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The New Dawn

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Supreme Court stands firm

-Rejects Legislative plots

Yekeh Korluba double down on "missing 16bn"





Continental News

Pressure grows on SA minister over Gupta links

The job of South Africa's finance minister hangs in the balance as the president's office denies any knowledge of him requesting to resign.

Nhlanhla Nene apologised on Friday for not being truthful about his meetings with the controversial Gupta family at their home in Johannesburg, saying: "I am human too, I do make mistakes... However, it is reasonable of the public to expect public office bearers to own up fully and timeously to the mistakes they make... I should also have disclosed early, and fully, the details of these meetings." Local media reports said that, over the weekend, the embattled minister called the president requesting that he be relieved of his duties.

President Cyril Ramaphosa's spokesperson Khusela Diko told Reuters on Monday: "We are not aware of Minister Nene asking to be relieved of his duties."

Mr Nene denies that he did anything wrong during his meetings with the Guptas.

He made the comment about the meetings during an inquiry into allegations that

the Guptas exercised undue influence over politics in the country, including the naming of government ministers.

They have been also been accused of using their relationship with former President Jacob Zuma to win government contracts.

The Guptas and Mr Zuma deny any involvement in corruption. -BBC



Finance Minister Nhlanhla Nene has apologised for secret meetings with the Guptas

Cameroon election: Kamto declares himself winner

In Cameroon an opposition candidate has declared himself the winner of Sunday's presidential election despite a government warning not to announce any unofficial results.

At a press conference in the capital Yaoundé, Maurice

Kamto said he had received a clear mandate from the people and he vowed to defend it.

Mr Kamto provided no evidence to back up what correspondents say is both a controversial and provocative declaration.

No official results have yet

been declared and the Constitutional Court has two weeks to announce the outcome.

Ahead of Sunday's vote, President Paul Biya was widely seen as the favourite to win - he is seeking a seventh term in office. -BBC



Ethiopia to give visas on arrival to African travelers



The African Union's promise of easy travel for Africans throughout the continent is still some way off, but Ethiopia is taking a step towards helping that become a reality. Speaking at the opening of parliament and outlining the government's legislative programme, President Mulatu Teshome said that African nationals would be able to get visas on arrival in the country rather than

applying for them in advance.

Under an AU plan African nations were supposed to scrap visa requirements for all African citizens by 2018.

But to date, the Seychelles is the only nation where visa-free travel is open to all Africans - as well as to citizens of every nation - as it always has been.

A recent AU report found that Africans can travel without a visa to just 22% of other African countries. -BBC

Zimbabwe borrows its way out of fuel crisis



Crippling petrol shortages have prompted Zimbabwe's central bank to release over \$40m (£31m) for the commodity, it says.

Petrol queues had stretched for several kilometres at some stations before fuel ran out.

Food prices have risen and essential goods are in short supply because of a foreign

currency shortage. A \$500m credit line will also be used to import fuel, medicines and wheat, as well as soya beans to address a shortage of cooking oil, authorities say.

Some see this as a sticking plaster. The bigger problem - Zimbabwe's foreign currency shortage - can only be resolved when the country increases its exports. -BBC

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EDITORIAL

Chief Cyril Allen's misstep

CHIEF CYRIL ALLEN, head of the Governing Council of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) recently wrote former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a letter charged with invectives and negative characterization that went viral both on social media and in the press without expressing any remorse.

IN FACT, HE subsequently appeared on a live talk show last week, and defended his action amid serious public condemnation. That the chairman emeritus of jailed former President Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Party could stoop so low, we are disappointed, to say the least.

BUT WE ARE not surprised at all of the verbal attacks coming from the NPP chairman emeritus against Madam Sirleaf. This is the only orientation he had from the rebel movement-cum political party. It is an open secret that the NPP is an offspring of the rebels National Patriotic Front of Liberia or NPFL that waged a bloody civil war on December 24, 1989 in Liberia. Chief Allen, like many former and current officials served in the hierarchy of the NPFL.

NOW HE HAS brought that same posture into the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change, which governing council he heads. We wonder what signal is Chief Allen sending out to youth in the CDC, and generally the youth of Liberia by defending such letter that is loaded with abuses against a former Head of State and allowing it to be posted on social media.

HIS ATTACKS AGAINST the former president stems from an interview that Madam Sirleaf had recently with the BBC following reports of the missing billions when she refuted the figure 16 billion Liberian Dollars, and instead, asked whether the current administration knew the Gross Development Product (GDP) of Liberia before coming out with such figure, as disclosed by Information Minister Lenn Eugene Nagbe.

MADAM SIRLEAF THEN wondered whether the Weah administration knew the level of harm this information has done to the country's reputation internationally as a result of releasing the alarming figure. By any and all measures, this is a tone caution coming from a mother and former president, who led this country for two six-year consecutive terms or 12 years, to a successor and a government that has been in office for only nine months.

HOWEVER, LITTLE DID she know that people in the CDC-led government would have considered the rhetorical question as an affront, launching an all out counterattack commanded by Chief Allen and President George Manneh Weah himself.

BUT UNLIKE CHIEF Allen, President Weah decided to respond indirectly immediately upon his return to the country from attending the 73rd Session of the U.N. General Assembly in New York. Speaking in a church service, Weah unleashed a barrage of criticisms against the administration of former president Sirleaf, specifically questioning her own knowledge of GDP when her administration failed to deliver paved road to residents of Doe Community, citizens in southeast Liberia or pay WAESSC fees for students.

RATHER THAN RESPONDING thru this posture, we think President Weah should have exercised leadership by seeking consultation and pieces of advice from his predecessor Madam Sirleaf on how to address Liberians on this missing billions question, but this was never done. Instead, he chose the blame game approach.

AND THIS IS where Chief Allen, the grand commander of the CDC Governing Council missed his step, and resulted to uncivilized behavior by writing a dirty letter to the former president and allowing it to go viral on social media. But thank God that Madam Sirleaf is not only a Mother, but a mature stateswoman hence, she has never responded to the garbage spewed at her.

New Dawn
FULLY INDEPENDENT

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COMMENTARY

By Ian Buruma

The Trump Whisperer

Stephen Miller, the US president's senior policy adviser, resembles a type on the far right that is more common in Europe: young, slick, sharp-suited, even a trifle dandyish. But Miller is an anomaly in American politics for a much more disturbing reason.

NEW YORK - There are a lot of oddballs in US President Donald Trump's entourage, but few are as odd - or as sinister - as 33-year-old Stephen Miller, Trump's senior policy adviser. Miller resembles a type on the far right that is more common in Europe than the US: young, slick, sharp-suited, even a trifle dandyish. He is a skilled rabble-rouser, whose inflammatory rhetoric against immigrants and refugees - "We're going to build that wall high and we're going to build it tall!" - drives the crowds at Trump rallies into a frenzy. One of his crowd-pleasing notions is that migrants will infect Americans with terrible diseases.

Miller plays to all of Trump's worst instincts: belligerent chauvinism, vindictive loathing of liberals, and hostility to minorities. His partisanship is extreme. In his own words: "Everything that is wrong with this country today, the people who are opposed to Donald Trump are responsible for!" He may actually believe this.

What is odd about Miller, among other things, is the seeming clash between his views on immigrants, refugees, and minorities and his personal background. He is a descendent of Jews who came to the United States after fleeing pogroms in Belorussia. He grew up in California. His parents were Democrats. But he was already reading far-right literature (anti-gun control magazines and the like) in high school and has since consorted with ideologues whose ideas are often hard to distinguish from anti-Semitism. Trump's speech last year commemorating Holocaust Remembrance Day failed even to mention Jews; some believe that Miller was the author.³

Miller calls himself a patriot. There is of course nothing unusual about Jews being American, French, British, Russian, or indeed German patriots. Nor is there any reason why Jews should not be conservative. Margaret Thatcher appointed several Jews to high office, prompting the former prime minister Harold MacMillan's sniffy remark that her cabinet contained "more Old Estonians than Old Etonians."

There are other Jews around Trump, too, apart from Miller. Trump appointed Gary Cohn as Director of the National Economic Council and made Steven Mnuchin his Treasury Secretary. Neither is a nativist. Cohn almost resigned last year when Trump defended violent white-supremacist mobs in Charlottesville, Virginia. He did resign this year, but in protest against the introduction of tariffs on steel imports. Like Mnuchin, Cohn believes in low taxes and unfettered free enterprise. (Jared Kushner can be left out of this discussion, because the only reason for his presence in the White House is his marriage to Trump's daughter, Ivanka.)

What is unusual is to be Jewish and a nativist (at least outside Israel). The Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung reported recently that a number of Jews had joined the anti-immigrant Alternative für Deutschland (AfD) party. Many of them seem to be of Russian descent. An exaggerated fear that Muslims are about to destroy the West appears to be their main motive for joining the far right. Miller is haunted by a similar apocalyptic vision. And there are others of this ilk: the casino magnate and major Trump supporter Sheldon Adelson, for example.

But there are sound reasons why Jews in the diaspora normally do not become nativists. Nativist movements that insist on the special privileges of blood and soil have invariably been bad for minorities, especially Jews, leading to the kind of violence that drove Miller's great-grandparents out of their country.

Some people find it puzzling that anti-Semites have accused Jews of being either archetypal Bolsheviks or archetypal capitalists. Historically, most Jews, living in poor villages, were neither. But the attraction of left-wing ideas for Jewish intellectuals is hardly mysterious. Karl Marx himself hoped that once the workers of the world united, ethnic and religious distinctions would cease to matter. And Voltaire, who was no great friend to the Jews, once remarked about the London stock exchange: "Here Jew, Mohammedan, and Christian deal with each other as though they were all of the same faith, and only apply the word infidel to people who go bankrupt..." Capitalism, as we know, transcends borders.

Emigration, by no means always voluntary, has been the fate of Jews since the 8th century BC. Open societies, religious tolerance, and freedom of movement have been rare blessings. Hence the traditional appeal of places like Amsterdam, or indeed the US. It explains why American Jews continue to vote largely for the Democratic Party, even after they became more prosperous. Norman Podhoretz, a conservative American intellectual, once wrote a book entitled *Why Are Jews Liberals?* He was baffled by the idea that, as his fellow conservative Milton Himmelfarb famously quipped, "Jews earn like Episcopalians and vote like Puerto Ricans."

But it isn't baffling at all. Distrust of nativism is the result of long and bloody experience. And now it underpins a growing disenchantment among American Jews with Israel. Nativism, stressing Jewish rights at the expense of the Arabs, is on the rise in the Holy Land, too. Although Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu invokes the Holocaust whenever it suits him, he is ideologically closer to evangelical Christian zealots and hard-right nativists like his Hungarian counterpart, Viktor Orbán, than he is to most Jewish Americans.

This is why, despite much talk of powerful Jewish lobbies in Washington, most Jews will continue to vote against Trump, even though he is an almost slavish supporter of the Israeli government and openly hostile to the Palestinians. It is also why Miller remains an oddball. Celebrating the Jewish new year, Rosh Hashanah, last month, Miller's former rabbi, Neil Comess-Daniels, denounced Miller's politics as "completely antithetical to everything I know about Judaism." I am not sure Jewish theology supports such a vehement assertion, but his sentiments are clear.

When William Kristol, a neo-conservative commentator who once flirted with the hard right, expressed his disgust with Trump, David Horowitz, one of Miller's mentors, called Kristol a "renegade Jew." Sigmund Freud would have called this "projection." In fact, the concept goes back at least as far as the Babylonian Talmud, which warned: "Do not taunt your neighbour with the blemish you yourself have."



By Dani Rodrik

Will New Technologies Help or Harm Developing Countries?

CAMBRIDGE - New technologies reduce the prices of goods and services to which they are applied. They also lead to the creation of new products. Consumers benefit from these improvements, regardless of whether they live in rich or poor countries.

Mobile phones are a clear example of the deep impact of some new technologies. In a clear case of technological leapfrogging, they have given poor people in developing countries access to long-distance communications without the need for costly investments in landlines and other infrastructure. Likewise, mobile banking provided through cell phones has enabled access to financial services in remote areas without bank branches.

These are instances of technology improving the lives of poor people. But for technology to make a real and sustained contribution to development, it must not only provide better and cheaper products; it must also lead to more higher-paying jobs. In other words, it must help poor people in their role as producers as well as consumers. A model of growth that the economist Tyler Cowen has called "cell phones instead of automobile factories" raises the obvious question: How do people in the developing world afford to purchase cell phones in the first place?

Consider again the examples of mobile telephony and banking. Because communications and finance are inputs into production, they are to some extent producer services as well as consumer services.

For example, a well-known study has documented how the spread of mobile phones in the Indian state of Kerala enabled fishermen to arbitrage price differences across local markets, increasing their profits by 8% on average as a result. Kenya's ubiquitous mobile banking service M-Pesa appears to have enabled poor women to move out of subsistence agriculture into non-farm businesses, providing a significant bump up the income ladder at the very bottom.

New digital technologies have been playing an important role in transforming large-scale farming in Latin America and elsewhere. Big data, GPS, drones, and high-speed communication have enabled improved extension services; optimized irrigation and pesticide and fertilizer use; provided early-warning systems; and enabled better quality control and more efficient logistics and supply-chain management. These improvements raise farm productivity and facilitate diversification into non-traditional crops with higher returns.

The introduction of these new technologies in production in developing countries often takes place through global value chains (GVCs). In principle, GVCs benefit these economies by easing entry into global markets.

Yet big questions surround the possibilities created by these new technologies. Are the productivity gains large enough? Can they diffuse sufficiently quickly throughout the rest of the economy?

Any optimism about the scale of GVCs' contribution must be tempered by three sobering facts. First, the expansion of GVCs seems to have ground to a halt in recent years. Second, developing-country participation in GVCs - and indeed in world trade in general - has remained quite limited, with the notable exception of certain Asian countries. Third, and perhaps most worrisome, the domestic employment consequences of recent trade and technological trends have been disappointing.

Upon closer inspection, GVCs and new technologies exhibit features that limit the upside to - and may even undermine - developing countries' economic performance. One such feature is an overall bias in favor of skills and other capabilities. This bias reduces developing countries' comparative advantage in traditionally labor-intensive manufacturing (and other) activities, and decreases their gains from trade.

Second, GVCs make it harder for low-income countries to use their labor-cost advantage to offset their technological disadvantage, by reducing their ability to substitute unskilled labor for other production inputs. These two features reinforce and compound each other. The evidence to date, on the employment and trade fronts, is that the disadvantages may have more than offset the advantages.

The usual response to these concerns is to stress the importance of building up complementary skills and capabilities. Developing countries must upgrade their educational systems and technical training, improve their business environment, and enhance their logistics and transport networks in order to make fuller use of new technologies, goes the oft-heard refrain.

But pointing out that developing countries need to advance on all those dimensions is neither news nor helpful development advice. It is akin to saying that development requires development. Trade and technology present an opportunity when they are able to leverage existing capabilities, and thereby provide a more direct and reliable path to development. When they demand complementary and costly investments, they are no longer a shortcut around manufacturing-led development.

Compare the new technologies with the traditional model of industrialization, which has been a powerful engine of economic growth in developing countries. First, manufacturing is tradable, which means domestic output is not constrained by demand (and incomes) at home. Second, manufacturing know-how was relatively easy to transfer across countries and, in particular, from rich to poor economies. Third, manufacturing did not make large demands on skills.

These three characteristics collectively made manufacturing a fantastic escalator to higher incomes for developing countries. New technologies present a very different picture in terms of the ease of transferring know-how and the skill requirements they imply. As a result, their net impact on low-income countries looks considerably more uncertain.

SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA)
Menetamba Road, Coopeer's Beach Community
Payneville, Liberia

Supply of Goods & Provision of Non-Consultancy Services

Contract Identification No: **IFB No. LTA/SBA/NCB/002/18/19 (Vehicles Rental & Lease)**
IFB No. LTA/SBA/NCB/003/18/19(Printing & Binding Services)
IFB No. LTA/NCB/004/18/19 (Office Furniture & Fixtures)
IFB No. LTA/NCB/007/18/19 (Supply of WLAN Equipment and Installation)

1. The Government of Liberia, through the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA), has apportioned funds from its budget towards the cost of procuring assorted goods and services in different categories as stated in Lots.
2. The Liberia Telecommunications Authority now invites qualified firms to submit sealed bids for the supply/provision of the below mentioned items/services. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) in keeping with procedures specified in the Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concessions Act (PPC Act) of September 2010.
The supply of these items, as per LTA's needs, in quantities and requirements are included in various Bid documents as per the packages below:

Ref: No	Procurement Package Description	Description of Lot	Quantity	Bid Security (USD)
IFB LTA/NCB/007/18/19	No. Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN)	N/A	Assorted	300.00
IFB LTA/NCB/007/18/19	No. Printing & Binding Services	N/A	Assorted	400.00
IFB LTA/SBA/NCB/002/18/19	No. Vehicle Rental & Lease	Lot 1 SUVs	Assorted	200.00
		Lot 2 Sedan	Assorted	200.00
IFB LTA/NCB/004/18/19	No. Office Furniture & Fixture	Lot 1 Furniture	Assorted	300.00
		Lot 2 Fixtures	Assorted	300.00

3. Complete sets of soft copy of bidding documents can be obtained **free of charge** at the below address. Bid security and all requirements must be submitted together with bid document, and **must be per the amount stated in each lot above in Manager's Check or Bank Guarantee. Bids submitted electronically will not be accepted.**

Qualification requirements include the following:

- **Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry);**
 - **Current Tax Clearance Certificate (Liberia Revenue Authority);**
 - **Two (2) references of previous or current clients over the last two (2) years;**
 - **Proof of being registered with the Public Procurement & Concessions Commission (PPCC);**
 - **Company's profile**
 - **Availability of supply (ies)/preparedness to provide services upon the issuance of an approved Local Purchase Order (LPO) and within a minimum period of 10 days goods shall be delivered**
 - **Ability to pre-finance on an approved local purchase order after which payment will be made in two (2) weeks**
 - **All bids must be signed and sealed in an envelope before submission**
4. You may obtain the soft copy of the bidding documents and further information from the Procurement & Logistics Section, Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA), 2nd Floor Room # 029, from Monday- Friday (9:00 A.M- 5:00 P.M) daily.
 5. Submission must be clearly marked, signed and sealed in an envelope, including other requested information as follows: For Example: **(IFB No: LTA/NCB/007/18/19)CONFIDENTIAL BID- for the Supply and Installation of Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) Equipment to the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA) for Fiscal Year 2018/2019** and addressed to:

Procurement & Logistics Section
Liberia Telecommunications Authority
2nd Floor, Room # 029
Menetamba Road, Cooper's Beach
ELWA Community, RIA Highway
Paynesville, Liberia
Mobile number: +231-886591857/777591857
Web address: www.lta.gov.lr

6. A pre-bid opening meeting will be held at the Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA) P&LS Conference Room # 029 on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at 1:00 PM to answer questions relevant to the bidding process. Seven (7) days after which, all clarification requests would remain unanswered.
7. Bids must be submitted at the Procurement Section, Room # 029, 2nd Floor, on Friday, October 26, 2018 on or before 2:00 PM. Bid Opening will be done promptly after closing at 2:00 PM, in the P&LS Conference Room # 029 on the 2nd Floor, in the presence of bidders' representatives or those who choose to attend. Bid submitted electronically will not be accepted.
8. Execution of these procurement packages are subject to the availability of funding during the Fiscal Year 2018-2019. Winning bidders shall be willing to accept payments either in Liberian or United States Dollars using the Central Bank of Liberia exchange rate.
9. The Liberia Telecommunications Authority reserves the right to reject or accept any bid submitted including the annulment of the entire process through notifying bidders without incurring any liability thereof.

Signed:
Prince G. Gwah, Jr.
Procurement & Logistics Manager

Approved:
S. Blijai Elliott
Director of Administration

LIBERIANS DEBATE



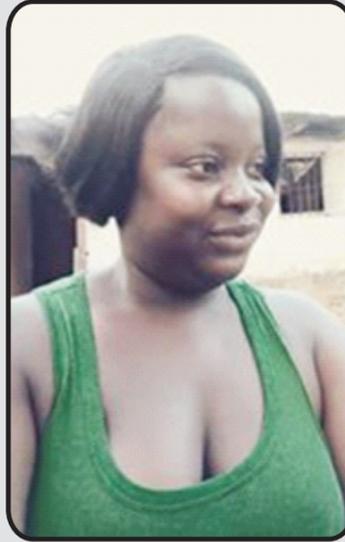
With Sally H. Gaye Cell#: 0886726282 Email:sh0770291004@gmail.com

The Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) dismisses as erroneous, reports that 16 billion Liberian banknotes printed in Sweden and brought into the country between 2016 and 2018 went missing. CBL Executive Governor Nathaniel R. Patray maintains that 15.5 billion printed and brought to Liberia through the Freeport of Monrovia and the Roberts International Airport are in the reserve vaults of the Bank. The New Dawn asks Liberians what they make of the statement coming out of the CBL amid ongoing probe by the Special Presidential Investigative Team.



Allison Jolo

“To clear your doubt, but in fact, the Central Bank is under investigation and their internal investigation cannot hold water. Hold your peace until the committee, which includes the international community, can come out with findings. Printing above the approved five billion is criminal and they all have to spend some time in jail.”

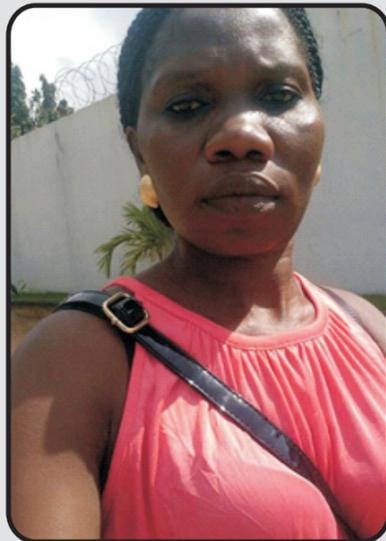


Josephine Dobbah

“Great, we want to hear that or see that. President George M. Weah do not allow them to spoil your government. While opposition are waiting to criticize you Mr. President, the stability of this Government depends surely on the outcome of this investigation. Trust me; this government will not rest if this money issue is tempered with.”

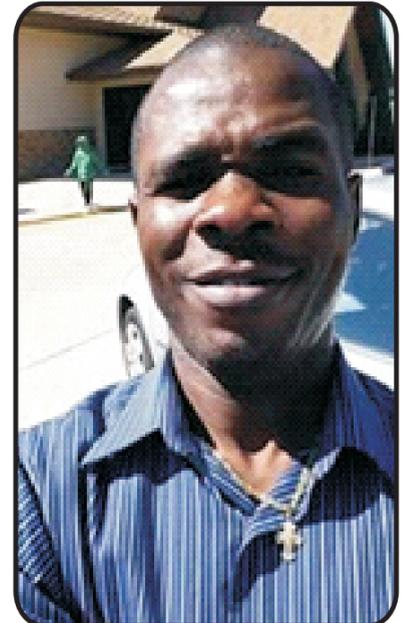
Mamie Zabar

“In my opinion, some kind of adjustment might be taking place. If it is criminal, we will soon understand. President Weah inherited a broke Nation! How come 15.5 billion entered the bank in 2017 and 2018? What was the turn over procedure that made President Weah to have sounded frustrated during the State of the Nation Address?”



Emmanuel Toe

“If the money is in the vaults as claimed by the CBL fine; I guess the vaults are here in Lib, so to cut long matter short, let the CBL show the money to the country so that we will be in peace. We don’t want trouble here, let them just show the money the governor is still talking plenty. You just show the money and see who will talk about this money business.”



AAMIN launches Zero Stigma Campaign

A zero media campaign aimed at reducing social stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV and other sexual majority groups in Liberia is launched here with calls for joint effort in resisting these societal problems.

Stigma and discrimination are societal barriers that undermine improved public health interventions because they prevent people from seeking healthcare and disclosing their health status.

According to news release, the initiative, which is being undertaken by Anti-AIDS Media Network or AAMIN, seeks to improve collaboration between media and civil society organizations in ensuring that key populations, sexual minority groups and marginalized people have access to healthcare services without stigmatization.

According to the release, the initiative is under the auspices of the American Jewish World Service (AJWS). The campaign will also strengthen discussions among stakeholders to support Liberia’s HIV scale-up programs, using Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) awareness as a driving force.

The launch coincides with the training of 20 journalists and Civil Society workers who are considered Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) champions in Liberia.

Dr. Miriam Chipimo, Country Director of the Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) Office in Liberia says if the Liberia must achieve the global target ‘90-90-90 by 2020’, reducing stigma and discrimination is the best way forward.

Liberia and the rest of the world



Paul Tamba

“They’re saying no money is missing, but they’re in the back begging The U. S. to help them find the missing money. These people are two faced crooks. This is Corruption in high places. No money missing in Liberia but they are investigating. So what are you investigating?”

had promised to ensure that by 2020, 90 percent of people living with HIV are tested, 90 percent of those tested are put on treatment and 90 percent of those on treatment have a suppressed viral load in their bodies.

“We have to reach 90-90-90 for Liberia; we will not do it without addressing issues related to stigma and crimination - so this is why I think this campaign is really important,” Dr. Chipimo says.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Marketers protest against "rebellion"

By Winston W. Parley

Marketers staged a non-violent protest outside President George Manneh Weah's office on Monday, 8 October, to draw his attention to an alleged "rebellious act" of armed personnel forcefully removing their elected organization president.

"I believe that this is a rebellious act. We cannot just come up to take and pluck out the president or the vice president. It will not be constitutional," says Deddeh Saybah Kollie, USAID Market Superintendent.

Madam Kollie and other market superintendents led scores of members of the Liberia Marketing Association (LMA) Monday in a peaceful protest outside President Weah's office against Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor's alleged use of force to remove LMA president Alice Yeebahn from office due to alleged corruption.

Under Alice's administration, Sup. Kollie says she thinks Vice President Taylor felt insulted by LMA



leadership's refusal to appoint the VP's sister and cousin to superintendent positions, claiming it may have prompted Alice's forceful removal.

"Because the Vice President Madam Jewel Howard - Taylor now sends people from Lofa County and people from Bong County so we can make them superintendents ... she asked

us to now appoint her sister and her cousin in Lofa County and Bong County respectively and we refused to do that," she alleges.

Madam Taylor's office says she suspended the officials due to alleged perennial allegations of corruption, financial mismanagement, misappropriation of resources and other acts inimical to the

existence of the Association. She set up an interim leadership at the LMA.

But Sup. Kollie accuses Madam Taylor of "making the rebellious act," saying it is constitutional that the LMA gets its president in to allow her serve for the four years that she was elected for.

She warns that if President Weah cannot come in and help the aggrieved marketers in solving the situation that Madam Taylor has put them into, they will take their children from school "and we will have numbskull people in the city."

"So I believe that with this act, we are going to take our children from school because it's what we use to get our children into school," Sup. Kollie warns.

According to Sup. Kollie, she knows that Vice President Taylor lose the battle in Bong County so she now wants to regain strength by asking the LMA to appoint her sister and her cousin in Lofa and Bong Counties, respectively.

When Vice President Taylor allegedly sent her sister and cousin for superintendent positions at LMA, Sup. Kollie claims that the LMA told her that before one gets a top official job at LMA, they must first begin working with the organization from the least position as a sweeper and rise to collector.

According to her, the essence of going through this is to afford the person the opportunity to know the terrain of the market.

She says they investigated the people whose names were allegedly forwarded by Madam Taylor to establish how long they have worked with the LMA and to know if they had rapport with marketers.

"When the people came, they never had any marketing ID card. That means they have not been contributing to the Marketing Association. So we couldn't just take them," Sup. Kollie adds, failing to state the names of those allegedly sent by Madam Taylor for appointment.

She claims that Madam Taylor's intervention was more of a personal interest rather than handling marketers' issue.

She pleads with President Weah to come in and investigate because she believes that those suspended by Madam Taylor committed no wrong to be removed.

Further, she says they want President Weah to reinstate Madam Yeebahn into office, warning that if President Weah doesn't act immediately,

marketers will take their children from school.

According to Sup. Kollie, it is the LMA's assembly that is made up of representatives from the 15 counties here that elects the president for four years.

She says VP Taylor's action was very unconstitutional, harsh and needs to be revisited by President Weah.

Earlier speaking, Barnersville Market Superintendent Sonie Paasewe says they are protesting to draw President Weah's attention because their elected [LMA] president "was forced from office" by armed officers.

"So we came to our father today to ask him to intervene," she says.

Sup. Paasewe claims that Vice President Taylor's office forced Alice out of office on grounds that she was being suspended so that an audit could be conducted at the LMA.

"She says she suspended her because she wanted audit, and up to this time we haven't heard about any audit," Sup. Paasewe alleges.

According to her, Madam Taylor's action violates the LMA Act and the Constitution, arguing that it is only the LMA Assembly that has the right to suspend the institution's president.

"We elected her, we put her there, we got right to impeach her or suspend her but not the Vice President's Office," Sup. Paasewe argues.

According to her, Vice President Taylor set up an interim leadership at LMA that is made up of the same people that carried complaints against suspended president Yeebahn.

The suspended LMA president and the averse party had a case at the Civil Law Court seeking Judicial review following Madam Taylor's action suspending Alice and other elected officials.

But Sup. Paasewe says Judge Yusuf Kaba threw the case out on grounds that Alice should have sued as an individual, but not an entity.

Paasewe complains that the suspension of Alice is causing LMA workers not to get their salaries, forces some marketers to abandon the markets because they believe that the leadership is not settled, among others.

She says she wants President Weah to reinstate Alice into office, before any audit can be conducted.

In a peaceful protest outside President Weah's office, marketers held placards with different inscriptions reading: We want our LMA president back; Your Excellency please intervene and save the LMA."

Others read: "Mr. President you are the father of peace, please give us peace - LMA," among others.

ANC denies funding protest

By Ben P. Wesese

Opposition Alternative National Congress (ANC) Chairman Orashall Gould has denied claim by ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) that the ANC allegedly sponsored the "Bring Back Our Money" protest last month.

Mr. Gould says the ANC was in support of the protest, but the party did not fund the protest as has been alleged by the ruling party, CDC.

"These kinds of reckless comments [are] extremely disingenuous to the intelligence of the Liberian people. You are telling me in

order for Liberians to stand up for their right, someone has to fund them?" he told a local radio station outside Monrovia Monday, 8 October.

Mr. Gould recalls that during the days when he was a member of the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) which later formed a coalition ticket with other parties, the CDC as an opposition party staged protests that were not financed by anyone.

"We were protesting, advocating and even at times demonstrated for our right and nobody paid us," Mr. Gould recalls.

He notes that it is ludicrous

for people in the ruling party to think that others were paid because they stood up for their rights.

According to him, there is no iota of truth in the information that the ANC political leader Mr. Alexander Cummings is financing protesters here.

He says if Mr. Cummings or the party supported any protest financially, they will inform the public because there is no shame in doing what is legal.

Mr. Gould notes that the Constitution of Liberia protects the right of people wanting to express their disenchantment.

He continues that the ANC party's main concern right now is the LD\$15.5 billion dollars that allegedly disappeared in thin air.

"It's our main concern ..., our advocacies [are] not to bring the money back so that we can spend it," he says, adding that they want the money back so that government can carry out programs.

An investigative team appointed by President George Manneh Weah is probing the alleged missing L\$15.5 billion, but the Central Bank of Liberia and the Minister of Finance say no money is missing, ahead of findings from



MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Humanitarian group identifies with the poor

By Ethel A. Tweh

A humanitarian group called Miracle for the Homeless has distributed some food items to the disadvantaged and people living with disabilities in Mount Barclay and Morris Farm in Montserrado County.

Among items distributed Monday, 8 October were 15 bags of rice and other items.

According to Miracle for the Homeless Country Director Varney Paye Saywen, it has always been the dream of the founder of the group Miracle Gbayee to identify with those who are in need.

He says she has been identifying with other people in different communities around Monrovia, such as Buchanan Street, PHP Community and Duport Road, among others.

However, Mr. Saywen has told the beneficiaries that Madam Gbayee, prior to her departure to the United States



was challenged by life in the slum.

Mr. Saywen lauds the effort of Timothy Kpeh, National Executive Director of the United Youth for Peace, Education, and Transparency & Development in Liberia for linking Miracle for the Homeless with the beneficiaries.

"Let's say thanks to Timothy Kpeh who actually fought his way to make the

connection. It's because of you that we have come to see these people. Timothy let's God bless you for the effort", Saywen says.

Some of the beneficiaries lauded Miracle for the Homeless for the initiative, expressing hope that the intervention will be a continuous process.

"I tell God thank you for the thing you're doing for us. We depend on begging to live. We

will pray to God everyday to bless y'all to do more. We're tired begging everyday," Eddie Gboyah of Mount Barclay says.

Another beneficiary of Mount Barclay, David Boyah says: "We thank Miracle for what she brought for us. One day I was crying because as a man I depend on begging to survive. So with the help of God today we get blessing through the people here".

James Toby of Morris Farm

expresses excitement for the humanitarian gesture.

"I pray that the lady, Miracle who sent these things that God will give her more money to help us more. I want to tell Timothy thank you for what [they are] doing for us," James says.

For her part, a beneficiary only identified as Victoria, commended the donor for the items provided.

"We thank Sis. Miracle and we will be in prayer with her that God will bless her more," Victoria says.

Timothy Kpeh, National Executive Director of the United Youth for Peace, Education, and Transparency & Development in Liberia called on the beneficiaries to be transparent in the distribution of the items.

The group put the value of the donated items at L\$102, 600. A cash of US\$150 was also presented to the blind to cover some expenses.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

UNDP, NDA respond to flood victims

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) has distributed food items to flood victims in selected communities in Montserrado County.

The move comes in the wake of government's appeal for assistance to flood victims here.

Given the scale of the Mid July 2018 flood emergency and damages caused to both individuals and communities, UNDP's Energy and Environment Programme secured funding from the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Project to immediately respond to the Government's appeal.

A Multi-Hazard Preparedness and Response plan which was developed under the Multi-partner Trust Fund (MPTF) project is being

implemented by IOM, UNDP, FAO and WHO and aims at strengthening the Liberian government's capacity and resilience to mitigate, prevent and respond to multi-hazard threats (epidemics and disasters) and disaster risk reduction.

The Government of Liberia had appealed to the UN and other partners for US\$ 1.9 million humanitarian assistance to about 52,000 flood victims in Montserrado County.

UNDP and the NDMA provided relief assistance to about 450 households consisting of 2,700 persons (at 6 individuals per household) from Trowein community in the Borough of New Kru Town and Tweh farm community in Montserrado County recently.

The emergency packages were designed to make a significant contribution to the basic food and nutritional

needs of the flood victims.

Each of the 450-household received 50 kg parboiled rice, 20 kg red country beans and 15 litres of vegetable oil.

Data from the NDMA puts the number of people affected by flood in Margibi, Montserrado, Grand Bassa and Bomi Counties at approximately 8,000 households.

According to the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) data, 44% of the 51, 6547 affected persons are females, while 18% are children and the remaining 38% are males.

Margibi, Bassa and Bomi counties were served by the World Food Programme (WFP) except Montserrado County.

Nyenetue Bloh represented UNDP at the distribution exercises in the two communities while Elvin Frank, Deputy Response Coordinator and Goodrige Cheayan represented the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA).

The July and August 2018 intermittent high precipitation in three counties resulted to flooding which led to mass displacement of about 15,000 people and has affected more than 51, 000 people with reported death of 2 children.

Further disaggregation of the data shows vulnerable groups, such as those who are physically challenged, elderly people, pregnant women, and other groups with special needs. -*Press release*

USAID turns over water treatment plant to LWSC

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) turns over three refurbished water treatment plants to the Government of Liberia through the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC).

The plants which are located in Robertsports, Grand Cape Mount County, Vonjama, Lofa County and Sinniquille, Nimba County respectively were recently renovated by USAID at the cost of over US\$2 Million.

LWSC Director for Operation, Moses Saah Tandanpolie says renovation of the three projects got underway in April 2016 and completed in April 2018.

"The projects were initiated in April 2016 and got completed in April 2018. The plants were rehabilitated and some new components were newly constructed, like the cleaning path and the three slow sand filters are some of those components that were newly constructed," Tandanpolie says.

He notes the three treatment plants are hybrid, comprised of a solar panel which according to him, is the first of its kind in the entire country.

Tandanpolie who also served as one of three engineers during the renovation process based in

Lofa County explains the designed capacity of the plants is three hundred-thirty six thousand gallons (3, 3600) per day, but says based on the water demand, they are able to pump over one million gallons a day.

"We have an elevated tower that is nine hundred thousand gallons, so we send water to the tower at the same time send water to the city."

The LWSC Operation Director indicates the plants were designed with what he calls a water network system, adding that the plants also carry mini-water treatment plants which can serve 5,000 persons per day.

"On the 27 of September the plants were handed over to the Government of Liberia through the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC). The contractor, the Universal Infrastructural Project (UIP) handed the project over to USAID and USAID in return, handed it over to the LWSC," Tandanpolie details.

He reveals the LWSC has again turned over the project to a company called Operation and Maintenance Contractor (OMC) for proper management through an agreement as enshrined in the project by USAID that it be out sourced for the next two years, subjected to renewal. -*Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Français

Retard dans l'installation des maires et 3ème mandat : Cellou prêt à en découdre avec Alpha

« Alpha Condé ne sait diriger que dans le désordre et la violation de la loi. Mais cette fois-ci il se demandera plutôt comment terminer son 2ème mandat et ne parlera plus d'un 3ème, croyez-moi ! », prévient Cellou Diallo.

Le chef de file de l'opposition a fait ces menaces ce samedi 6 octobre lors de l'assemblée hebdomadaire de son parti, l'UFDG, tenue à Commandaya. Des mises en garde qui interviennent juste au lendemain du rendez-vous manqué dans l'installation des élus locaux et la confirmation de Mohamed Lamine Bangoura comme président de la Cour Constitutionnelle.

Selon un nouveau calendrier annoncé par le ministère de l'Administration du Territoire, les élus locaux devraient être installés ce samedi 6 octobre. C'est à la surprise générale des



différents états-majors de parti politique que ce chronogramme a été annulé au niveau des communes de Conakry ainsi que dans plusieurs autres de l'intérieur du pays.

Devant ce qu'il qualifie d'installation "sélective" des élus locaux que le chef de file

de l'opposition est monté au créneau pour mettre en garde le pouvoir contre ces "violations" de la loi.

« Depuis les élections le 4 février dernier, nous n'avons pas eu droit à l'installation des élus dans les délais normaux. Nous nous attendions à ce qu'ils le

soient dans la transparence, mais rien à faire... On est en train d'installer les exécutifs sélectivement sans informer les élus. Alors qu'ils ont droit d'être informés, trois jours avant. A Koba par exemple, les conseillers ont été installés ce samedi et c'est hier à 20 heures qu'on les appelés pour dire que c'est demain c'est-à-dire ce samedi. C'est de la provocation et le souci d'utiliser les mêmes pratiques pour voler et imposer les gens du RPG mais on ne se laissera pas faire », prévient le président de l'UFDG avant d'indiquer que contrairement aux dispositions de l'article 135 du code des collectivités qui indiquent que le vote pour élire les maires se fait par bulletin secret, le RPG Arc-enciel voudrait qu'il se fasse à main levée, une pratique que son parti n'acceptera pas. D'ailleurs, Cellou Dalein Diallo prévient qu'il ne sera plus question pour son parti de faire des concessions.

« C'est écrit noir sur blanc, dans l'article 135 du Code des collectivités que le scrutin est secret. Donc, il n'est pas

question de participer à une élection d'un conseil, d'un maire ou ses adjoints à main levée. Parce que la constitution et les lois de la République sont formelles là-dessus. On a instruit à tous nos conseillers de ne pas participer à cette mascarade. Soit on respecte le contenu de l'accord signé le 08 août dans toutes ses dispositions et on organise la mise en place des exécutifs dans le respect des dispositions de la Constitution et du Code des collectivités, ou bien on laisse. Dans ce cas, on n'acceptera pas. Malheureusement, on a à faire à un chef d'Etat qui n'a jamais eu à cœur l'application de la loi », a déploré le chef de file de l'opposition.

Par ailleurs, concernant la crise à la Cour Constitutionnelle notamment la confirmation de Mohamed Lamine Doumbouya comme président de l'institution par décret et les velléités d'un troisième mandat, Cellou Dalein indique que cette décision du président Alpha Condé ne restera pas sans conséquence.

« Nous sommes en train de nous concerter avec les forces sociales, les syndicats pour constituer un front uni contre le 3ème mandat et contre toutes les dérives du pouvoir. On ne veut pas se précipiter parce que la réaction sera à la hauteur de la forfaiture. On ne se presse pas, on va calmement mais sûrement ! Et, Alpha se demandera plutôt comment terminer son 2ème mandat et ne parlera plus d'un 3ème, croyez-moi. C'est le peuple de Guinée tout entier qui va sortir pour sanctionner de la plus belle manière Alpha Condé pour cet acte », a menacé l'opposant sous les ovations de ses militants.

CPI : Cuno Tarfusser évoque une visite en Côte d'Ivoire ?

Après avoir reporté le procès Gbagbo au 12 novembre prochain, Cuno Tarfusser s'est adressé à la presse pour rassurer toutes les parties et les observateurs de ce procès. Le juge en charge du dossier de Laurent Gbagbo et Charles Blé Goudé indique que la décision que prendra la Cour sera la meilleure pour tous.

S'aventure-t-on vers la dernière ligne droite du procès

des deux accusés ivoiriens devant la Cour pénale internationale (CPI) ? Tout porterait à le croire après la sortie, ce 5 octobre 2018, de Cuno Tarfusser devant la presse. En effet, une audience devant se prononcer sur l'acquittement de l'ancien Président Laurent Gbagbo et son bras droit Charles Blé Goudé s'est ouverte à La Haye, le 1er octobre dernier.

Au cours des trois jours d'audience, le procureur Eric Mac Donald a tenté d'apporter des éléments afin de soutenir sa prétention quant au plan commun concocté par le clan Gbagbo pour se maintenir au pouvoir par tous moyens. Les avocats de la défense ont cependant demandé le report du procès en vue d'étudier minutieusement le volumineux document du bureau du procureur et apporter la réplique nécessaire.

C'est donc dans l'attente de la suite du procès que le juge-président Cuno Tarfusser a tenu à interpeller les Ivoiriens : « Je voudrais profiter de vos journaux pour demander aux Ivoiriens de ne pas détruire leur beau pays. Je sais que ce procès éprouve les Ivoiriens, depuis plus de 6 ans qu'il dure. Que les Ivoiriens sachent que nous ne sommes pas en train de régler un problème politique de la Côte d'Ivoire », a-t-il déclaré.

Poursuivant, il ajoute : « J'estime que 6 ans de détention préventive, c'est suffisant. Mais je leur (Ivoiriens) promets que les juges feront leur travail sans parti pris. Nous allons évaluer

les preuves et décider en toute objectivité. C'est vrai que ce n'est pas facile à prendre une décision unanime à trois. Nous sommes 3 juges qui venons de systèmes juridiques différents mais, il nous appartient d'évaluer, à travers des échanges, la véracité des preuves. »

Le magistrat italien indique par ailleurs que la Cour qu'il préside rendra une décision impartiale : « Je souhaite que les Ivoiriens travaillent à faire baisser les tensions plutôt que

de les raviver. Personnellement, je suis convaincu à 100 pour cent que la décision que nous prendrons sera la meilleure. »

Après avoir épluché le dossier ivoirien de fond en comble pendant près de six années, Cuno Tarfusser estime qu'il serait opportun pour lui de connaître la Côte d'Ivoire, qui, le croit-il fermement, est un beau pays. « La Côte d'Ivoire est un beau pays que je rêve de visiter avant ma mort », a-t-il affirmé.



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Français

Éditorial

Le faux pas de Chief Cyril Allen

Chief Cyril Allen, président du conseil d'administration de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir, dans un courrier qu'il a récemment adressé à l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a fait usage d'un langage désobligeant à l'égard de celle-ci. Et comme si cela ne suffisait pas, il a tenu le même langage contre elle sur les réseaux sociaux sans le moindre remord.

En fait, il est même apparu sur un plateau de télévision lors d'une émission-débat la semaine dernière pour défendre son action, toujours sur un ton non moins agressif.

Nous sommes certes déçus à plus d'un titre par le fait que le président émérite du Parti national patriotique de l'ancien Président emprisonné Charles Taylor fasse ainsi preuve d'une telle bassesse, mais nous ne sommes du tout surpris de ce manque de civisme à l'égard de Madame Sirleaf. C'est d'ailleurs le seul enseignement qu'il a reçu du mouvement rebelle et de son parti politique. C'est un secret de Polichinelle que la NPP est une progéniture du Front national patriotique du Libéria (NPFL), une faction rebelle qui a lancé une guerre civile sanglante le 24 décembre 1989 contre le Libéria. Chief Allen, comme beaucoup d'anciens et actuels responsables, faisait partie de la hiérarchie du NPFL.

C'est donc cette même attitude qu'il veut maintenir au sein de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique au pouvoir dont il dirige le conseil d'administration. Nous nous demandons quel message Chief Allen envoie aux jeunes de la CDC, et généralement aux jeunes du Libéria, non seulement en adressant une lettre truffée de propos abusifs à un ancien chef d'État, mais aussi en s'en glorifiant sur les médias sociaux.

Ces propos calomnieux contre l'ancienne présidente font suite à une interview que Mme Sirleaf a accordée récemment à la BBC à la suite des informations faisant état de la disparition de 16 milliards de dollars libériens. Lors de l'interview, Mme Sirleaf a réfuté le chiffre de 16 milliards de dollars libériens, tout en se posant de la question de savoir si ceux qui ont fait cette annonce connaissent le produit intérieur brut (PIB) du Libéria.

Madame Sirleaf s'est aussi demandé si l'administration Weah se rend compte du préjudice que cette information a causé à la réputation du pays sur la scène internationale. À tous points de vue, il s'agit d'une mise en garde de la part d'une mère et ancienne présidente, qui a dirigé ce pays pendant deux mandats consécutifs de six ans, à l'endroit de son successeur et du gouvernement qui n'a que neuf mois.

Cependant, elle ignorait que le pouvoir considérerait cette question rhétorique comme un affront et qu'elle serait la cible d'une campagne calomnieuse commandée par Chief Allen et le président George Manneh Weah lui-même.

Mais contrairement à Chief Allen, le président Weah a décidé de répondre indirectement dès son retour dans le pays, après avoir participé à la 73e session de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies à New York. S'exprimant lors d'un culte d'action de Grace, Weah a lancé un flot de critiques à l'encontre de l'administration de l'ancienne présidente Sirleaf, lui ramenant la question de savoir si elle-même connaissait le PIB de ce pays lorsque son administration a omis de « bitumer les routes de Doe community, du sud-est du Libéria et payer les frais d'examen des élèves ».

Au lieu de réagir de cette manière, nous pensons que le président Weah aurait dû faire preuve de leadership en sollicitant des conseils auprès de son prédécesseur afin de mieux gérer cette question de milliards. Et c'est là que Chief Allen, le grand commandant du conseil d'administration de la coalition au pouvoir a manqué à sa tâche. Mais Dieu merci, Madame Sirleaf n'est pas qu'une mère, elle est aussi une femme d'État mûre et n'a donc jamais réagi aux ordures que ce dernier a vomies.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Ian Buruma

Celui qui murmure à l'oreille de Trump

NEW YORK - Le gens bizarres ne manquent pas dans l'entourage du président des États-Unis Donald Trump, mais peu sont aussi étranges - voire sinistres - que Stephen Miller, âgé de trente-trois ans, haut conseiller politique de la Maison Blanche. Le type de personnage d'extrême droite qu'incarne Miller est plus commun en Europe qu'aux États-Unis : jeune, mince, costume cintré, et même une pointe de dandysme. Agitateur de talent. Sa rhétorique incendiaire contre les immigrants et les réfugiés - « Nous allons construire ce grand mur, et nous allons le construire bien haut ! » - provoque la frénésie des foules aux meetings de Trump. Parmi ses refrains les plus appréciés, celui des migrants porteurs de maladies terribles qui vont contaminer les Américains.

Miller exploite les pires instincts de Trump : son chauvinisme guerrier, sa haine vindicative de la gauche et son hostilité envers les minorités. Il est partisan au dernier degré. Selon ses propres termes : « Tout ce qui ne va pas dans ce pays, ceux qui sont opposés à Trump en sont responsables ! » Il n'est pas impossible qu'il y croie vraiment.

Ce que Miller a de bizarre, entre autres choses, c'est l'opposition frontale entre ses opinions concernant les immigrants, les réfugiés ou les minorités et son milieu d'origine. Il descend de juifs installés aux États-Unis après avoir fui les pogromes en Biélorussie. Il a grandi en Californie. Ses parents étaient démocrates. Mais au lycée déjà, il lisait la littérature d'extrême-droite (des magazines opposés au contrôle des armes à feu et ce genre de publications). Il se plaît depuis à la compagnie d'idéologues dont les théories sont difficiles à distinguer de l'antisémitisme. Le discours de Trump, l'année dernière, à l'occasion de la journée internationale dédiée à la mémoire des victimes de l'Holocauste, ne mentionnait pas le nom « juif » ; certains pensent que Miller en était l'auteur.

Miller se dit lui-même patriote. Que des juifs américains, français, britanniques, russes et, bien entendu, allemands soient patriotes, cela n'a rien de sûr rien d'inhabituel. Et il n'y a pas plus de raisons pour lesquelles les juifs ne devraient pas être conservateurs. Margaret Thatcher nomma des personnalités juives à des postes importants, si bien que l'un de ses prédécesseurs conservateurs, Harold MacMillan, fit dédaigneusement remarquer que son cabinet contenait « plus d'anciens d'Estonie que d'anciens d'Eton ».

D'autres juifs, hormis Miller, comptent aussi dans l'entourage de Trump, qui a nommé Gary Cohn directeur du Conseil économique national à la Maison Blanche et fait de Stephen Mnuchin son secrétaire au Trésor. Ni l'un ni l'autre ne sont nativistes. Cohn fut sur le point de démissionner l'année dernière lorsque Trump prit la défense des foules suprématistes blanches violentes de Charlottesville, en Virginie. Et c'est cette année qu'il a finalement donné sa démission, mais en protestation contre l'imposition de droits de douane sur les importations d'acier. Tout comme Mnuchin, Cohn est partisan des baisses d'impôts et d'une liberté d'entreprise sans entraves. (Le cas de Jared Kushner est différent, car il ne doit sa présence à la Maison Blanche qu'au fait d'être le mari d'Ivanka, la fille de Trump.)

Il est inhabituel, en revanche, d'être juif et nativiste (du moins en dehors d'Israël). Le Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung rapportait récemment qu'un certain nombre de juifs avaient rejoint le parti anti-migrants Alternative für Deutschland (AfD). Beaucoup d'entre eux semblent venir de Russie. La crainte exacerbée de voir les musulmans bientôt détruire l'Occident apparaît comme la raison principale pour laquelle ils rejoignent l'extrême-

droite. Miller est hanté par une vision apocalyptique du même ordre. Et il n'est pas seul dans ce genre : le magnat des casinos Sheldon Adelson, par exemple, est l'un des grands soutiens de Trump.

Si les juifs de la diaspora ne deviennent normalement pas nativistes, ils ont pour cela de bonnes raisons. Les mouvements nativistes, qui revendiquent des privilèges particuliers attachés au sang et au sol, ont toujours été cruels pour les minorités, en particulier pour les juifs, conduisant aux violences qui ont poussé les grands-parents de Miller hors de leur pays.

Certains trouvent inexplicable que les antisémites aient accusé les juifs d'être soit l'archétype du bolchevique soit celui du capitaliste. Historiquement, la plupart des juifs, vivant dans de pauvres villages, ne furent ni l'un ni l'autre. Mais l'attrait exercé par les idées de gauche sur les intellectuels juifs n'est guère énigmatique. Karl Marx lui-même espérait que lorsque les travailleurs du monde seraient unis, les distinctions ethniques et religieuses cesseraient d'avoir de l'importance. Et Voltaire, qui n'était pas un grand ami des juifs, nota un jour à propos le Bourse de Londres : « Là, le juif, le mahométan et le chrétien traitent l'un avec l'autre comme s'ils étaient de la même religion, et ne donnent le nom d'infidèles qu'à ceux qui font banqueroute [...]. » Le capitalisme, nous le savons, dépasse les frontières.

L'émigration, le plus souvent nullement volontaire, a marqué le destin des juifs depuis le VIIIe siècle av. J.-C. Sociétés ouvertes, tolérance religieuse et liberté de mouvement furent de bien rares bénédictions. Ainsi Amsterdam ou, bien sûr, les États-Unis devinrent traditionnellement des lieux d'accueil. Cela explique pourquoi les juifs américains continuent de voter largement pour le Parti démocrate, même lorsqu'ils sont devenus plus prospères. Norman Podhoretz, intellectuel conservateur américain, écrivit un livre intitulé *Why Are Jews Liberals?* (« Pourquoi les juifs sont-ils de gauche ? »). L'idée le laissait perplexe, tout comme Milton Himmelfarb, lui aussi conservateur, dont on connaît le mot : « Les juifs gagnent leur vie comme des épiscopaliens et votent comme des Portoricains. »

Mais cela n'a rien de déconcertant. La défiance envers le nativisme est le fruit d'une longue et sanglante expérience. Et elle nourrit aujourd'hui le désenchantement croissant des juifs américains à l'égard d'Israël. Le nativisme, faisant valoir les droits des juifs aux dépens des Arabes, se répand aussi en Terre sainte. Si le Premier ministre israélien utilise la mémoire de la Shoah lorsqu'il peut en tirer un bénéfice politique, il est plus proche, du point de vue idéologique, des fanatiques chrétiens et des nativistes d'extrême-droite, comme son homologue hongrois Viktor Orbán, que de la plupart des juifs américains.

C'est pourquoi, malgré de puissants efforts de persuasion à Washington, la majorité des juifs continueront de voter contre Trump, quoiqu'il soit un partisan presque servile du gouvernement israélien et ouvertement hostile aux Palestiniens. C'est pourquoi Miller demeure une anomalie. Célébrant Roch Hachana, le nouvel an juif, l'ancien rabbin de Miller, Neil Commes-Daniels, a dénoncé une politique « complètement antithétique à tout ce [qu'il sait] du judaïsme ». Je ne suis pas certain que la théologie juive appuie une affirmation aussi véhémente, mais les sentiments sont clairs.

Lorsque William Kristol, commentateur néo-conservateur, qui flirta un temps avec l'extrême-droite, a exprimé son dégoût de Trump, David Horowitz, l'un des mentors de Miller, a qualifié Kristol de « juif renégat ». Freud aurait parlé là de « projection ». En réalité, le concept remonte aussi loin que le Talmud de Babylone, qui mettait en garde : « Le défaut qui est en toi, ne le reproche pas à un autre. »

ARTICLES

The "Missing" Sixteen-Billion Liberian Dollar: What Does It Portrays for Liberia's Image Internationally?

By: Josephus M. Gray

The phenomenon of President George Weah's remarkable election and inauguration in the global arena is quite significant and presents opportunities and challenges to post-war Liberia's socio-economic, governance and industrialization, but in the context of the criticism and self-criticism about the misery surrounding the reported "disappearance" of Sixteen Billion Liberian Dollar (LRD16,000,000,000), what does it denote for the nation's image internationally since no country in international politics is an island. There is a saying that the ocean is vast because it admits all rivers while delicious soup is made by combining different ingredients.

The expectations of Weah's leadership are sky-high among Liberians especially the youthful population who have faith and trust in the Weah's leadership and positively recognize that the president will deliver on the people-centered pro-poor project and improve the living standard of poverty-stricken population, but the misery surrounding the LRD16,000,000,000 poses a serious challenge to the government's status and the nation's image internationally.

The LRD16 billion is converted to US\$ and multiplied by the current exchange rate at US\$1 to LRD150, the equivalent will be about US\$125 million which represents five percent of Liberia's GDP and 19 percent of the national budget. For instance, the amount if managed properly you could buy 2085 30-seated buses or could buy two planes of 300-seated, or pave the Gnata-Zwedru highway.

Besides, according to research, if you had 16 billion dollars, you could buy 533,333 bicycles at LRD30,000/each while for travel: If you were to travel 16 billion miles, you could fly around the world 642,544 times or take a round trip to the moon 33,487 times. Savings: If you could save LRD100,000/year, it would take you 160,000 years to save 16 billion dollars. If you could save \$10,000 every single day, then it would only take you 4,384 years to save 16 billion. Living: If you could live for 16 billion minutes, you would live until you were 30,441 years old.

The world is changing and it is the world in which new innovations and challenges keep emerging; a world in which the international system and international orders are going through a profound steady adjustment and a world in which the balance of international forces favors economic discipline and respect for global governance. But in recent times the global media's attention has been shifted towards Liberia due to wrong reasons while the world's economic powers and multilateral financial institutions pay keen attention.

It is a clear fact that Liberia constitutes one of the poorest countries in the world and is mostly in recent times been negatively portrayed and is predominantly portrayed negatively by the Western media, despite the numerous gains the country has made over the last 12 years to pick up the pieces from war to peace.

History is very vivid on corruption's hullabaloo of allegations, accusations specifically driven by mistrust and confidence crises which with all due respect for honor, decency and sustained kudos of civilization; and the survivability of the tenets of good governance, new scenarios and equations arise regarding the missing billion. It is not healthy for Liberia's international relations and Liberia's international stature and standing among the comity of nations.

In the past especially during the 14-year dark days of the nation's unfortunate era, the country was viewed by the outside world as a failed state while the global media portrayed the country negatively, but with the extraordinary display of diplomatic modus operandi and positive leadership for respect for international system and democracy, Liberia has since regained its status among the comity of nations, with the international media predominantly portraying Liberia positively.

But the situation back home regarding the accusations and counter-accusations presents a conflicting and appalling picture of the entire country

and its populace. For the past four weeks or more Liberia's international images have been under serious question owing to countless banner headlines in both the local and global media about the misery surrounding the reported disappearance of LRD16,000,000,000. The complexity of the growing trend toward the missing billion in such a multipolar world, without doubt, has tarnished the good image of the country and its people.

But the biggest opportunity to reinvest this lost image internationally and restore domestic confidence lies in how public officials maintain the right tone in all aspects of publicity, how they discipline their words and deeds when addressing the missing LRD16,000,000,000 saga; they should be aware that criticism and self-criticism will do the nation no good, instead they should find the balance and communicate effectively since clarity is very essential in communication.

From the initial stage to present, there have been inconsistent information dissemination on the local and international fronts. Positive publicity should be attractive and appealing; truth and accuracy are the lifeblood of information dissemination.

Therefore public officials entrusted with the national task to thoroughly investigate the missing money should strengthen their ability to effectively communicate with international audiences, and have a stronger voice and properly coordinate information reaching the domestic audience. The Central Bank of Liberia, Ministries of Justice, Information and Finance, and Development planning have been giving conflicting information and contradicted each other about the missing money saga.

President Weah's administration should be fully alert to the grave nature of international actors and Liberia's development partners and creditors especially the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Paris Club concerns over the missing money situation. Therefore the government shouldn't treat the money situation flippantly, but must be aware that the ocean is vast because it admits all rivers while delicious soup is made by combining different ingredients.

Let us reflect on the words of a Dutch philosopher called Johann Wolfgang von Goethe: "The best government is that which teaches us to govern ourselves and there is nothing in the world more shameful than establishing one's self on lies and falsehood, and said: "Thinking is easy, acting is difficult, and to put one's thoughts into action is the most difficult thing in the world". While George Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel has said: "We do not need to be shoemakers to know if our shoes fit, and just as little have we any need to be professional to acquire knowledge of matters of universal interests."

Without doubts, while the world attention has been shifted to Washington and Beijing going to trade war between President Donald Trump and President Xi Jinping, the world is closely monitoring the missing money saga in the country. This growing political situation has been followed by Liberia's traditional ally, America, while China is also paying keen attention especially in the wake of a startling allegation that a portion of the missing money was illegally printed in China. Diplomatically, Beijing will definitely protest and would request details from the government.

While on the other hand, China's strategy for conducting its foreign relations is tailored to the specific circumstances of countries or regions with which it wishes to do business or... a foreign policy that does not frighten neighboring nations or the world's great economic and military powers, most notably the United States and that of other global powers. Power shifts have brought into sharp focus the significance of the U.S.-China relationship in the early twenty-first century, both need each other and currently they are at each other's throats with trade war.

Therefore President Weah's administration needs to exercise all precautionary measures to win the aspirations of Liberian development partners especially the USA, China, European Union, World Bank and IMF in the wake of the reported disappearance of L\$16 billion (US\$120 million). If nothing is done to institute the necessary action to shame and bring to book the alleged



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perpetrators, the whole saga will stain the nation's international image and muddle the gains made over the years since 2005 elections. All should be done to win back the nation's lost reputation as a result of the alleged missing money.

This I believe will pave the way for adequate foreign aid assistance to enable the CDC-led government to achieve its people-centered pro-poor policy to reduce poverty and construct roads across the country; this money situation has the propensity to pose an obstacle to President Weah's dream for a prosperous Liberia. There should be no room for a zero-sum game in the missing L\$16 billion saga.

Significantly, President Weah's government should play its cards very well, critically evaluate statements or speeches to avoid diplomatic suicide (meaning disheartening Liberia's interest with China and the USA). Although at present, public statements should consider a balance with the two countries' national interests, and not statements that would perhaps drag the Weah's government into a state of strategic vulnerability.

Meanwhile Africa nowadays has become a continent of strategic importance for the two opposing world blocs - USA and China, for several reasons; many scholars and political pundits believed that the new U.S., China's growing affection for Africa goes with a deep interest to hunt for Africa's riches, using several strategies and tactics to ensure and expand their influences.

The two opposing world blocs use tools of soft power in different ways to their benefits and with varying effects. Many experts argue that China's policies of non-interference and no political attached strings have resonated so strongly among African countries which have become so wearied of those sanctimonious clichés about democracy, human rights, and good governance being proposed by the United States and its western partners, while the USA attached specific strings to aid.

Keeping a balance with Washington and Beijing will reinforce Liberia's domestic policies and programs that fortify the bedrock of prosperity and stability will also enhance domestic control and its influence home and overcoming the primary economic vulnerability that the government, state and people of Liberia are faced.

Although the President Weah recently met both Trump and Jinping in an international gathering in China and New York, the President needs to cement the relations further to a new level by undertaking an official trip to Washington and Beijing for a one-on-one discussion to strengthen diplomatic ties with American and Chinese leaderships, to reiterate and assure Presidents Trump and Xi Jinping of the CDC-led government's commitment for Liberia-USA and Liberia-China bilateral ties, since diplomacy today is an appropriate instrument to attract investments and businesses back home, and, simultaneously, prove to be politically and economically profitable to all governments, states and people.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT EDITION

Supreme Court stands firm

By Winston W. Parley

Liberia's Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr. says a proposal for the establishment of a 'judicial oversight committee' within the Legislature does not only undermine the independence of the Judiciary, but it also assails the doctrine of separation of power enshrined in the Constitution here.

"What surprises me is that the call is being made from an unlikely source," he said Monday 8 October during the opening of the Supreme Court of Liberia for its October Term, A.D. 2018.

Chief Justice Korkpor's comment was received by an audience comprising of President George Manneh Weah, Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor, Speaker Bhofal Chambers, Senate Pro - Tempore Albert Chie and other top officials, dignitaries, lawyers and other members of



the public at the Supreme Court.

The Chief Justice's comment may have come against the backdrop of a proposal made in May this year, by Grand Cape Mount County Senator Cllr. H. Varney G. Sherman calling for the

establishment of a Judicial Oversight Commission (JOC) that would be directly responsible to the Legislature.

Sen. Sherman, it was reported, suggested that it will assist the Legislature in reviewing the performance and conduct of justices of the

Supreme Court, all judges and magistrates and report on them on a regular basis to the Legislature for the latter's necessary action.

But Chief Justice Korkpor insists that "we have and will continue to work" so that the Supreme Court will remain a neutral, non-aligned and non-political Branch of Government, a sanctuary to which the injured and distressed, irrespective of color, creed and religion or political persuasion can seek justice.

"We will continue to the liberty and freedom of all. It should be clear by now, judging from our many positions and opinions that this court favors no particular person or institution, including Government," he says.

According to him, since he took over the helm of the judiciary, considerable progress has been made that no one can deny.

He cites numerous reforms, trainings and building of capacities for judicial officers, judges and operations of courts across the country, among others.

He however states that the Judiciary's desire to undertake more reform programs is seriously hampered by the lack of adequate budgetary

support.

Over the years, Chief Justice Korkpor says long before the civil war and until now, the budget of the judiciary has remained extremely low compared to the other branches of the government.

"As I speak, there is an acute need of funds for the purchase of vehicles for our Circuit Judges, Specialized Court Judges and Public Defenders," he adds.

Meanwhile, the opening the Supreme Court Monday coincided with the seating of newly appointed Associate Justice Joseph Nagbe, replacing retired Associate Justice Phillip A. Z. Banks, III.

He also reported the death of 24 persons from the judiciary, including judges, magistrates, bailiff and other court staffs, among others.

Responding to Chief Justice Korkpor's charge, Justice Minister and Dean of the Supreme Court Bar Frank Musa Dean says "the faith of the common man in our judicial system is shaky, to say the least."

He says while a proposal for the establishment of a judicial oversight committee within the legislature will undermine the doctrine of separation of powers, the judiciary must embark on self-cleansing.

"We must work assiduously at self-policing and self-cleansing to restore the respect, faith and confidence of the common people in our judiciary and the rule of law," Minister Dean recommends.

He adds that courts' judgments and actions must be grounded in and have the support of law, and must be seen as fair, judicious and impartial.

Minister Dean concludes that the Courts' judgments must carry the moral authority required to demand compliance. --*Edited by Othello B. Garblah*

Yekeh Korluba double down on "missing 16Bn"

By Lewis S. Teh

Montserrado County Electoral District #10 Representative Yekeh Korluba double down on the "missing 16 billion" Monday rejecting call from members of the Presidential Investigative Team or PIT on public officials to refrain from commenting on the alleged missing 16 billion Liberian banknotes.

The PIT is investigating circumstances surrounding the

general public and our partners in progress that there is no 16 Billion Liberian Dollars missing, as has been erroneously reported in the media. The CBL has no records showing that monies printed under its authority have not yet been delivered into its reserve vaults. Records from Crane Currency of Sweden, which was contracted to print the money, show that Crane delivered 15.5 billion through the Freeport of Monrovia and

the Financial Intelligence Unit Alex Cuffy.

According to him, the ongoing investigation has been compromised, because the money alleged was eaten.

The Montserrado District #10 lawmaker argues the FIU boss has no authority to tell anyone to shut up.

It remains unclear what could be a reaction from Mr. Cuffy or members of the PIT on claims that the investigation has been compromised, but the PIT warns government officials not to make inflammatory comments that could undermine the process.

At the Ministry of Information press briefing last Thursday, the Team called on officials here to refrain from making remarks that will undermine the investigation.

The PIT is comprised of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, (LACC) the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), the Liberia National Police (LNP).

"We ask the government to give us not less than six weeks as a timeframe to unveil our findings" says Alex Cuffy, who is also coordinator for the investigative team.

He says as part of the investigation, the Team will review the authorization of printing of money and other currencies, saying "We're also looking into accountability of Liberian dollars bank notes, foreign currency, foreign exchange, and auction and the infusion into the economy of the 25 million dollars recently."

the Roberts International Airport between 2016 and 2018, and that all these monies were logged by the CBL and delivered into the vaults of the CBL" reads a statement issued by the new Executive Governor of the CBL Nathaniel R. Patray.

However, Representative Korluba in an angry tone Monday, 8 October when he appeared on Sky Fm notes that if anyone must shut up, that person should be the Head of



missing banknotes, which actual amount has been an issue of debate here.

But the Central Bank of Liberia, which in a press statement last week, denied there were missing containers and bags of moneys, confirmed the Government of Liberia printed 15.5 billion new Liberian banknotes for the period 2016 - 2018.

"The Central Bank of Liberia wants to clarify to the

ANC denies funding

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the investigation.

Mr. Gould believes that government should appreciate the ANC for that, saying the party and other protesters are advocating for the government to have money to spend rightfully.

He further mentions that the protest to bring back the missing money should be a matter of concern to the government.

Quizzed if the party welcomes protesters' petition to ban all financial aid to Liberia and the freezing of the country's foreign reserve, Chairman Gould discloses that the ANC is not in support of all

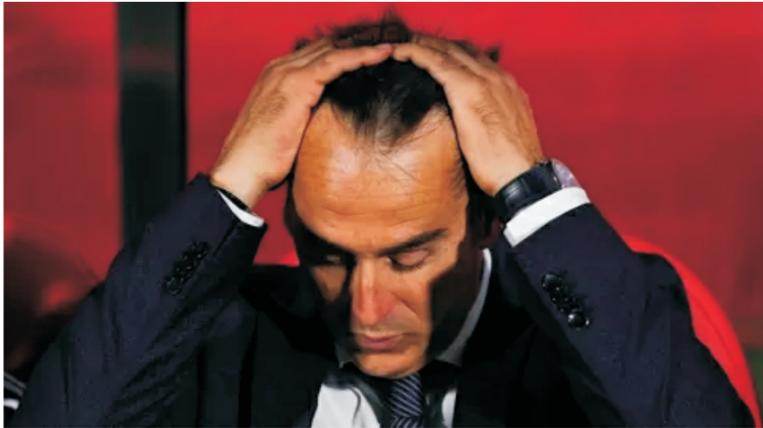
the petitions.

He says the party did not debate on smart sanctions to be placed on Liberia.

"What I'm saying to you is that the right of the protesters to channel their disenchantment, no doubt we support that right," he says, adding that the list of things they had forwarded to the government were not debated by all.

"One of those things that we agreed on is to have a credible investigation conducted by this government and bringing in some foreign experts," he clarifies. --*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

“El Clasico could decide Lopetegui's fate”



The under-fire coach has put on a brave face for the press, but an immediate drastic improvement in form is required if he is to keep his job.

On Saturday, after losing late on to Deportivo Alaves at Estadio de Mendizorrosa, Sergio Ramos sought to lessen the inevitable cacophony of crisis claims surrounding a Real Madrid side who are now without a win - or even a goal - in four games across all competitions.

The Blancos' captain put to

the press that the club were only three points off the top spot, meaning he assumed Barcelona would seal all three points on Sunday against Valencia. An oddly assured comment coming from one of the Blaugrana's biggest historical rivals.

Barca themselves, however, are now without a win in four Liga matches, having drawn at Mestalla, meaning Sevilla were allowed to climb to the top of the table as Madrid slipped down to fourth, one point behind their cross-town nemeses Atletico.

Ramos, of course, as Real's captain, could be forgiven for trying to find positives by highlighting the minimal point gap in his post-match platitudes, but the truth is that the feeling at the Santiago Bernabeu is anything but positive - even with Barcelona's dip in form taking the edge off.

Julen Lopetegui is putting on a brave face too, claiming that Madrid's 'objectives remain intact in Spain and Europe', but an inside source at the club revealed to Goal that the mood is far from calm in the Blancos camp.

“We are letting La Liga slip away,” the source said, “We have to improve a lot.”

Lopetegui's citing of statistics, injuries and misfortunes that have befallen Madrid does little to explain the goal drought and lack of victories in the last four matches. Indeed, the Spanish capital side have not failed to score in four consecutive games since 1985.

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Terry's net worth revealed after he retires from football

The former England and Chelsea captain John Terry has announced his retirement from football.

The defender has been without a club since leaving championship side Aston Villa in the summer.

John Terry's net worth is estimated to be £38.2 million (\$50m), according to The Sunday Times Rich list. The player most recently earned

£4 million from his one year with Aston Villa.

In 2007, Terry became the highest-paid player in the Premier League. Up until that point, he was earning £67,000 a week. This was doubled to £135,000 in 2007, which added up to £7 million-a-year, before tax. Terry was roughly on this salary for nearly a decade before a contract extension in May 2016 saw him take a £90,000 pay cut and earn

£50,000-a-week, meaning a £5 million drop in annual wages.

In a statement on Instagram, the 37-year-old wrote: 'After 23 incredible years as a footballer, I have decided now is the right time to retire from playing.

'I have many people to thank. My wife and my two children, Georgie and Summer, for being my rocks throughout my career - I couldn't have done it without you, I love you with all my heart.



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