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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 06, 2025	L\$200.0221/US\$1.00	L\$202.3388/US\$1.00

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

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French Version Inside

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Liberia: West African military heads meet



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Continental News

'Abducted' Ugandan student jailed over anti-Museveni TikTok video

A Ugandan university student who mysteriously went missing two months ago after He pleaded guilty and asked for forgiveness. The magistrates' court in Entebbe sentenced him to two months in jail on



Several Ugandans have recently been jailed for offensive remarks made against President Yoweri Museveni

posting a TikTok video that harshly criticised President Yoweri Museveni's leadership has been jailed. Elson Tumwine disappeared on 8 June - sparking accusations from opposition figures and activists that he had been abducted and illegally detained by military agents. Following an outcry over his disappearance, he was then reportedly left at a police station in Entebbe in mid-July and was subsequently charged with offensive communication and computer misuse.

Monday, noting his pleas for leniency. Tumwine's sentencing and alleged abduction have raised concerns among human rights activists around freedom of speech ahead of elections next year. In court, the third-year Makerere University undergraduate admitted to posting the video that prosecutors said was intended "to ridicule, demean and incite hostility". He is alleged to have doctored a clip of the parliamentary speaker's response to a general apology Museveni issued in May to the Baganda people,

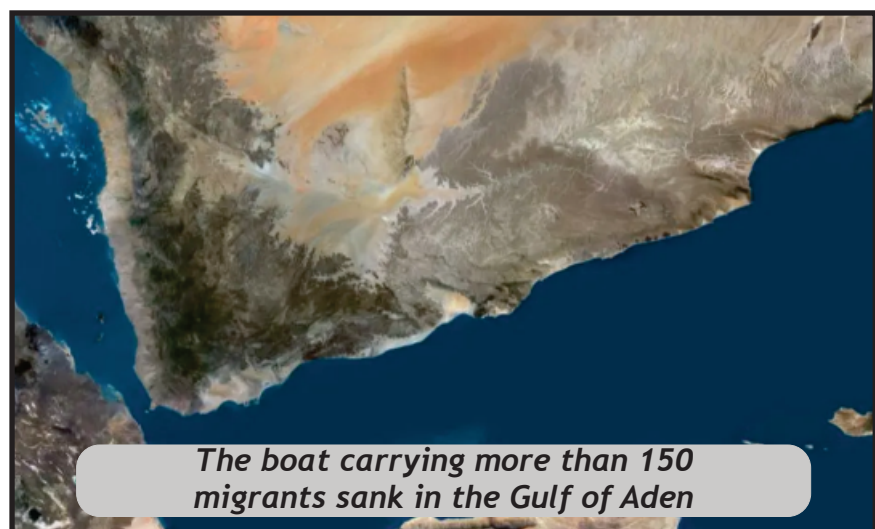
Uganda's largest ethnic group and who form the traditional Buganda kingdom. Over Museveni's nearly four decades in power, relations with the kingdom and its monarch have at times been strained. The kingdom has no political power but remains influential. Tumwine's TikTok post accused the 80-year-old president of not apologising for other things during his time in power. When Tumwine disappeared in June, Makerere University issued an urgent appeal for information that could help find him. He had been working as an agricultural intern in Hoima, western Uganda, as part of his studies at the time he went missing. Two weeks ago, the secretary-general of opposition NUP party David Lewis Rubongoya said they had information that Tumwine and another suspect were being held at a police station in Entebbe - having being "dumped" there on 13 July. He alleged they were taken there after being subjected to "incredible torture" at the hands of the country's military intelligence unit.

Dozens of Ethiopian migrants feared dead as boat capsizes off Yemen

At least 68 migrants have died after a boat with about 157 people on board sank off the coast of Yemen in bad weather. The vessel capsized off the southern province of Abyan on Sunday, Yemen's chief for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) told the BBC. Twelve people had been rescued, Abdusattor Esoev said, but dozens were still missing. Most of the victims are believed to be Ethiopian nationals, the IOM said. Yemen is a major pathway for migrants from the Horn of Africa travelling to Gulf states in search of work. The IOM estimates that hundreds have died or gone missing in shipwrecks in recent months. Abyan security officials said that a large search-and-rescue mission had been launched and many bodies had been found across a wide area of shoreline.

Mr Esoev said the boat was on a dangerous route in the vast coastal area which is often used by people smugglers. He also emphasised the importance of strengthening legal safeguards for migrants, to prevent them from being exploited by smugglers. "What we are advocating for all member states... is to enhance their regular pathways so people can take legal ways in order to migrate, instead of being trapped or deceived by smugglers and taking those

dangerous journeys," he said. The IOM previously described the journey from the Horn of Africa - composed of Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Eritrea - to Yemen as "one of the busiest and most perilous mixed migration routes". For many the final destination is Saudi Arabia. In March, two boats carrying more than 180 migrants sank off the coast of Yemen's Dhubab district due to rough seas, with only two crew members rescued.



The boat carrying more than 150 migrants sank in the Gulf of Aden

Besieged Sudan city residents face starvation, UN warns

The UN's food agency has warned that families trapped within the besieged Sudanese city of el-Fasher face starvation. The World Food Programme (WFP) said it had not been able to deliver food to the city in the western Darfur region by road for more than a year. El-Fasher has been surrounded by paramilitary fighters from the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) for nearly 16 months - determined to seize it from Sudan's army. The WFP warning comes as local activists have already begun reporting deaths by starvation in the city, which is still home to about 300,000 people. Sudan was plunged into a civil war in April 2023 after a vicious power struggle erupted between the army and its former ally, the RSF - creating one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. The UN's children's agency (Unicef) has also issued a statement saying malnutrition is rife across the country, with many children "reduced to skin and bones". The WFP warning echoes a recent appeal for urgent support from the North Darfur Governor Al-Hafiz Bakhit, who said the living situation in el-Fasher had

in el-Fasher is facing a daily struggle to survive," said Eric Perdison, WFP's regional director for eastern and southern Africa. "People's coping mechanisms have been completely exhausted by over two years of war. Without immediate and sustained access, lives will be lost," he added. The agency quoted an eight-year-old girl, Sondos, who had fled the city with five family members. "In el-Fasher there was a lot of shelling and hunger. Only hunger and bombs," the girl said, adding that the family had been surviving on only millet. The WFP said it had trucks loaded with food and nutrition assistance ready to go, and had received clearance from the Sudanese government to proceed to el-Fasher. It is still waiting for word from the RSF on whether it would support a pause in fighting to allow the goods into the city. The UN has been pushing for a week-long humanitarian truce since early June, when a UN convoy on the way to el-Fasher was attacked - with the army and the RSF blaming each other for the strike.



Sudan's civil war - into its third year - has created one of the world's worst humanitarian crises

become unbearable. Bakhit is aligned with Sudan's military-led government, which is trying to retain control of the city, its last foothold in Darfur. The RSF's battle to seize el-Fasher from the Sudanese army has intensified in recent months, after the paramilitaries were driven out of the capital, Khartoum. UN statistics in early July showed that 38% of children under the age of five in camps for internally displaced people within and near el-Fasher suffered from acute malnutrition. The WFP said severe food shortages had drastically driven up prices for scarce supplies in el-Fasher, and cited reports that people were eating animal fodder and food waste to try to survive. The agency did not name the party responsible - but the RSF has cut trade routes and blocked supply lines to the city. "Everyone

Sudan's state news agency reported that head of the armed forces Gen Abdel Fattah al-Burhan - the country's de facto leader - had agreed to the temporary ceasefire. The RSF did not officially respond. However, reports quoting RSF advisers said the group had rejected the initiative as it believed the truce would be used to facilitate the delivery of food and ammunition to "Burhan's besieged militias" inside el-Fasher. They also claimed the RSF and its allies were setting up "safe routes" for civilians to leave the city. Last month the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said more than one million people had fled el-Fasher since the conflict began, including those from the nearby Zamzam camp that was seized by the RSF in April.

EDITORIAL

Taking jobs from Liberians is counterproductive to economic growth

The Government of Liberia thru the executive is resolved to privatize production, issuance and regularization of driver's licenses that would effectively render several hundred employees at the Ministry of Transport jobless in an economy that is already struggling, after suspension of foreign aid by the United States Government.

The executive branch of government and the 55th Legislature are currently in a tussle over the awarding of a 25-year licensing contract to the Liberia Traffic Management (LTM), a new company, at the detriment of several hundred employees of the Ministry of Transport.

We view the taking away of such a critical role from a state institution that is established by an Act of the Legislature to provide such services and awarding it to a private entity would put hundreds of family heads with extended families or dependents out of work, and the multiplying economic consequences will become unbearable.

As we write, hundreds of thousands of Liberians have turned into beggars, including the youth who are permanently unemployed. Sending hundreds more, if not thousands home to join the already hungry population could become suicidal.

There have many calls for the executive under President Joseph Nyuma Boakai to rethink the decision in the interest of ordinary Liberians, who hardly find one square meal to eat per day, including even those employed. Imagine what lies ahead of thousands more are forced out of the job market by this current venture.

Last week, the Joint Committee on Investment and Concessions and Transport of the House of Representatives ordered the suspension of all Liberia Traffic Management (LTM) operations, for failure to appear before lawmakers for an investigative hearing that was scheduled for Thursday, July 31, 2025, effectively returning full operational control to the Ministry of Transport.

This was prior to series of protests by employees from the Ministry of Transport, calling attention of the executive to the fate waiting them, if the Liberia Traffic Management were to take full control of license production and issuance to the public. But the executive seems not to be paying heed, as it is resolved in rolling out the deal that has already been consummated.

Subsequently, commercial drivers also staged a mass protest against what they described as inhumane treatment under the new agreement. The protesters decried excessive ticketing and alleged extortion by LTM officers, claiming the company is exploiting drivers under the guise of traffic enforcement.

On Thursday, July 24, 2025, the Plenary of the Liberian Senate mandated its leadership to request that President Joseph Nyuma Boakai immediately halt the implementation of the Liberia Traffic Management Incorporated (LTM-I) concession agreement until further consultations and clarity provided.

The executive, under President Boakai, should come out clearly to explain to the public how does taking jobs from citizens and awarding them to a private firm improve the economy.

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COMMENTARY

By Mohamed Adow

Fair Climate Finance Requires Debt Reform

NAIROBI - When delegates from around the world convened in Bonn, Germany, last month for the 62nd session of the United Nations Climate Change Subsidiary Bodies (Sb62), the specter of sovereign debt loomed large. For African countries, in particular, debt is no longer a problem unfolding in parallel with escalating climate shocks and widening development deficits, but rather the key obstacle to effective crisis responses. Debt reform and climate finance are two sides of the same coin.

According to the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, African countries owe \$655 billion in external debt, and debt-service payments have more than doubled since 2010, driven by rising interest rates and currency depreciation. This year, the continent's collective debt-service bill will amount to a whopping \$79 billion. In 2023, 34 African countries spent more on debt service than on health or education, let alone disaster relief or green infrastructure.

Comprehensive debt cancellation is a prerequisite to progress on sustainable development. But it is only the beginning. Shaped by colonial power dynamics, the global financial architecture is practically designed to entrench inequality. When issuing loans to developing economies, institutions like the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank often impose conditions that constrain these countries' fiscal space and hardwire austerity into domestic policy. Short-term relief thus comes with long-term shackles.

Many believe that mobilizing private investment is the key to closing the climate-finance gap. "Derisking" climate finance and attracting private capital through tools such as green bonds and blended finance are among the G20's flagship priorities. The decision on the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance, made at COP29 in Baku last year, likewise emphasizes the importance of private-sector participation.

South Africa, which assumed the G20 presidency in December 2024, has echoed this approach. For example, at the G20 Finance Ministers' meeting in February, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa called on the private sector, together with international financial institutions and development banks, to implement "innovative financing and insurance mechanisms" aimed at scaling up funding for disaster prevention and post-disaster reconstruction.

But the private sector has long struggled to engage effectively in climate negotiations or identify viable projects that serve climate, development, and commercial objectives simultaneously. Since the infrastructure projects that are needed to strengthen climate resilience mature over a period of 20-30 years, countries need reliable access to long-term finance. But credit markets operate on 3-5-year time horizons, meaning that borrowers often end up scrambling for more capital, which can be both unpredictable and expensive.

According to the ONE Campaign, the average interest rate on bonds for African countries in 2021 was 5.78%, compared to 1.14% on loans from the World Bank. These countries will pay \$56 billion in additional interest over the lifetime of loans contracted in 2017-21, compared to what they would have paid if they had borrowed at World Bank rates. The much-touted "blended finance" model does not solve this problem, because it often combines public and private funds in ways that leave countries exposed to credit-market risk.

The real issue is that private finance is structurally biased against the Global South, owing partly to fundamental flaws in sovereign-risk assessments. If the private sector is to help close the climate-finance gap without trapping developing countries in cycles of repayment and dependency, we must first resolve the information asymmetries that enable credit-rating agencies and institutional investors to define "risk" in ways that penalize developing economies. Ramaphosa - who has voiced support for reforming global credit-rating systems - should help spearhead this process.

At the same time, however, we must recognize the limits of private capital, particularly when it comes to financing for adaptation and loss and damage. There is no substitute for a major expansion of grants and public financing.

The responsibility for tackling biases in the global financial system falls on the entire international community - not least the advanced economies that are now cutting their climate-aid budgets. Nonetheless, African countries must take more responsibility for driving change.

Africa has often failed to take a unified approach to global issues and maximize its collective bargaining power. Consider the Baku to Belém Roadmap - a joint initiative by the COP29 and COP30 presidencies to deliver at least \$1.3 trillion in climate finance annually by 2035. Though the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat and the COP30 presidency began regional consultations on the Roadmap in February, inviting stakeholders to share their input, Africa has not submitted an aligned position or set of recommendations.

Meanwhile, many African countries pursue bilateral debt deals in isolation, while others are entangled in opaque and protracted restructuring processes like the G20's Common Framework for Debt Treatments. Zambia's debt restructuring, for example, dragged on for over three years.

What is needed now is for African countries to build a consensus around a common agenda that links COP30 to the G20. Priorities must include comprehensive debt cancellation for climate-vulnerable countries; reform of credit-rating systems and capital-cost structures that unfairly penalize African economies; and greater use of non-debt instruments such as grants to finance climate action. A global taxation regime, which could use revenues to fund resilience in developing economies, should also be on the table.

Such efforts should build on existing initiatives and proposals, such as the proposed UN Framework Convention on Sovereign Debt, which would offer a credible, cooperative, and rights-based approach to debt reform. The Africa Climate Summit, convening in Addis Ababa this September, will serve as an important moment to cement progress and speak with a unified voice in advance of COP30.

Along with South Africa, the African Union - now a permanent member of the G20 - should play a leading role in this process, steering global debates toward the creation of a financial system that reflects today's multipolar realities, not the colonial dynamics of the past. This is a matter of justice, not charity. And, with developing economies on the frontline of the climate crisis, it could not be more urgent.

Mohamed Adow is Founder and Director of Power Shift Africa.

Resisting a Trump World Order

COPENHAGEN - The image of US President Donald Trump and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen at Trump’s Turnberry golf course in Scotland was of no mere handshake sealing a trade deal. It was a symbol of the Trump administration’s historic rupture with American history and America’s guiding principles - a rupture with profound consequences for the global economy and international security.

From Europe, it is strange to watch a country which, for 249 years, has loudly proclaimed its reliance on the concept of “we the people” - the opening words of the US Constitution - suddenly abandon faith in its own institutions as the country’s legitimately elected leader rapidly dismantles them. But just blaming Trump for America’s betrayal of itself is too glib an explanation for the transformation that has taken place in the United States. Something deeper and more disturbing is at work.

America’s contribution to the world was, beginning after World War I and with greater success after World War II, to build a world based on its own history. It sought core institutions, rules, and norms that would allow the world to order itself in a predictable way.

President Woodrow Wilson’s famous 14 Points, issued in January 1918, the final year of WWI, can be considered the birth certificate for the ideas that shaped the post-WWII era, including point 14: “A general association of nations must be formed under specific covenants for the purpose of affording mutual guarantees of political independence and territorial integrity to great and small states alike.”

Large and small states should respect each other’s political independence and territorial integrity. But today, that fundamental principle no longer seems to be accepted. Russian President Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine wounded it gravely, but Trump’s public refusal to rule out using force to take over Greenland and the Panama Canal may have delivered the mortal blow. Likewise, Trump’s weaponization of trade tariffs against Brazil as punishment for its prosecution of former President Jair Bolsonaro betrays Trump’s lack of respect for Brazil’s political independence. The trade deal between the US and the European Union goes even further. It abandons rules all together.

The purpose of the postwar institutions and rules was to establish acceptable and unacceptable forms of behavior in international affairs, ensuring that most states, most of the time, would behave in predictable ways. Trump, however, is institutionalizing unpredictable behavior as the new norm for America’s international conduct.

There are doubtless people around Trump who believe in what he is doing, or who want to make it seem as if the administration has a coherent, rational plan hidden behind the bombastic rhetoric about making America great again. But, in fact, Trump’s actions can be understood only through two other prisms.

First, Trump’s erratic behavior is a means of systematically testing the limits of his political power vis-à-vis all other US institutions, including not only Congress, the courts, and state governments, but also elite universities, major media outlets, and powerful law firms. Likewise, his trade policy has no foundation in principle, economic theory, or institutions; it is purely arbitrary and subjective, and that is the point.

Second, Trump’s primary motive is to remove any limits on his own political room for maneuver. This was evident in the handshake with von der Leyen. The US-EU “deal” ratifies the notion that Trump can do whatever he wants, dispensing with the founding principles of the World Trade Organization: nondiscrimination between trading partners and between domestic and foreign goods; reduction of trade barriers through negotiation; non-arbitrary tariff adjustments; and use of international trade as a tool to help developing countries.

Though there will be lawsuits and some resistance from lower-level US courts, no one should cling to the belief that the tariffs will disappear. There is nothing more addictive to politicians than unexpected, permanent revenues (especially when you need the money), and the US Treasury reports that tariff income has indeed increased substantially.

In politics, a secure stream of short-term revenue always prevails over an uncertain long-term loss of wealth. Having given Trump unlimited power over US trade policy, a Congress that wanted to lower his tariffs would have to explain to the American people where it intends to find new sources of revenue, and in America’s case, broadly raising taxes still appears to be a nonstarter. For these reasons, America’s break from its own past seems likely to endure.

What does this augur for America and the world? As Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson show, economic and political institutions are the key factor in whether nations succeed or fail. Central to their argument is the ability of institutions to protect property rights and create incentives for economic growth.

Though international and US institutions are embattled, they could still be preserved if others took steps to shield them from Trump’s relentless efforts to expand his personal power. Unfortunately, the EU, driven by pragmatic but myopic reasons, chose to accept the world according to Trump, where all the rules of global governance are replaced by the whims of one man. Thomas Bernt Henriksen is the Chief Business Commentator at Berlingske and a former council director of the Council of Economists at The Conference Board.

A New Trade Agenda for Climate-Resilient Development

C APE TOWN - Mitigating the worst effects of climate change requires reconciling ambition and justice. But achieving both a just energy transition and ambitious global climate action depends on trade rules that foster equitable development. To facilitate the shift to low-carbon economies, developing countries must have reliable access to green technologies, investments, and international markets.

Regrettably, many of today’s trade policies constrain developing countries’ green ambitions. In particular, the securitization of international trade - driven by the geopolitical interests of major powers and emerging blocs - threatens to disrupt global supply chains, limit access to emerging technologies, and reinforce existing power imbalances. If left unchecked, this trend risks undermining multilateral cooperation and regional integration efforts across the Global South.

The European Union’s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism is a prime example. While the CBAM is intended to position the EU as a global leader on climate action, many developing countries - particularly in Africa - view it as a protectionist measure and question its alignment with the principles of the 2015 Paris climate agreement.

These concerns are well-founded. Research suggests that African countries could lose up to \$25 billion annually as a direct result of the CBAM, and that the proposed amendments may not always stand to benefit African exporters. Moreover, despite the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), the EU continues to pursue fragmented bilateral deals that undermine Africa’s integration agenda and weaken the coherence of regional trade strategies.

Another example is the International Maritime Organization’s controversial plan to introduce a carbon emissions tax on shipping. Set to take effect in 2028, the tax falls far short of the more ambitious carbon levy developing economies had advocated, which could have supported low-carbon transitions, climate adaptation, and capacity-building in the world’s most climate-vulnerable countries.

Investor-state dispute settlement mechanisms also present significant challenges to effective climate action. These provisions, embedded in international investment treaties, often limit African governments’ ability to legislate in the public interest or implement trade and investment policies that support green industrialization and sustainable development.

In recent years, international development practitioners have increasingly focused on the link between trade and climate policy. This signals a shift from a purely normative view of climate change to a more pragmatic approach that recognizes climate policy as a driver of economic growth and investment. At the same time, global trade is undergoing a profound transformation as major trading powers prioritize geopolitical and economic self-interest over longstanding commitments to non-discrimination and multilateral cooperation, thereby weakening the World Trade Organization.

Against this backdrop, developed and developing economies alike are deploying fiscal stimulus packages, subsidies, and protectionist trade measures to align their climate goals with domestic green industrial strategies, aiming to reshape the global economic order in their favor. The race to gain a competitive edge in green industries is partly driven by the dominant position China has established over the past decade through a combination of fiscal expansion, strategic subsidies, and control over critical minerals and key supply chains.

Adding to these tensions is US President Donald Trump’s decision to withdraw from the Paris climate agreement, as he did during his first term. This move has further eroded global trust and undermined multilateral climate cooperation, casting doubt on the reliability of developed countries’ commitments to the broader sustainable-development agenda.

Yet periods of geopolitical realignment can also create new opportunities. Even amid rising tensions and economic fragmentation, there are opportunities for African countries to advance fairer, climate-aligned trade rules. One of the most promising is increased regional integration.

Despite deep divisions within the G20, South Africa’s presidency of the group this year could help advance trade policies that are better suited to managing climate risks and accelerating clean-energy transitions in the Global South. The upcoming Leaders’ Summit in Johannesburg provides a platform to champion a more inclusive agenda that integrates risk management, economic diversification, and industrial development into a long-term vision of environmental justice.

Some low-income economies are particularly vulnerable to measures like the CBAM, which, in its current form, departs from the “common but differentiated responsibilities” principle that underpins the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Without careful design and implementation, it could exacerbate inequalities within Africa and jeopardize the continent’s energy transition.

To prevent such an outcome, the CBAM must be implemented through a transparent, multilateral framework that acknowledges differences in countries’ historical responsibility and capacity to respond. Redirecting CBAM revenues toward supporting green transitions in low-income economies, for example, would be a step in the right direction.

It is equally important to help countries that rely heavily on fossil fuels diversify their economies. This raises a fundamental question: How can trade policy be leveraged to foster climate-resilient development? The answer lies in recognizing that diversification is not only central to long-term growth but also crucial to building resilience to both climate disasters and external shocks.



Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

Whein Town, Bernard Farm, Montserrado County Liberia

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

Republic of Liberia

Assignment Title: Individual Consultancy for the Position of Monitoring & Evaluation to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie Carpenters and Furniture makers) and keep track of the indicators in the results measurement framework of Needs Assessment for Association members/beneficiaries.

Name of Project: Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry_ Phase II
Sector : Forestry
Project ID No :P-LR-AAD-002
Grant No : 5900155018403
Issue Date : August 1, 2025
End Date : August 15, 2025

BACKGROUND

The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority has received financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the “Scaling Up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry Project in Liberia- Phase II, and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this *grant* to payments under the contract for **Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant**.

The services of the M&E consultant relating to the required duties and responsibilities are:

- The individual M&E consultant will be expected to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie.Carpenters and Furniture makers)
- Keep track of the indicators in the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) of Needs Assessment (NA) for the Eleven (11) Carpenters and Furniture Makers Association members/beneficiaries.
- Coordinate and supervise project activities including keeping track of the indicators in the results measurement framework.
- Monitor work of Data field collectors that conduct Needs Assessment &Data collection from field) on feedback from training from phase one (1) and current needs and prepare Periodic performance tracking progress report; Mid-term Report; Final Report for submission to the Project Coordinator (PC) and Project team.
- Undertake the responsibility for working on field data collected, collating, analysis, and reporting.
- He/she the selected M&E Consultant will work in close collaboration with the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) and will support the PIU to develop appropriate M&E processes, protocols and reporting mechanisms for the intermediate results that lead to the achievement in line with the Project Development Objectives (PDO) and outcomes, and as well as track project activities.
- The consultant will consider how this system could be adapted/augmented with an overall efficient and effective results-based M&E system that would cater to the need of tracking all future AfDB projects.;
- Develop Performance Indicators (PI), Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and measure project outcomes and outputs against data collected by Data Collectors in order to assess the impact of the project on the defined intended and desirable indicators in order to compare project performance against targets set in the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Budget;
- Design a Result Based Logical framework that will lead to evidence-based decision making and improve accountability within the project implementation period;
- Prepare and develop M&E System Operational Manual that guides the day-to-day operations of the project implementation.
- Build M&E capacity of direct project beneficiaries, project team and others.
- Develop monthly dashboard to illustrate progress of the project, achievements and challenges.
- Conduct data quarterly review meeting to understand the project achievement and challenges and/or do a stock taking of the project.

The Forestry Development Authority now invites eligible Individuals to express their interest in providing these services. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the aforementioned assignment. Applicants must have experience in Small Medium Forest Enterprises (SMFEs) in Secondary Wood Processing; should availability of appropriate knowledge skills of secondary wood processing is an advantage.

Qualification and Experience:

- At least a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in Environmental Science is an added advantage, in development field, monitoring and evaluation in natural resource, social science, economics, Business Administration, Statistics or in relevant discipline.
- Strong quantitative and qualitative skills data collection and analysis;
- Minimum of four (4) years of progressively responsible professional experience in performance monitoring and/or evaluation role with an international development organization
- Demonstrate ability in data analysis, monitoring and evaluation of development activities.
- Experience developing results frameworks, logical frameworks, M&E Plan
- proven experience in excellent research and data collection methodology skills, and 11 worked with AfDB project or other projects is an added advantage
- Excellent computer skills, including word processing, spreadsheet programs and data base management;
- Familiar with Statistical Packages and Social Sciences (SPSS), should have experience in using Microsoft office including MS Word, Excel, Power point.
- Experience working with mobile Android phone to collect quantitative data using KOBO collect soft word platform as well as excellent organizational and time-management skill.
- Ability to read and interpret field data and specifications

- Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s “Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded Operations” dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank’s website at <http://www.afdb.org>.
- Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours [9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Liberian Time], Mondays through Fridays (except public holidays): emmanuellemorris965@gmail.com with copy to: wynnbryant12@gmail.com.
- Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by August 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM and mention “Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant”
- Duration Consultancy: Maximally 6 months, with possible extension

Attn: Project Coordinator
Project Implementation Unit
Forestry Development Authority
Whein Town, Bernard Farm
Montserrado County
Liberia]

E-mail: emmanuellemorris965@gmail.com
0775-841-431/0886-570-320
Link for Clarification:
Email: wynnbryant12@gmail.com
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Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

Whein Town, Bernard Farm, Montserrado County Liberia

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

Republic of Liberia

Assignment Title: Individual Consultancy for the Position of Monitoring & Evaluation to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie Carpenters and Furniture makers) and keep track of the indicators in the results measurement framework of Needs Assessment for Association members/beneficiaries.

Name of Project: Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry_ Phase II
Sector : Forestry
Project ID No :P-LR-AAD-002
Grant No : 5900155018403
Issue Date : August 1, 2025
End Date : August 15, 2025

BACKGROUND

The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority has received financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the “Scaling Up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry Project in Liberia- Phase II, and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this *grant* to payments under the contract for **Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant**.

The services of the M&E consultant relating to the required duties and responsibilities are:

- The individual M&E consultant will be expected to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie.Carpenters and Furniture makers)
- Keep track of the indicators in the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) of Needs Assessment (NA) for the Eleven (11) Carpenters and Furniture Makers Association members/beneficiaries.
- Coordinate and supervise project activities including keeping track of the indicators in the results measurement framework.
- Monitor work of Data field collectors that conduct Needs Assessment &Data collection from field) on feedback from training from phase one (1) and current needs and prepare Periodic performance tracking progress report; Mid-term Report; Final Report for submission to the Project Coordinator (PC) and Project team.
- Undertake the responsibility for working on field data collected, collating, analysis, and reporting.
- He/she the selected M&E Consultant will work in close collaboration with the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) and will support the PIU to develop appropriate M&E processes, protocols and reporting mechanisms for the intermediate results that lead to the achievement in line with the Project Development Objectives (PDO) and outcomes, and as well as track project activities.
- The consultant will consider how this system could be adapted/augmented with an overall efficient and effective results-based M&E system that would cater to the need of tracking all future AfDB projects.;
- Develop Performance Indicators (PI), Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and measure project outcomes and outputs against data collected by Data Collectors in order to assess the impact of the project on the defined intended and desirable indicators in order to compare project performance against targets set in the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Budget;
- Design a Result Based Logical framework that will lead to evidence-based decision making and improve accountability within the project implementation period;
- Prepare and develop M&E System Operational Manual that guides the day-to-day operations of the project implementation.
- Build M&E capacity of direct project beneficiaries, project team and others.
- Develop monthly dashboard to illustrate progress of the project, achievements and challenges.
- Conduct data quarterly review meeting to understand the project achievement and challenges and/or do a stock taking of the project.

The Forestry Development Authority now invites eligible Individuals to express their interest in providing these services. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the aforementioned assignment. Applicants must have experience in Small Medium Forest Enterprises (SMFEs) in Secondary Wood Processing; should availability of appropriate knowledge skills of secondary wood processing is an advantage.

Qualification and Experience:

- At least a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in Environmental Science is an added advantage, in development field, monitoring and evaluation in natural resource, social science, economics, Business Administration, Statistics or in relevant discipline.
- Strong quantitative and qualitative skills data collection and analysis;
- Minimum of four (4) years of progressively responsible professional experience in performance monitoring and/or evaluation role with an international development organization
- Demonstrate ability in data analysis, monitoring and evaluation of development activities.
- Experience developing results frameworks, logical frameworks, M&E Plan
- proven experience in excellent research and data collection methodology skills, and 11 worked with AfDB project or other projects is an added advantage
- Excellent computer skills, including word processing, spreadsheet programs and data base management;
- Familiar with Statistical Packages and Social Sciences (SPSS), should have experience in using Microsoft office including MS Word, Excel, Power point.
- Experience working with mobile Android phone to collect quantitative data using KOBO collect soft word platform as well as excellent organizational and time-management skill.
- Ability to read and interpret field data and specifications

- Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s “Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded Operations” dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank’s website at <http://www.afdb.org>.
- Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours [9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Liberian Time], Mondays through Fridays (except public holidays): emmanuellemorris965@gmail.com with copy to: wynnbryant12@gmail.com.
- Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by August 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM and mention “Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant”
- Duration Consultancy: Maximally 6 months, with possible extension

Attn: Project Coordinator
Project Implementation Unit
Forestry Development Authority
Whein Town, Bernard Farm
Montserrado County
Liberia]

E-mail: emmanuellemorris965@gmail.com
0775-841-431/0886-570-320
Link for Clarification:
Email: wynnbryant12@gmail.com
0776-063-643/0886-551-249

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

CENTAL wants Justices to declare their assets

Justices of the Supreme Court of Liberia come under pressure to declare their assets in compliance with the Code of Conduct for public officials here.

By Lewis S. Teh
Monrovia, Liberia; Anderson Miamen, made the August 6, 2025 - call on Tuesday, August 5, C e n t e r f o r 2025, at CENTAL head office in Transparency and Sinkor, Monrovia.



Accountability in Liberia, or He also called on the majority CENTAL, is urging legislators of lawmakers who have on Capitol Hill to exercise laudably declared their t h e i r o v e r s i g h t assets, incomes, and responsibilities by introducing liabilities to push for bills that will make Supreme sanctions against their Court Justices comply with colleagues, who have the Asset Declaration code of deliberately refused to conduct for public respect the Code of officials."We call on the Conduct."Ladies and Legislature to exercise its gentlemen of the Press, we oversight responsibility in are also concerned about the ensuring compliance by status of actions taken by Supreme Court Justices, President Joseph N. Boakai in including through other February 2025, leading to sanctions provided by law." suspension and withholding of

the salaries of 457 appointed officials."He noted that the public is yet to be informed whether those officials have resumed work, and if so, whether such resumption is a result of their compliance with the President's directive to declare their assets, incomes, and liabilities.

"Therefore, we call on the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) to publish a full status report on these affected individuals to allay concerns of disregard of the Code of Conduct and the Presidential directive."Mr. Miamen recalled that upon taking office, President Joseph N. Boakai laudably a p p o i n t e d a n d commissioned a team, headed by Cllr. Findley D. Karngar, to oversee activities of the Office of Ombudsman, whose responsibilities include but are not limited to enforcing the asset declaration requirement and ensuring that public officials fully comply with other relevant integrity, accountability, and transparency standards.

"We are pleased to highlight some notable progress

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"Our security is guaranteed"

...AFL Chief of Staffs

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh
T h e Chief of Staff of the help of the new breed of Armed Forces of Liberia military soldiers. (AFL), Major General "There wouldn't have been a Davidson Fayiah Forleh, has better time to see great sons defended Liberia's security and daughters of Africa status amidst a growing wave converge here today to of violence across the nation. brainstorm on logistics and Addressing the opening of a security."This reflects to me three-day 2025 West Africa that a few years ago, Liberia Logistics Conference at the as a nation was never Farmington Hotel in Margibi qualified to host this County, Major General Forleh conference because of the said Liberia's security remains

guaranteed and intact, as evidenced by the conference's hosting.He bemoaned that a few years back, Liberia as a nation was never qualified to host such a unique conference that centered around security and logistics because of its poor infrastructure and security threats that surrounded the nation due to the civil war.Major General Forleh indicated that Liberia has now achieved improved infrastructure and



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Liberia to expand blue economy investment

Liberia's Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) pushes for more investments in the country's blue economy.

By Lincoln G. Peters
Monrovia, Liberia; August 6, 2025 - Liberia's Permanent Representative to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) has vowed to harness and attract additional investment for employment in the country's blue economy.

Ambassador Robert Wilmot Kpadeh, posted in London, England, disclosed in a live talk show on Monday, August 4, 2025, that Liberia is preparing to host the 8th Association of Maritime Administration Summit, which seeks to bring together over 40 African countries in Monrovia.

According to him, they are making efforts to make adequate use of Liberia's blue economy because Liberia is a coastal country with about 40% of its resources found in water.

Mr. Kpadeh revealed that

Association of Maritime Administration Summit of the International Maritime Organization, which is very important. This comprises over 40 African countries. We will be hosting over forty African countries in Monrovia, and many other international organizations and partners will join. From September 30 to October 4, 2025. The summit primarily focuses on investment in the Maritime sector of Africa. How we can work together, harness our water resources and mobilize finance to benefit our people", he added.

Providing an update on Liberia's relevance and respectability on the IMO Council, Kpadeh said Liberia chairs the MEPC of the IMO, and is the highest dues payer in the IMO, paying over US\$700 million, equivalent to over five million pounds.

According to him, the IMO leadership is pleased with the



Ambassador Robert Wilmot Kpadeh

Liberia is working to transition from being just a vessel registry to focusing on how the country can mobilize investment in the sector, by owning vessels, strengthening human capacity development, and providing more investments to the sector.

He further indicated that they are contemplating creating a small watercraft, hospitality industry with transport and crude vessel connecting coastal counties because these are places that can create jobs and employment, which brings about adequate utilization of Liberia's blue economy.

"Let me say this; September this year, Liberia has the honor to host the 8th

work that the Liberian representative and delegation are doing.

Commenting on his numerous engagements with fellow IMO members, he stated that those diplomatic engagements with organizations and individuals are intended to attract cooperation and partnership on environmental issues, blue economy, and GHD whenever Liberia has a position.

Furthermore, Mr. Kpadeh disclosed that the conversations are also for resource mobilization because the more ships that are registered, the more money Liberia generates.

"We at the Maritime have launched five-to-six-year

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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CENTAL wants Justices to declare their assets

recorded so far in asset declaration compliance, including full compliance by the President and Vice President, Speaker, President Pro-Temore and other officials, and 100 percent compliance levels at the Liberia Revenue Authority”, he added.

However, data gathered from the Liberia Anti-corruption Commission (LACC) shows that a considerable number of officials of government, including appointees, Legislators, and Justices of the Supreme Court of Liberia, are still renegeing on declaring their assets, incomes, and liabilities

Miamen said CENTAL strongly believes those actions will promote greater transparency

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Liberia: West African military heads meet

conference will set the stage,” Amb. Scott said.

Meanwhile, the theme of the 2025 West Africa Logistics Conference, Building Capacity and Logistics, emphasized the role logistics play in developing, impacting, and sustaining not only the military but also collective industries and national prosperity. About the US-Africa Command:The U.S. supports partners in Africa using a "3D" approach - that is "Diplomacy, Development, and Defense." Whereas embassies use diplomacy and development to enable African governments, U.S. Africa Command helps those governments with "Defense."

U.S. Africa Command supports African governments by helping build capacity in their armed forces, which are necessary for a government to counter violent extremists and respond to crisis.

By providing security and safety for its people, African governments can assure citizens' access to education, work, and

within the asset declaration regime as well as increase compliance, accountability, and transparency in government.

He called on President Boakai to go a step further from suspension to dismissing all officials within the executive found to have remained defiant by their refusal to declare their assets, incomes, and liabilities. The CENTAL Executive Director also urged the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission to ensure that assets declared are not just kept on the shelves, but are timely verified, to ensure that the true essence and objectives of the process are fully realized. Editing by Jonathan Browne

healthcare, among other essential services. Our support to African armed forces includes training, exercises, equipment sales, and several other security cooperation efforts to help develop militaries and build relationships. Each of these efforts emphasizes African militaries' respect for civilian governments, the law of war, and human rights.

U.S. Africa Command, headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany, is one of 11 U.S. Department of Defense combatant commands, each with a geographic or functional mission that provides command and control of military forces in peace and war.

U.S. Africa Command employs a broad-reaching diplomacy, development, and defense approach to foster interagency efforts and help negate the drivers of conflict and extremism in Africa. - Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

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Liberia to expand blue

programs to see how we can begin to build and expand our blue economy. Liberia is blessed with water resources, and so, how can we harness our water resources and convert them into economic blessings for our people? To do that, we need investment. So, when you see me having conversations in Maritime diplomacy, it is to build partnership cooperation with countries to look for support and propose a strong position", he explained.

According to him, there are lot of countries that have expressed interest and willingness to invest in Liberia’s blue

economy.

"People from the Middle East, Asia, Europe, America, and Africa are coming to us. I was recently in the EU and had a big red-carpet welcome. Because people see Liberia as a responsible nation. We are finding the courage to condemn the condemnable and paying our due. Liberia is the largest registry now in the World because we are registering big vessels; therefore, we pay the highest dues. We are not registering dark flat vessels. Liberia is a first-list Maritime country", Kpadeh noted. Editing by Jonathan Browne

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“Our security is guaranteed”

affirmed that Liberia remains secure, stable, and peaceful, positioning itself under the excellent leadership of President Joseph Nyumah Boakai.Major General Forleh's comments come at a time when critics are frowning at the poor security of the state, with repeated skirmishes between officers of the AFL and personnel of the Liberian National Police, amidst

issues of mysterious deaths across the country and the strained relationship between the AFL, police, and citizens in handling violent situations here.

In February this year, some soldiers of the AFL and the Liberia National Police clashed over the enforcement of the “No-Go-Zone” placed on commercial bikes. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

APM Terminals Liberia reaffirms commitment to education

Monrovia, Liberia - August 4, 2025: APM Terminals Liberia Ltd. has marked the fourth anniversary of its flagship educational scholarship program with a milestone event held on Wednesday, July 16.

The celebration featured the presentation of new scholarship packages and an exclusive guided tour of the port facilities inside the Freeport of Monrovia for beneficiary students. Launched in 2021, the program reflects APM Terminals Liberia Ltd.'s long-term commitment to investing in Liberia's education sector by annually supporting 120 brilliant but disadvantaged students from six schools across Districts 13 and 14. The initiative is delivered through the company's Corporate Social Responsibility efforts, in collaboration with school administrators, district representatives, and community leaders.

The students, drawn from Freeway Baptist School, God's Missionaries Academy (formerly Boakai Konneh Foundation School), Jimmy Jolocon School (Junior and Senior High), God's

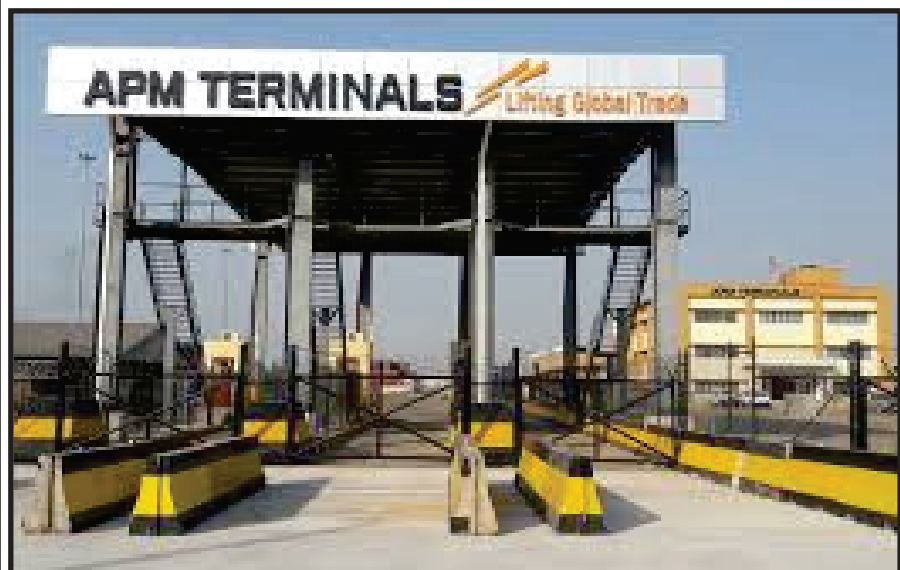
inspire students' academic and career aspirations by exposing them to opportunities within the maritime and logistics sectors.

Speaking during the event, Ms Natasha Akosua Akakpo, Chair of the CSR Committee and a Communication & Project Officer at APM Terminals Liberia Ltd, emphasized the company's enduring commitment to educational development.

“This program goes beyond financial support. It's about investing in the future of Liberia by helping young people see what's possible. We believe that education and exposure are powerful tools for transformation, and we are proud to have sustained this commitment for five years,” she said.

“Soon, we hope to expand this program; either through the number of students from the schools or by incorporating other schools in our catchment communities.”

Also speaking at the event, Principal of God's Missionaries Academy, Mr. Abraham Kawah, expressed gratitude to APM



Glory Primary School, Rev. Peter Amos George Memorial Academy, and Mother Kebbeh Academy, had their scholarship packages made known to them during a brief presentation ceremony held at the terminal's premises. Each of the six schools has 20 students benefitting from the program.

This year, APM Terminals Liberia Ltd. is investing over 3 million Liberian dollars to cover school fees for the selected students.

The renewed financial commitment reflects the company's continued dedication to removing barriers to education and empowering young people in its host communities.

Following the presentation, students were taken on a guided tour of the terminal, where they observed operations such as container handling, safety procedures, and logistics coordination. For many, it was their first time visiting the Freeport, offering a rare opportunity to understand how trade infrastructure contributes to national development. The experience was designed to

Terminals Liberia Ltd. for the continued support.

“This program has made a tangible difference in the lives of our students. We often had enrolment issues, with many of our bright students dropping out because they had little to no financial support at home. However, APM Terminals came to the doorstep of our school and changed that, and we are truly grateful for that.”

Mr. Momolu Gartawiah, parent of one of the beneficiaries, also commended the initiative and thanked APM Terminals for easing their financial burden with the scholarship scheme.

“I have five children. One of them is now benefiting from this scholarship scheme, and, to me, that makes a lot of difference. I know some of the parents here today who also struggle to pay their wards' fees share similar sentiments. All I can say is that I am truly grateful to APM Terminals, and I hope this initiative is sustained to help the good people of Liberia.

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Français

Conflit entre Gongloe et Nyonblee sur les frais imposés aux femmes enceintes à l’hôpital JFK

L’éminent avocat libérien et défenseur des droits humains, Maître Taiwan Saye Gongloe, a vivement critiqué la présidente du Sénat, Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence, à la suite de sa

césarienne et autres interventions chirurgicales. Dans un mémo interne adressé aux patients en date du 24 juillet 2025, l’hôpital JFK a annoncé une augmentation significative des frais liés aux soins maternels, applicables

(1-5 jours) - 25 USD ; Césarienne - 90 USD ; Médicaments peropératoires et fournitures médicales - 65 USD ; Analyses de routine - 20 USD. Tous les autres services seront facturés



réaction à une nouvelle politique controversée de l’hôpital John F. Kennedy Memorial (JFK), exigeant un dépôt financier préalable pour les accouchements par

dès le 1er août 2025. « Objet : Mise à jour des tarifs pour les césariennes à la maternité. Veuillez noter qu’à compter du 1er août 2025, la nouvelle structure tarifaire est la suivante : Frais d’admission

séparément, selon prescription. »Le mémo précise que le paiement intégral du montant total est requis avant toute intervention chirurgicale,

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ArcelorMittal Liberia inaugure la route réhabilitée Firestone-Kakata, un investissement de 500 000 USD

Kakata, comté de Margibi, 5 août 2025 – La société ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) a officiellement inauguré la route reliant Firestone à Kakata, entièrement réhabilitée dans le cadre de son programme de développement communautaire. Longue de 28 kilomètres, cette voie essentielle pour les échanges régionaux a été rénoverée pour un coût de plus de 500 000 dollars américains, après un lancement de projet en mai dernier.

La cérémonie d’inauguration, tenue ce lundi à Kakata, a rassemblé plusieurs autorités locales et responsables de l’entreprise. Représentant le PDG d’AML, Marcus Wleh, Directeur du département Durabilité et Relations Extérieures, a souligné l’engagement de l’entreprise envers les communautés locales à travers sa politique de Responsabilité Sociétale des Entreprises (RSE).

« Aux braves citoyens de ce district et au grand public, AML tient à vous adresser ses sincères remerciements pour votre soutien et votre patience. Ce projet de réhabilitation routière d’un demi-million de dollars est un bel exemple de partenariat public-privé réussi, » a déclaré M. Wleh. Il a également salué le leadership actuel du comté de Margibi, qu’il a qualifié de « dynamique », et réaffirmé la volonté de la société de poursuivre cette collaboration. « Nous n’avons pas entrepris ce projet parce qu’ArcelorMittal a beaucoup d’argent, mais parce que nous savons qu’il est de notre devoir

de contribuer au développement de nos communautés d’accueil, » a-t-il insisté. Un projet salué par les autorités locales Elleh A. Artoh-Wreh, représentante du District #1 dans le comté de Margibi, a exprimé la gratitude des communautés locales, qualifiant le projet de transformateur. « Cette route est d’une importance capitale. Elle relie Kakata à Firestone et à Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa. Nous célébrons aujourd’hui une avancée majeure grâce à

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Éditorial

La domination monétaire à l'ère numérique

PARIS – Depuis plus de 80 ans, le dollar américain jouit d'une suprématie inégalée dans le commerce et la finance au niveau mondial, grâce à une combinaison d'atouts propres aux États-Unis : taille de l'économie, institutions crédibles, marchés financiers profonds et liquides, puissance géopolitique, mais également effets de réseaux absolument déterminants. Une nouvelle variable intervient néanmoins aujourd'hui, qui s'apprête à refaçonner l'ordre monétaire international : l'intégrité des données.

Les technologies numériques créant les rails sur lesquels l'argent circule de façon croissante – grâce aux stablecoins, aux actifs tokenisés et aux monnaies numériques de banque centrale – la résilience et la crédibilité des réseaux monétaires reposent maintenant non seulement sur les fondamentaux macroéconomiques, mais également sur la puissance technologique et la sécurité de l'infrastructure en question.

Les fondamentaux macroéconomiques conservent bien entendu leur importance, et les monnaies numériques soulèvent certains défis macroéconomiques classiques. En privatisant encore plus le seigneurage - revenu lié à l'émission de la monnaie-, et en facilitant l'évasion fiscale, les stablecoins risquent notamment d'impacter négativement les recettes budgétaires des États. Par ailleurs, si un stablecoin -jeton numérique sensé être échangeable à parité contre un autre actif, comme une monnaie fiduciaire- perdait son ancrage – en raison de réserves de liquidité insuffisantes par exemple – sa crédibilité pourrait s'effondrer, ce qui provoquerait des retraits massifs. Si les interconnexions de ce stablecoin avec d'autres actifs sont importantes, les conséquences seraient systémiques. Une panique autour des stablecoins ancrés au dollar américain -émis par des acteurs privés et soutenus en grande partie par les bons du Trésor américain- pourrait entraîner des perturbations particulièrement importantes. L'opacité ou la non existence de données concernant les stablecoins, ainsi que les réglementations insuffisantes dans certaines juridictions, viennent accentuer les risques.

Ces problèmes « classiques » de crédibilité ne constituent toutefois qu'un début. Le monde pourrait en effet également connaître une « cyberpanique », provoquée par les fragilités de l'infrastructure numérique qui sous-tend les actifs numériques. Il ne sera pas facile d'atténuer ce risque, le National Institute of Standards and Technology du département américain du Commerce nous [avertissant](#) en effet depuis 2016 sur le risque de voir les ordinateurs quantiques parvenir bientôt à briser bon nombre des systèmes de cryptage à clé publique actuellement utilisés. Autrement dit, une infrastructure qui semble aujourd'hui solide pourrait demain se révéler fragile.

Les conséquences pour l'ordre monétaire mondial pourraient être considérables. En tant qu'émetteur de la monnaie internationale dominante, les États-Unis [jouissent](#) depuis des décennies d'un « privilège exorbitant », notamment de la possibilité d'emprunter à des taux d'intérêt bas même en périodes de stress économique, et d'enregistrer des déficits commerciaux systématiquement élevés. L'administration du président Donald Trump semble parier sur la capacité des États-Unis à conserver ce privilège, l'actuel statut mondial du billet vert se traduisant par une demande de stablecoins ancrés à celui-ci, et par conséquent potentiellement une demande accrue de bons du Trésor américain -cela dépend de la substitution de la demande avec d'autres actifs en dollars-, ce qui conduirait à la baisse des coûts de financement du Trésor des États-Unis.

Le privilège exorbitant de l'Amérique repose en fin de compte sur la confiance dans ses institutions, sur ses cadres juridiques et sur sa capacité budgétaire. Or, dans un monde au sein duquel l'argent circule sur des plateformes programmables, la crédibilité et l'intégrité du code, la qualité des normes cryptographiques et la résistance des systèmes face au piratage revêtent autant d'importance que n'importe lequel de ces facteurs. Cette évolution transforme fondamentalement la logique de la compétition monétaire : si son avance technologique est suffisamment significative, c'est la monnaie la mieux protégée contre les cybermenaces – pas nécessairement celle qui est soutenue par l'économie la plus puissante ou la banque centrale la plus crédible – qui devient la plus attrayante.

Les stablecoins sont utilisés dans un nombre croissant de paiements transfrontaliers, et en tant que porte d'entrée et de sortie pour les investissements spéculatifs en cryptoactifs, mais nous connaissons très mal leur degré de sécurité et leur gouvernance. Il incombe par conséquent aux régulateurs et aux citoyens de soulever ces questions. Qui est responsable de la gouvernance des registres numériques ? Dans quelle mesure le système est-il protégé contre les acteurs malveillants ? Que se passe-t-il si l'épine dorsale cryptographique d'une monnaie est compromise par les avancées de l'informatique quantique ?

Il est important pour la stabilité monétaire nationale et internationale que des réponses satisfaisantes soient apportées à ces questions. Si les dirigeants politiques n'agissent pas, nous risquons de nous retrouver confrontés à un système monétaire volatil et fragmenté, comparable à celui du XIX^e siècle, lorsque l'émission incontrôlée d'argent privé provoquait paniques, retraits massifs, manipulations et effondrements.

Hélène Rey est professeur d'économie à la London Business School et vice-présidente du CEPR (Paris).

Français

commentaire

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Conflit entre Gongloe et Nyonblee sur les frais

que des reçus doivent figurer dans les dossiers médicaux avant qu’un patient soit conduit en salle d’opération ou en service hospitalier. Face à cette mesure, la sénatrice Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence a réagi publiquement via un post Facebook officiel, indiquant une volonté d’intervenir :

« Nous avons commencé à agir sur ce dossier. Aucune femme en travail ne devrait être obligée de payer un acompte avant admission dans un hôpital public au Liberia. L’accouchement est une urgence. Les soins doivent être immédiats. » Mais la réponse de Cllr. Gongloe ne s’est pas fait attendre. Il a qualifié la situation d’inquiétante et alarmante, plaidant pour une reprise en main du système de santé libérien afin d’éviter de telles dérives. Il a par ailleurs accusé la sénatrice Karnga-Lawrence de gaspillage de fonds publics, ce qui, selon lui, prive la population de services de santé décents, d’infrastructures routières adéquates et d’un meilleur système éducatif.

« La présidente du Sénat touche environ 21 000 dollars par mois. En 2024, son salaire s’est élevé à 254 000 dollars, sans compter les avantages. À titre de comparaison, le président pro tempore du Sénat américain perçoit 193 000 dollars. Je veux qu’elle prenne l’initiative et propose que personne au Sénat ou à la Chambre des représentants ne gagne

plus de 2 000 dollars par mois. De plus, l’État ne devrait pas acheter de véhicules pour les parlementaires. Cela permettrait de réallouer ces fonds vers la santé, les routes et la sécurité. »

Cllr. Gongloe a qualifié l’intervention de la sénatrice dans le dossier JFK de pure hypocrisie, estimant que la meilleure preuve de son engagement serait de proposer une réduction des salaires et avantages des parlementaires.

Réagissant à la justification selon laquelle l’arrêt de l’aide de l’USAID aurait provoqué la hausse des frais médicaux, Gongloe a estimé que le Liberia doit cesser de dépendre des contribuables étrangers, et qu’il est temps d’adopter des réformes budgétaires et politiques courageuses.

« Écoutez-moi : ce sont exactement ces pratiques qui ont plongé notre pays dans la guerre. Lorsque 1 % de la population dépense autant, les 99 % restants ne peuvent survivre. Dans ces conditions, la paix et la stabilité sont impossibles. Vous créez une nation en colère, et une nation en colère finit par se soulever. Les soins dans les hôpitaux publics comme le JFK devraient être gratuits pour les femmes enceintes, les enfants et les personnes âgées. Regardez les voitures que ces dirigeants conduisent. L’appel de la sénatrice n’est donc pas sincère, » a-t-il conclu.

ArcelorMittal Liberia inaugure la route réhabilitée

AML. Lorsque les entreprises opérant au Liberia comprennent leur rôle dans la croissance et le développement du pays, nous devons les remercier et continuer à solliciter leur appui. »

Le projet a été exécuté par FREBENJA, une entreprise de construction libérienne, sous la supervision conjointe d’ArcelorMittal Liberia et du ministère des Travaux publics. FREBENJA assurera également l’entretien de la route pendant les six prochains mois.

Le Superintendent de Margibi, O.J. Morris, a également salué l’initiative, soulignant que le projet est en parfaite cohérence avec l’agenda de développement du gouvernement libérien, notamment en matière d’amélioration des infrastructures routières. Un engagement communautaire constant

Présente au Liberia depuis 2006, ArcelorMittal a fait du développement communautaire une priorité dans les comtés de Nimba, Bong et Grand Bassa. En plus des infrastructures routières, l’entreprise :

jeunes Libériens dans les domaines de la mécanique et de l’électricité, Opère des hôpitaux et des cliniques qui soignent chaque année des milliers de patients issus des communautés environnantes,

Finance la construction et la réhabilitation de marchés, de routes et de sources d’eau potable, Accompagne les agriculteurs et les petites entreprises locales à travers des programmes de formation et de soutien financier.

Depuis près de deux décennies, AML a contribué pour des millions de dollars aux Fonds de Développement Social des comtés de Grand Bassa, Bong et Nimba. Plus récemment, la société a lancé un Fonds de Développement Communautaire visant à exécuter des projets au plus près des populations vivant à proximité de ses opérations.

Par ces multiples initiatives, ArcelorMittal Liberia réaffirme son engagement envers un développement durable, inclusif et centré sur les besoins des communautés locales, contribuant ainsi à renforcer leur autonomie et leur résilience.

Le financement équitable de la lutte contre le changement climatique passe par une réforme de la dette

Par Mohamed Adow
AIROBI - Lorsque les délégués du monde entier se sont réunis à Bonn, en Allemagne, le mois dernier pour la 62e session des organes subsidiaires des Nations unies chargés du changement climatique (Sb62), le spectre de la dette souveraine s’est profilé. Pour les pays africains, en particulier, la dette n’est plus un problème qui se développe parallèlement à l’escalade des chocs climatiques et à l’aggravation des déficits de développement, mais plutôt le principal obstacle à des réponses efficaces à la crise. La réforme de la dette et le financement de la lutte contre le changement climatique sont les deux faces d’une même médaille.

Selon la Fondation Carnegie pour la paix internationale, la dette extérieure des pays africains s’élève à 655 milliards de dollars, et les paiements au titre du service de la dette ont plus que doublé depuis 2010 sous l’effet de la hausse des taux d’intérêt et de la dépréciation des monnaies. Cette année, la facture collective du service de la dette du continent s’élèvera à 79 milliards de dollars. En 2023, 34 pays africains dépenseront plus pour le service de la dette que pour la santé ou l’éducation, sans parler des secours en cas de catastrophe ou des infrastructures vertes.

L’annulation complète de la dette est une condition préalable à tout progrès en matière de développement durable. Ce n’est toutefois qu’un début. Façonnée par la dynamique des pouvoirs coloniaux, l’architecture financière mondiale est pratiquement conçue pour perpétuer les inégalités. Lorsqu’elles accordent des prêts aux économies en développement, des institutions comme le Fonds monétaire international et la Banque mondiale imposent souvent des conditions qui limitent la marge de manœuvre budgétaire de ces pays et intègrent l’austérité dans leur politique intérieure. Le soulagement à court terme s’accompagne donc de contraintes à long terme.

Nombreux sont ceux qui pensent que la mobilisation de l’investissement privé est la clé pour combler le déficit de financement de la lutte contre le changement climatique. « L’atténuation » des risques liés au financement de la lutte contre le changement climatique et l’attraction de capitaux privés au moyen d’outils tels que les obligations vertes et les financements mixtes figurent parmi les principales priorités du G20. La décision relative au nouvel objectif collectif quantifié en matière de financement du climat, prise lors de la COP29 à Bakou l’année dernière, souligne également l’importance de la participation du secteur privé.

L’Afrique du Sud, qui assumera la présidence du G20 en décembre 2024, s’est fait l’écho de cette approche. Par exemple, lors de la réunion des ministres des Finances du G20 en février, le président sud-africain Cyril Ramaphosa a appelé le secteur privé, ainsi que les institutions financières internationales et les banques de développement, à mettre en œuvre des « mécanismes de financement et d’assurance innovants » visant à accroître le financement de la prévention des catastrophes et de la reconstruction post-catastrophe.

Le secteur privé a cependant longtemps eu du mal à s’engager efficacement dans les négociations sur le climat ou à identifier des projets viables qui servent à la fois le climat, le développement et les objectifs commerciaux. Étant donné que les projets d’infrastructure nécessaires au renforcement de la résilience climatique arrivent à maturité sur une période de 20 à 30 ans, les pays ont besoin d’un accès fiable à des financements à long terme. Les marchés du crédit fonctionnent toutefois sur des horizons de 3 à 5 ans, ce qui signifie que les emprunteurs finissent souvent par se démener pour obtenir davantage de capitaux, ce qui peut être à la fois imprévisible et coûteux.

Selon l’ONG Campagne ONE, le taux d’intérêt moyen sur les obligations des pays africains en 2021 était de 5,78 %, contre 1,14 % pour les prêts de la Banque mondiale. Ces pays paieront 56 milliards de dollars d’intérêts supplémentaires sur la durée des prêts contractés en 2017-21, par rapport à ce qu’ils auraient payé s’ils avaient emprunté aux taux de la Banque mondiale. Le modèle de « financement mixte » tant vanté ne résout pas ce problème, car il combine souvent des fonds publics et privés d’une manière qui expose les pays au risque du marché du crédit.

Le vrai problème est que le financement privé est structurellement biaisé au détriment des pays du Sud, en partie à cause des lacunes fondamentales dans l’évaluation des risques souverains. Si le secteur privé doit contribuer à combler le déficit de financement de la lutte contre le changement climatique sans enfermer les pays en développement dans des cycles de remboursement et de dépendance, nous devons d’abord résoudre les asymétries d’information qui permettent aux agences de notation et aux investisseurs institutionnels de définir le « risque » d’une manière qui pénalise les économies en développement. Ramaphosa, qui a exprimé son soutien à la réforme des systèmes mondiaux de notation du crédit, devrait contribuer à lancer ce processus.

Dans le même temps, nous devons reconnaître les limites des capitaux privés, en particulier lorsqu’il s’agit de financer l’adaptation et les pertes et dommages. Il n’y a pas de substitut à une expansion majeure des subventions et du financement public.

La responsabilité de s’attaquer aux biais du système financier mondial incombe à l’ensemble de la communauté internationale, notamment aux économies avancées qui réduisent actuellement leurs budgets d’aide climatique. Néanmoins, les pays africains doivent assumer une plus grande part de responsabilité dans la conduite du changement.

L’Afrique a souvent échoué à adopter une approche unifiée des questions mondiales et à maximiser son pouvoir de négociation collectif. Prenons l’exemple de la feuille de route de Bakou à Belém, une initiative conjointe des présidences de la COP29 et de la COP30 visant à fournir au moins 1,3 milliard de dollars de financement climatique par an d’ici à 2035. Bien que le secrétariat de la convention-cadre des Nations unies sur les changements climatiques et la présidence de la COP30 aient entamé des consultations régionales sur la feuille de route en février, invitant les parties prenantes à faire part de leur contribution, l’Afrique n’a pas présenté de position alignée ou de série de recommandations.

Liberia: West African military heads meet

Military heads of dozens of West African countries and four non-West African countries have gathered in Harbel, Margibi County, Liberia, for a three-day logistical conference hosted by the US-Africa Command.

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh
Harbel, Margibi County, August 6, 2025: The conference dubbed



2025 West Africa Logistics Conference is being hosted by the United States Government through its US-Africa Command, in partnership with the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL). The conference, which opened on Tuesday, August 5, at the Farmington Hotel in Harbel, brings together military heads from at least 20 West African countries, including Liberia, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Togo. Military chiefs from Morocco, Tunisia, Kenya, and Botswana are also forming part of the history conference, the first of its kind to be hosted in Liberia. Addressing the opening ceremony, Liberia's Defense Minister, Brigadier General Geraldine Janet George, said the conference underscores the collective commitments of participating countries to strengthen regional security while enhancing interoperability and optimizing logistics capabilities across West Africa's armed forces. Minister George acknowledged security challenges facing West Africa, such as transnational threats to the marine crisis, while noting that logistics remain the backbone for effective military operations. The Liberian Defense Minister commended visiting regional security officials while extending Liberia's deepest appreciation for the value of partnership, preparedness, and shared expertise. In an overview of the conference, George Dictrich, Chief of Logistics, US-Africa Command (USAFRICOM), explained that the

and ensure the region is a secure and prosperous place with expanded opportunity. He, however, pledged the United States Department of State's unwavering support for the initiative,

conference will identify challenges and strengths of the region and collectively find solutions to the challenges. "This conference is not about the United States giving out logistics or support to West Africa, but about what we can do together as a regional team to find solutions to security threats," Dietrich said. He said participants will brainstorm on shared understanding, and at the end, document challenges to finding an amicable solution. Also speaking at the opening ceremony, US Charge' d'affaires Joseph E. Zadrozny described the conference as a platform for action to strengthen regional security. Zadrozny emphasized that the US-Africa Command's Africa Logistics Conference for West Africa is a critical milestone in a shared commitment to fostering regional stability, enhancing security, and building the foundation for sustainable economic growth across West Africa. The US Charge 'd'Affaires urged regional security participants to collectively share commitments to national security supply chains amidst the growing challenges, including destabilizing influence from external state and non-state actors. He emphasized the Gulf of Guinea and vast territories such as the Sahel, which makes the regional ideas critical to sharing commitments to national security supply chains. Zadrozny reminded participants to build stronger regional networks of like-minded nations that are committed to peace and stability, which, he said, will put West Africa in the best position to counter threats which aligns closely with their administration's objectives of strengthening partnerships with African nations through regional coordination and defense interoperability. "We are enthusiastic to have several U.S. industry leaders in attendance to promote these goals through offering a range of top-quality equipment and service," Zadrozny said. He stressed U.S.-Africa commercial diplomacy remains a vital component of U.S. foreign policy, while adding that strengthening it will go a long way towards achieving results that benefit the entire global community. For his part, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia, Major General Davidson Fayiah Forleh, highlighted the key issue of terrorism's effects across Africa and the attack on the Marine Domain, Blue Economy, being exploited as an essential factor for hosting the conference. Major Gen. Forleh stated that the conference will focus on a logistics approach and expertise towards fighting those challenges. Also speaking, Amb. Robert Scott, Deputy Commander of Civil Military Engagement, describes the conference as a pivotal moment and a significant step towards logistics cooperation across West Africa. "US-Africa marks a critical milestone as we prepare to transition in 2026 from a regional focus to a logistics approach continent-wide; this

"It could destroy our future"

The National Rubber Brokers and Farmers Union of Liberia (NARBFUL) has raised alarm over President Joseph Boakai's recent Executive Order No. 151, warning that the policy could have devastating consequences for thousands of smallholder farmers and independent brokers across the country.

By Edwin N Khakie

Gbarnga, Bong County, August 6, 2025: The Executive Order, which came into effect on August 1, 2025, imposes a surcharge of \$150 per metric ton on the export of unprocessed natural rubber, along with \$3,000 in fees per container, among other regulatory costs. The government says the measure is intended to encourage domestic processing, stimulate value addition, and create jobs in the long run. However, in a statement issued on Monday, NARBFUL described the move as "abrupt and economically dangerous," arguing that it threatens the viability of a sector that supports tens of thousands of Liberian families. "We are not against the idea of value addition or industrial development," the Union said. "But such sweeping policies should be implemented gradually and with the full consultation of key local stakeholders especially the smallholder farmers who produce more than 65% of

Union called on President Boakai to suspend the implementation of Executive Order No. 151 and allow a grace period for local processing initiatives to reach operational maturity. It cited one such plant under construction in Todee District, Montserrado County, and others in development across various regions. NARBFUL also directed sharp criticism at the Ministry of Agriculture, accusing the institution of bias and misinformation. "We believe the Ministry has not provided the President with accurate sector data, and its leadership continues to side with concession companies, rather than solving real problems," the Union charged. Despite their concerns, NARBFUL reaffirmed its support for the government's tax reform agenda. The Union highlighted its Memoranda of Understanding with both the Ministry of Agriculture (under the RETRAP program) and the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), aimed at ensuring full taxation of rubber sales. It is alleged, however, that some large companies have failed to uphold similar tax commitments. As tensions rise within Liberia's oldest export sector, stakeholders across the board are calling for a national dialogue to reconcile policy direction with on-the-ground realities. Whether President Boakai will revisit the order remains to be seen. - Edited by Othello B. Garblah.



Liberia's natural rubber." NARBFUL further claimed that the Rubber Planters Association of Liberia (RPAL), along with major concessionaires such as Firestone Liberia, Liberia Agriculture Company (LAC), and Jeety Rubber Corporation, have historically sidelined independent farmers and brokers in national rubber policy decisions. The Union says this marginalization has left local actors vulnerable to sudden regulatory shifts. The

Gov't Denies Fee Hike at JFK

By Kruah Thompson

The Government of Liberia has denied rumors circulating on social media that fees for life-saving surgeries and other essential services at the John F. Kennedy

essential medical services at the national referral hospital. "The document being circulated is a draft proposal under review and has not been approved by the hospital administration or its board," Minister

enhanced infrastructure, and improved healthcare services. He believes misinformation gained traction on social media because people tend to focus on negative narratives, especially concerning the



Medical Center (JFK) have been increased. According to Deputy Minister of Public Affairs at the Ministry of Information, Daniel Sandor, the information being spread is false and misleading. He clarified that the government, through the JFK administration, has not issued any approved memo to increase fees for

Sandor explained. "Unfortunately, individuals with ill intent seeking to damage the hospital's reputation chose to leak this internal document." Providing context, Sandor noted that over the past 18 months, JFK has experienced unprecedented improvements in service delivery, including upgraded laboratory facilities,

cost and accessibility of healthcare. "This trending news does not reflect the reality," he said. "Contrary to the false memo being circulated, JFK has made significant strides in improving healthcare delivery." He emphasized that the JFK administration has no intention of increasing the cost of essential services at this time.

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