity development a central part of its operations. The company has invested millions of dollars in training Liberians to assume critical roles in its iron ore mining, logistics, and port operations. Among the flagship initiatives is the ArcelorMittal Liberia Training Academy (AMTLA) in Yekepa, Nimba County. Since its launch, the center has trained hundreds of young Liberians in mechanical, electrical, and mining trades. Many of the academy's graduates have gone on to secure permanent jobs within AML and other sectors. Beyond technical training, AML has provided international scholarships to more than 99 Liberians to study mining engineering, metallurgy, and business administration in countries such as China, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. These programs are designed to build local expertise in disciplines where Liberia has traditionally relied on foreign professionals. Additionally, AML runs an Elementary, Junior and Senior High School in Yekepa, providing quality education to children of employees and surrounding communities. The school boasts modern science labs, libraries, and qualified teachers — all funded and supported by AML. **A Model for Corporate Talent Development in Liberia** The participation of Rebecca Kwabo-Buegar, Jallah Selmah, Garmondyu Crusoe, and Mulbah Gbozee in the Columbia Business School program is not just a personal achievement, but a national inspiration. It highlights how Liberia's private sector when committed can be a catalyst for professional excellence and inclusive national development. As ArcelorMittal Liberia continues to expand its Phase II operations, which include new investments in ore processing, rail rehabilitation, and port upgrades, having capable Liberian leaders in key positions will be vital to ensuring sustainable operations and shared growth.

Liberia's internal security architecture. Senator Momoh pointed out that from terrorism prevention and border control to law enforcement coordination, every aspect of modern security relies on domestic control of licensing and registration data. "But the threat goes beyond security. The economic structure of this concession is equally troubling. Under the terms of the 2019 agreement, LTM retains 70% of all revenue generated from license plates, driver's licenses, roadworthiness certificates, and vehicle registrations, leaving only 30% for Liberia—a grossly unfair split by every measure. This is in sharp contrast to more equitable public-private partnership models like the CTN port agreement, where government revenue shares exceed 40%" he disclosed. Senator Momoh further stated that, worse still, there is no guaranteed minimum payment, no revenue escalators, and no profit cap in the deal. He argued that Liberia stands to gain nothing proportional to traffic volume or economic growth. At the same time, LTM reaps unchecked profits, adding that during high-registration periods, the nation's infrastructure bears the burden, but the profits flow elsewhere. "The Senate Committee is further alarmed that this deal has effectively disabled the Ministry of Transport of its statutory mandate, stripping it of core responsibilities and revenue-generating roles. The Liberia National Police has also seen its authority reduced to mere enforcement, without access to the revenues it traditionally collects," Senator Momoh noted. He lamented that even more disturbing is the displacement of over 200 Liberians, mostly professionals from the Ministry of Transport and LNP, whose roles have now been handed over to a foreign operator. Senator Momoh stressed that in a country already battling high unemployment, this action is both economically reckless and morally unacceptable. "The Committee views this move as a direct affront to Liberian sovereignty, a violation of the principle of state monopoly over security-related functions, and a betrayal of the Liberian people's trust. At a time when citizens are demanding more jobs, transparency, and stronger institutions, this government has instead chosen to enrich a foreign interest at the expense of national dignity and security." He added. The Lofa Senator wondered and urged the Liberian people to ask who vetted the company? Where is their track record? Under what legal framework was such a sensitive mandate awarded? And why is there no clear provision for revenue transparency, citizen protection, or parliamentary oversight? "We call for an immediate suspension of this arrangement until a full legislative inquiry is conducted and all security, legal, and economic implications are addressed. We therefore urge the President of the Republic, His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., to swiftly reverse this decision and demonstrate his commitment to protecting Liberian sovereignty, ensuring transparency, and upholding national security and economic fairness." He concluded. - Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

Monrovia, Liberia – July 13, 2025: ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) is celebrating the achievement of four of its top Liberian professionals who recently completed the prestigious LEAD CONNECT High Impact Leadership Program at Columbia Business School Executive Education in New York City, USA.

Their successful completion of the program marks a new milestone in ArcelorMittal Liberia's investment in developing the next generation of Liberian corporate leaders. In a statement posted to its official Facebook page, AML said, "At ArcelorMittal Liberia,

Participants explore topics such as leading through change, emotional intelligence, influence without authority, and aligning business strategy with execution. The program includes experiential learning, group projects, simulations, and one-on-one coaching sessions — all facilitated by leading Columbia Business School faculty and industry experts. For the four Liberian professionals, this training means not just global exposure, but also more profound insight into transformational leadership that can be applied back home in Liberia to improve mining operations, workforce devel



we believe our people are our greatest asset, and we are proud to invest in their growth.” The company added that the success of these professionals demonstrates its commitment to

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A hand is shown pressing a stylus onto a tablet. The word "PRESS" is written on the tablet. A large, colorful splash of paint erupts from the point of contact, with colors including red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The background is a solid blue color.