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# The New Dawn

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## TRULY INDEPENDENT

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VOL. 8 NO. 181

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2018

PRICE LD\$40.00



**Pres. Weah**



**Pres. Trump**

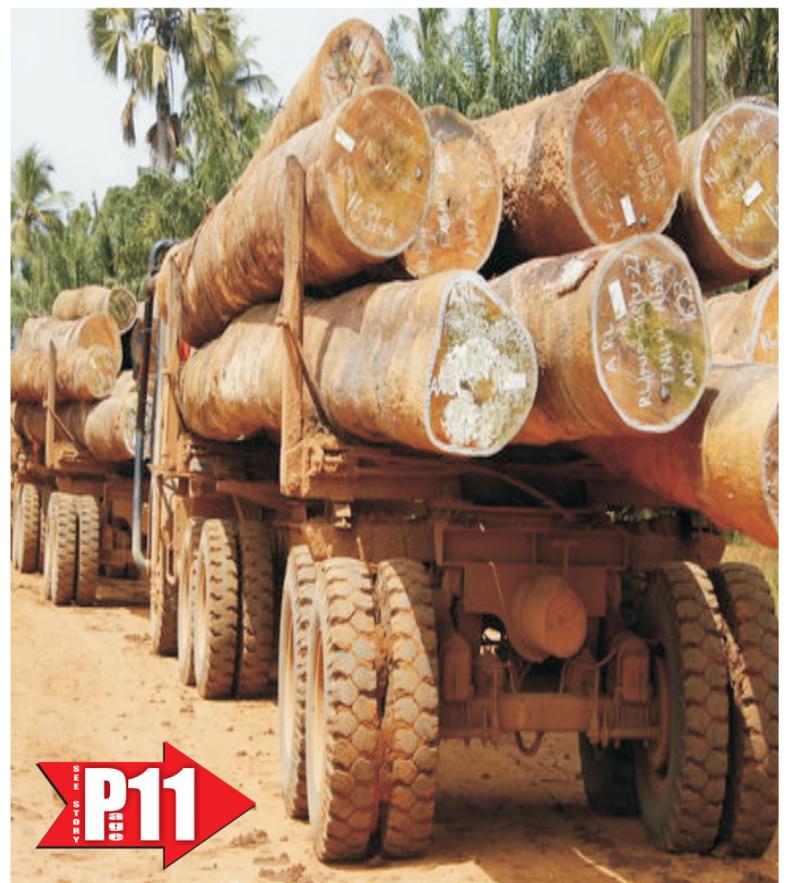
**P11**

# US announces independent investigators

## **-for missing money**

# Liberia's forestry hijacked

## **-Shady deals exposed**



**P11**



# Continental News

## Sierra Leone cancels China-funded airport

Sierra Leone has cancelled a \$400m (£304m) Chinese-funded project to build a new airport outside the capital Freetown.

Former President Ernest Bai Koroma signed the loan agreement with China before he lost elections in March. At the time, the World Bank and the IMF warned that the project would impose a heavy debt burden. The decision comes amid concern that many African countries risk defaulting on their debts to China.

Aviation Minister Kabineh Kallon told the BBC that the project, which was due to have been completed in 2022, wasn't necessary and its current international airport would be renovated instead.

He said the current president, Julius Maada Bio, "didn't see any need for Mamamah [the proposed airport]" and was considering building a bridge from the capital to Lungi airport - the only international airport in

the country. Currently passengers need to get a boat or helicopter to reach Freetown.

Mr Kallon said he did not know whether the cancelled contract would lead to financial implications, and Sierra Leone remained on good terms with China.

"As [a] sovereign state, I do have the right to take the best

decision for the country," he told the BBC's Focus on Africa programme. China is now the single largest bilateral financier of infrastructure in Africa - surpassing the African Development Bank (ADB), the European Commission, the European Investment Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the World Bank and the Group of eight (G8)

countries combined.

Critics say China is luring countries into debt traps by lending them money for massive infrastructure projects.

In August, 16 American senators voiced their concern about "predatory Chinese infrastructure lending" in a letter to US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

Zambia's government has had to publicly deny reports China could seize some of its parastatal companies if it defaulted on loan repayments.

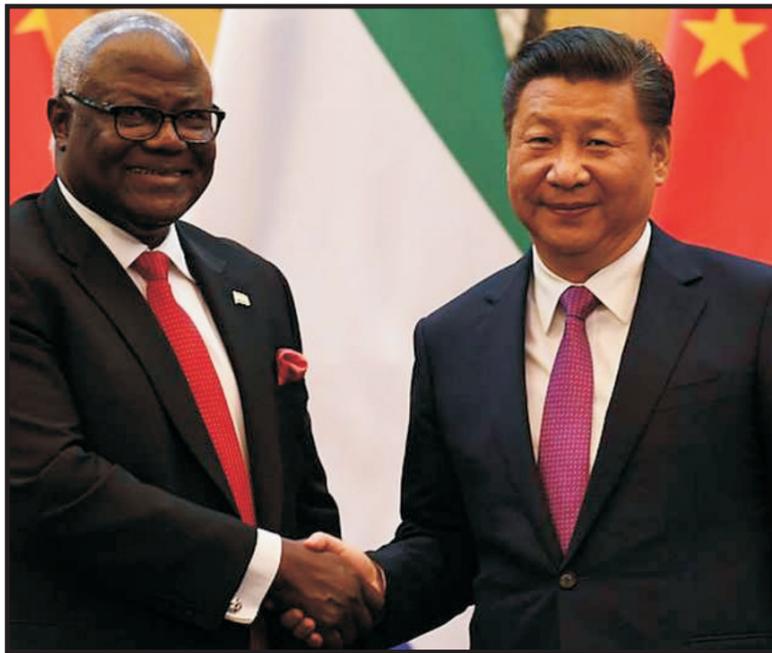
But China has denied claims that it is leading

countries into a debt trap.

"If we take a closer look at these African countries that are heavily in debt, China is not their main creditor," China's special envoy for Africa, Xu Jinghu, told a news conference in September, Reuters reports.

"It's senseless and baseless to shift the blame onto China for debt problems."

Some Africans are also wary of the high levels of debt being built up and say the costs of some projects have been inflated by corruption, while others welcome China's involvement, saying that the roads, ports, railways and other projects are badly needed. BBC



## Kenya bus crash kills at least 50

At least 50 people were killed when the bus they were travelling in overturned and its entire roof was ripped off in an accident in western Kenya early Wednesday, police said.

The bus was travelling from Nairobi to the western town of Kakamega, police

said, and footage from the scene showed the vehicle lying on its side with the seats and mangled bits of metal exposed to the air.

The faded red bus, emblazoned with the name "Home Boyz", was later righted. The torn-off roof could be seen lying at a distance.

"It is unfortunate that we have lost 51 people," Kenya's police chief Joseph Boinnet told Capital FM radio.

However James Mugeru, the Kericho County Police Commander, said there were 50 fatalities: "Those who perished include 31 male passengers, 12 women and seven children. There are about 10 others who have been rushed to various hospitals with serious injuries."

Officers said the bus had a capacity of 52 passengers. The bus was reportedly descending a steep hill when it hit a guard rail before plunging down a few metres.

Dozens of people milled around the accident site and goods were strewn over a large area, footage showed. President Uhuru Kenyatta called for an investigation into the tragedy. "My heartfelt condolences to the families of fellow Kenyans who lost

## Taylor's ex-wife denies torture charges

The ex-wife of former Liberian President Charles Taylor has denied torture charges in a court in London, the Press Association reports.

Agnes Taylor, 52, was arrested in the UK more than

She is accused of committing the crimes during Liberia's civil war 28 years ago.

Charles Taylor is serving a 50-year sentence in a UK prison for supporting rebels who committed atrocities in



a year ago, and appeared in court via video link from Bronzefield prison.

She pleaded not guilty to seven charges of torture and an eighth charge of conspiracy to torture, PA reports.

their lives in a tragic road accident at Fort Ternan in Kericho County this morning and wish those in hospital quick recovery," he wrote on Twitter.

"I would like to remind drivers to always exercise caution to avoid such catastrophic incidents."

Official statistics show that around 3,000 people die annually in road accidents in

neighbouring Sierra Leone.

He served as Liberia's president from 1997 to 2003, when he was forced into exile. BBC

Kenya, but the World Health Organization estimates the figure could be as high as 12,000. In December 2017, 36 people died in a head-on collision between a bus and a lorry.

In 2016 more than 40 people died when an out-of-control fuel tanker ploughed into vehicles and then exploded on a busy highway. AFP



Kenyan emergency personnel and security forces inspect the wreckage of a bus at the site of an accident in Kericho, western Kenya

# EDITORIAL

## The media is above the fray

**POLITICIANS IN AFRICA** or in every part of the globe usually take pleasure in bashing the media as a soft target for criticism even for selfish reasons. Whether in ruling establishment or from the opposition bloc, they always ascribe to themselves the qualification to set standards for journalists - standards that suit their own interpretation of issues.

**THE MEDIA IN Liberia** found itself in the firing line recently at a forum organized by the Association of Liberian Journalists in the Americas or ALJA. Held in the U.S. State of Minnesota, the forum brought opposition leader Alexander B. Cummings and Government Information Minister Lenn Eugene Nagbe together face-to-face to discuss the reported missing 16 billion Liberian banknotes.

**BOTH SIDES USED** the media as a whipping boy to put forth their respective arguments, beginning with the former corporate executive-turned politician Cummings, taking the stage.

**“WE WILL DEPEND** on you, journalists, to follow up this story so that the government provides answers to questions that demand answers: who ordered the printing of the missing money? How much exactly was printed? Where was it printed? Who took charge of the money once it entered the country? Did it go through the proper channels and processes at the Central Bank before being injected into the official money supply?”, he unleashed the barrage of questions.

**HE NOTED THAT** a strong and independent media that monitors those in power and provides accurate information helps voters to hold corrupt politicians to account.

**BUT INFORMATION MINISTER** Nagbe, who officially put the moneys in question at 16 billion Liberian dollars, thinks the media is being influenced by opposition politicians not to follow the rules but to remain instruments to advance selfish and pecuniary political gains and interest.

**“THE NEW THREATS** to freedom of speech”, he says, “includes the concerted efforts by some political actors, particularly those in the opposition interfering with policies of media entities, thereby transforming them not to follow the rules but to remain instruments to advance selfish and pecuniary political gains and political interest.”

**NAGBE FURTHER CHARGES** that shirking the responsibility of being independent and selling out to politicians is by itself a threat to free media in Liberia, and roars, “Media controlled by political forces whose interest may be averse to the national interest is a creeping menace that must be stopped.”

**WE LIKE TO** remind here that the independent media, usually referred to as the Fourth Estate, does not hold allegiance to any particular group - whether government or opposition politicians. Rather, we bark in the interest of the common good. In short, our loyalty is to the state, the common patrimony.

**WE ARE FULLY** cognizant that in our objective to put the state first above selfish political interest that are camouflaged as so-called government policy or self-styled political struggle for redemption, either side would brand us as adversary agents and may attempt to crucify the media as in this case. But we can boldly say without stupor that the media in Liberia is above the fray.

**The New Dawn**  
FULLY INDEPENDENT

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc., Crown Hill-Broad Street,  
Adjacent Afriland Bank Monrovia-Liberia.

Tel: +231-0886484201, +231-0777007529, +231-0886551057

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# COMMENTARY

By Barry Eichengreen

## The Dollar and its Discontents

**Having unilaterally reimposed sanctions on Iran, US President Donald Trump's administration is threatening to penalize companies doing business with the Islamic Republic by denying them access to US banks. But that could hasten the dollar's demise as the main global currency.**

**B**RUSSELS - US President Donald Trump's unilateralism is reshaping the world in profound and irreversible ways. He is undermining the working of multilateral institutions. Other countries, for their part, no longer regard the United States as a reliable alliance partner and feel impelled to develop their own geopolitical capabilities.

Now the Trump administration is eroding the dollar's global role. Having unilaterally reimposed sanctions on Iran, it is threatening to penalize companies doing business with the Islamic Republic by denying them access to US banks.

The threat is serious because US banks are the main source of dollars used in cross-border transactions. According to the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication (SWIFT), dollars are used in nearly half of all cross-border payments, a share far greater than the weight of the US in the world economy.

In response to the Trump administration's stance, Germany, France, and Britain, together with Russia and China, have announced plans to circumvent the dollar, US banks, and US government scrutiny. “Plans” may be a bit strong, given that few details have been provided. But the three countries have described in general terms the creation of a stand-alone financial entity, owned and organized by the governments in question, to facilitate transactions between Iran and foreign companies.

Those companies will presumably settle their claims in euros, not dollars, freeing them from dependence on US banks. And insofar as the Europeans' special-purpose financial vehicle also bypasses SWIFT, it will be hard for the US to track transactions between Iran and foreign companies and impose penalties.

Is this scheme viable? While there is no purely technical obstacle to creating an alternative payments channel, doing so is certain to enrage Trump, who will presumably respond with another round of tariffs against the offending countries. Such, unfortunately, is the price of political independence, at least for now.

Having learned a painful lesson about dependence on the dollar, will other countries move away from it more generally? The fact that the dollar is used so widely makes doing so difficult. Banks and companies prefer using dollars because so many other banks and companies use dollars and expect their counterparties to do likewise. Shifting to another currency would require coordinated action. But with the governments of three large European countries having announced just such coordination, such a scenario can no longer be excluded.

It is worth recalling how the dollar gained

international prominence in the first place. Before 1914, it played essentially no international role. But a geopolitical shock, together with an institutional change, transformed the dollar's status.

The geopolitical shock was World War I, which made it hard for neutral countries to transact with British banks and settle their accounts using sterling. The institutional change was the Federal Reserve Act, which created an entity that enhanced the liquidity of markets in dollar-denominated credits and allowed US banks to operate abroad for the first time. By the early 1920s the dollar had matched and, on some dimensions, surpassed sterling as the principal vehicle for international transactions.

This precedent suggests that 5-10 years is a plausible time frame over which the US could lose what Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, then France's finance minister, famously called the “exorbitant privilege” afforded it by issuing the world's main international currency. This doesn't mean that foreign banks and companies will shun the dollar entirely. US financial markets are large and liquid and are likely to remain so. US banks operate globally. In particular, foreign companies will continue to use dollars in transactions with the US itself.

But in an era of US unilateralism, they will want to hedge their bets. If the geopolitical shock of Trump's unilateralism spurs an institutional innovation that makes it easier for European banks and companies to make payments in euros, then the transformation could be swift (as it were). If Iran receives euros rather than dollars for its oil exports, it will use those euros to pay for merchandise imports. With companies elsewhere earning euros rather than dollars, there will be less reason for central banks to hold dollars in order to intervene in the foreign exchange market and stabilize the local currency against the greenback. At this point, there would be no going back.

One motivation for establishing the euro was to free Europe from excessive dependence on the dollar. This is likewise one of China's motivations for seeking to internationalize the renminbi. So far, the success of both efforts has been mixed, at best. In threatening to punish Europe and China, Trump is, ironically, helping them to achieve their goals.

Moreover, Trump is squandering US leverage. Working with the Europeans and the Chinese, he could have threatened Iran, and companies doing business there, with comprehensive and effective sanctions had there been evidence that the country was failing to live up to its denuclearization obligations. But working together to ensure Iran's compliance was, of course, precisely what the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, renounced by the Trump administration earlier this year, was established to do.

## O-PED

By Shashi Tharoor

## Does Modi Have a Pakistan Policy?

**N**EW DELHI - Judging by the unsavory exchanges between the Indian and Pakistani foreign ministers at the recent United Nations General Assembly, the already deeply troubled bilateral relationship has reached a new low.

What immediately preceded the UN session was bad enough. Less than 24 hours after agreeing to a bilateral meeting of foreign ministers on the margins of the General Assembly, India canceled, citing the killing of three Indian police officers on their shared border and Pakistan's issuance of a postage stamp honoring a slain Kashmiri terrorist.

But such border incidents - including both killings and retaliation - are not new; several have already occurred this year. And while the stamps were certainly an unpleasant manifestation of Pakistan's chronic glorification of anti-Indian violence, they were issued in July, a month before Prime Minister Imran Khan - whose new government proposed the bilateral meeting - was even sworn in.

The Indian foreign ministry's allegation that these incidents exposed Khan's "true face" was a mere fig leaf - and a churlish one at that. In fact, with a general election six months away and five state elections set to take place before the end of this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government simply did not want a meeting with Pakistan at a politically sensitive moment.

Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) appears to have decided to contest the upcoming elections on a hardline Hindutva platform. Hindutva, the ideology of Hindu chauvinism, prides itself on hostility toward Muslims in India, as well as toward Pakistan. Smiles and handshakes in New York would not have served that strategy.

This reading is reinforced by Indian Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj's use of the UN podium to deliver a political campaign speech in Hindi to BJP voters back home. In it, she lambasted Pakistan and mentioned Modi twice as many times as she referred to India, on whose behalf she was supposed to be speaking.

This is not to say that Khan's government has been a paragon of diplomacy. Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has taken a bizarre and damaging approach, alleging, for example, that Pakistan is under siege from Indian "terrorism," a phenomenon that no objective international analyst has yet recognized.

Qureshi also blames India for a 2014 attack on an army school in Peshawar that has been credibly attributed to the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan, a home-grown terrorist group waging war on the Pakistani government. Given that the one government the Pakistani Taliban hate more than Pakistan's is India's, the idea that they were doing India's bidding on Pakistani soil is both grotesque and fatuous.

Can the supposedly responsible governments of two nuclear-armed countries sink any lower? Unfortunately, it seems entirely likely. In Pakistan, Khan's government, anointed by the Pakistani military, will progressively consolidate power. In India, election fever is heating up under a government that has not hesitated to politicize the military and often substitutes marketing for tangible achievements.

For example, the BJP constantly boasts of cross-border raids on terrorist camps in Myanmar and Pakistan. Last month, it celebrated the anniversary of one such raid across the Line of Control in Kashmir, despite the fact that the raid had no lasting geopolitical impact. Cross-border terrorist incursions, aided and abetted by the Pakistani military, have continued in the two years since.

Meanwhile, foreign-policy experts are wondering whether India under Modi has a Pakistan policy at all. After demonizing Pakistan in his campaign speeches, Modi invited his then-counterpart Nawaz Sharif to Delhi for his 2014 inauguration, raising hopes - reinforced by exchanges of shawls, saris, and even sentimental letters to each other's mothers - of a new dawn in bilateral relations.

Less than two months later, India and Pakistan were exchanging artillery fire across the still-sensitive border. Talks between their respective foreign ministers were called off when the Pakistanis proposed meeting Indian Kashmiri separatist leaders - a common practice, to which earlier Indian governments had responded with official indifference. That November, at the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation summit in Nepal, Modi pointedly stared at a brochure instead of greeting Sharif, though it was later revealed that the two leaders met privately in a hotel suite belonging to an Indian businessman.

The pattern has repeated itself throughout Modi's tenure. One day, the ruling party avers that talks and terror don't go together, and that Pakistan cannot be rewarded with a visit from Indian leaders until it makes progress on punishing the perpetrators of 2008 terror attack in Mumbai. The next day, Modi is winging impulsively to Lahore to attend a family celebration at Sharif's home, sending India's surprised high commissioner scurrying late to the airport to receive his boss.

Shortly after that impromptu visit to Lahore in late 2015, seven Indians were killed by Pakistani militants at the Pathankot Air Force Base, putting the bilateral relationship on ice again. More attacks from Pakistan have followed, bringing more inconsistent and episodic responses from India, typified in the latest UN setback.

It is true that many Indian officials have found it frustrating to talk peace to a civilian government that - because the military calls the shots in Pakistan - seems unable or unwilling to deliver on any commitments. But the fact remains that India's government lacks a cohesive policy framework for negotiating the relationship with its most turbulent neighbor, much less a compelling vision for lasting peace.

Modi's is a foreign policy by whim, not by design. As India's election campaigns heat up, one can only hope that those whims - and the incendiary rhetoric that often accompanies them - do not ignite a conflagration.

## OPINION

By Ann Aerts &amp; Harald Nusser

## The Global Promise of Digital Health

**B**ASEL - In his recent best-selling book *Factfulness*, the late international health expert Hans Rosling shows that horrors such as natural disasters, oil spills, and battlefield deaths are trending steeply downward, and that harvest yields, literacy rates, and other development indicators are on the rise. Taking a fact- and evidence-based approach, Rosling makes the case for optimism in what seems like an increasingly chaotic world.

There is also cause for optimism in the realm of global health, and for a simple reason. Just as the Industrial Revolution produced far-reaching advances in medicine, the ongoing digital revolution will allow us to improve health care in ways that were hard to imagine just a few years ago.

Almost every country in the world has committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an international agenda for improving the wellbeing of humanity and the planet that sustains it. In terms of global health, the SDGs aim to eliminate preventable child deaths and major epidemics, and to achieve universal health coverage.

Though highly ambitious, the SDGs are eminently achievable. We need only seize the opportunities offered by the Internet, mobile devices, and other digital technologies, which are already expanding health-care access and improving quality of care in hard-to-reach communities.

Consider India. Earlier this year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government introduced "Modicare," the world's largest government-funded health insurance program, which will cover up to 40% of India's 1.3 billion citizens. The government aims to halt the rise of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes and cancer, while preventing poverty-inducing health-care expenditures at the household level. In a country the size of India, the program relies heavily on technology to link people with health-care services, to store and analyze patient data, and to prevent catastrophes that could arise from mixing up patients' health records.

Digital technology can also ensure that patients in remote areas receive care from highly skilled providers. In the Novartis Foundation's telemedicine program in Ghana, 70% of provider-patient consultations are handled by phone, thus sparing patients from arduous journeys to primary-care centers.

Digital technologies are also revolutionizing health education. In isolated regions, health workers often travel on foot for hours to receive training, and many inevitably end up without the training they need. But now health-care providers can receive training from anywhere by way of smartphones and tablets. One of our partners, Last Mile Health, has created an entire digital platform specifically tailored for community health education. These and other efforts are decentralizing health-care provision and training, and empowering local practitioners - all of which is essential for achieving universal health coverage.

Needless to say, digital technologies will also be driving the next wave of life-changing therapies. Social-networking technologies have already made recruitment for clinical trials more efficient, and artificial intelligence and predictive analytics have allowed for trials to be conducted much faster.

Across the digital landscape, however, it is broadband that will deliver some of the most significant improvements of all. In low-income countries, high-speed Internet can be a game-changer at every level of the health system.

Building broadband infrastructure in resource-poor countries is a complex challenge, though. Too often, digital-health services are fragmented among government agencies, businesses, and nongovernmental organizations. Many efforts are duplicated as a result, and chances for collaboration are squandered. Uganda is a cautionary tale: In 2012, so many conflicting digital health projects were in play that the government was forced to declare a temporary moratorium on all of them.

The Broadband Commission Working Group on Digital Health, which is co-chaired by the Novartis Foundation, is focusing on how technology can improve care for NCDs. During the United Nations General Assembly in September, the Commission published *The Promise of Digital Health: Addressing Non-communicable Diseases to Accelerate Universal Health Coverage in LMICs*. The goal is to offer pragmatic advice to policymakers and other stakeholders to help them reimagine the way digital health can address NCDs.

Clearly, governments must do more to integrate digital-health efforts across ministries, and to coordinate with private- and nonprofit-sector stakeholders when possible. Such collaboration is already happening in places like the Philippines, where a National eHealth Steering Committee oversees a suite of digital-health initiatives, thus creating an ideal environment for digital innovation.

Still, digital technology is not a panacea, so we must choose our priorities wisely. The first priority should be on outcomes. In many countries, health providers are rewarded for tasks they perform, rather than for end results. Outcome-oriented digital technologies can ensure that this changes.

A second priority is to improve data literacy. Digital technologies allow us to capture and mine data for insights at every level - from individual biology to global patterns of disease. Training curricula for health-care providers and administrators should thus include instruction in statistics, data management, and analytics so that providers can keep up with digital advances.

A final priority is to bear in mind that digital technology is valuable only if it is being used to improve how systems function. Physicians should not be spending more time entering data than they do caring for patients. Fortunately, when applied properly, digital technology can help automate the process so that providers are freed up to do what they do best.

It has been three years since the world ratified the SDGs, including near-term objectives to achieve universal health coverage and universal, affordable Internet access. Recent progress shows that we should be optimistic about achieving these targets. But success will depend on whether we can harness the digital revolution for the benefit of all.

# LIBERIANS DEBATE

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



**T**he senior national team of Liberia, the Lone Star are today, Thursday, 11 October taking on their counterparts of Congo Brazzaville or Democratic Republic of Congo in return leg of the 2019 Nations Cup Qualifiers under Coach Thomas Kojo.

The New Dawn randomly asks some Liberians in Monrovia what they think of today's match against the Congolese in Kinshasa.



**Miller Yudu**

"I'm sure of today win because with the good work of coach Kojo over the time and seeing how we are looking forward to play the African Cup of Nations. Kojo is good at winning away, and Congo is not a tough side also, because Kojo has a good away record."



**Roosevelt**

"I'm a footballer also so, with no disrespect, I just want to say something to our team: Thursday's match makes us stand better if we win, draw will not be good because of our zone. Please we need team work; we lack stamina seriously that's why we drew at home, so please guys, let's double up our fitness n work with the mind of the coach. Tommy u are a good goalkeeper, but sometimes I don't see anything in u seriously, please put out your best form ....the team is not bad with youth n local based players because they are doing well. Please let's work on our stamina n get this game. Nothing better but those guys get stamina, n work with their coaches' plan that's all, thanks. I join u guys from Connecticut Hartford USA wish u guys success."

**Prince Balde**

"For today game, I'm not so particular about the "Win." what I'm more particular about is the style of play, qualities football and seeing our players implementing on the field what our coaches being teaching them! This is the way we will know that we are on the rightful path since we're rebuilding! Putting at least 10 passes together, taking advantage of our opponents' mistakes, creating chances, getting everyone involved. We need the game; there will be expectations from Liberians. All the best for the national team and players; let's go and put Mama Liberia on the map after years of being out the African Cup of Nations."



**Chris Toe**

"Victory for Liberia national football team if and only if, we can get different goalkeeper tomorrow. Please Coach Kojo, if you and Tommy Songo have an agreement to share his money, please put Liberia first and use the other as our first choice goalkeeper. Victory for Lone Star as we take over Congo tomorrow; go Lone Star never fear no soul. The Lord Almighty will give you victory Lone Star , more blessings for the team."



**Ezekiel Fonte Mah**

"Sorry for any inconvenience it might cause you coach Thomas Kojo, but my decision comes as a result of numerous mistakes from this guy that denied us crucial points. If you want to win either of the two crucial games, please don't use Tommy Songo in our goal post."



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**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**Liberians lash out at LCC**

By Ben P. Wesee

Some Liberians appear to be seriously irritated over Liberia Council of Churches (LCC) Secretary General Musa Bamba's argument that Liberia does not need the establishment of a War Crimes Court.

On Tuesday, 9 October, LCC Secretary General Bamba

"Why will a senior member of a church organization that [is] supposed to be pushing for justice in this country ... be the one [to] say people are witch hunting because they want justice," James Cooper says frustratingly.

"I don't know what's going on in this country," Cooper continues, saying every organization you expect to

Another caller identified as Musa Keita says the LCC Secretary General should not be taken seriously by the Liberian people.

"You see, not everyone we will take serious in this country. If you listen to that recording, it simply tells you that the LCC Secretary General was not living here during the 14 years of bloody war that caused lots of us to lost our parents and relatives today," Mr. Keita says.

Keita stresses that if the public listens to the recording of the LCC Secretary General expressing his opposition to the establishment of the War Crimes Court, it tells that he did not know what he was talking about.

Keita claims that Mr. Bamba sounds like he just wanted to make news.

He continues that if the LCC will think that those Liberian that are calling for the establishment of a War Crimes Court are witch hunting people, then there is no need to have a group of people calling themselves Council of Churches.

Another caller believes that the LCC Secretary General feels that he and his organization are more Liberians than the many others that are crying to the international community for justice for lives that were taken away by war criminals. -*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



argued that Liberians need reconciliation and not the establishment of a "so-called" War Crimes Court.

But in their angry reactions aired on a local radio talk show Wednesday, callers lashed out the LCC official in angry tones against his position regarding the establishment of the court.

channel the interest of Liberians would turn out to be the worst.

According Cooper, the LCC Secretary General's statement did not represent the LCC, calling on the organization to disassociate itself from Bamba's statement to save the face of the institution.

**Nimba Superintendent against war crimes court**

By Thomas Domah/Nimba

Superintendent Dorr Cooper of Nimba County is worried about ongoing campaign for the establishment of war crimes court in Liberia, calling on President George Manneh Weah to resist the establishment of such court for the country.

Cooper, himself a former general from the civil war, says such court would carry out selective justice for leaders in Africa, adding that it is not in the best interest of people of Nimba where the rebel invasion of Liberia began on December 24, 1989 by Charles Taylor's NPFL rebels.

Speaking recently in Ganta, Nimba County when he declared his membership for the governing Coalition for Democracy Change along with

300 of his kinsmen, he disclosed the decision to join the ruling party is to prevail on

President George Weah to resist the court coming here.

Superintendent Cooper maintains war crimes court will not do anything good for Liberia, but selective justice



Superintendent Dorr Cooper

**Mayor Koijee vows to clean Paynesville**

By Lewis S. Teh

Monrovia City Corporation (MCC) Mayor Jefferson T. Koijee says the MCC will embark on a rescue mission to help clean the city of Paynesville, outside Monrovia.

The MCC told reporters Wednesday, 10 October that it received a call from President George Manneh Weah to move into Paynesville as part of its efforts to help clean the garbage that has engulfed the city.

Mayor Koijee notes that the garbage situation in Paynesville is alarming.

According to Mayor Koijee, the MCC's intervention in Paynesville is not being made to suggest that Monrovia is

position was to sensitize the citizenry to work together for the improvement of the country.

The MCC Boss furthers that the cleanliness of the city must not be restricted to MCC and PCC only, but every patriotic Liberian must be involved.

Koijee urges Liberians to refrain from shifting blame on the Mayor for the problems in the city, saying you cannot call yourself a Liberian citizen and you go about dumping dirt in the streets.

He warns that MCC taskforce will continue it's arrest against people that will be caught wasting dirt in the street.

"The Mayor of Paynesville is just a person, and she has done well and we should not be



Mayor Jefferson T. Koijee

clean, but simply because the situation in Paynesville is alarming.

He says he was confronted by President Weah to make some intervention and find solution to the problem, adding that the sense of solidarity has grabbed their conscience to move into Paynesville.

"The PPC (Paynesville City Corporation) is struggling. They don't have the kind of equipment that are needed to clean the city, this [is] why we want to send this call to all our partners and citizens across the world as a call to duty to help clean our city," Koijee says.

According to him, one of the measures being put into place since assuming the

quick to condemn our policy maker but rather we should be supportive of their work," he says. According to Koijee, Liberians' focus should not be calling for the resignation of public officials President Weah has explicit confidence in all of his lieutenants that have been appointed.

Koijee argues that President Weah knows and understands his appointees, noting that he was not gambling to appoint anyone.

Mayor Koijee said the case involving the Mayor of Paynesville matters to the country, and people should stop politicizing it. -*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

against few hand of people for their roles during the 14 years of civil war in the country.

At a recent County Sitting in Sanniquellie City, Nimba County, the leader of the disbanded INPFL rebels Senator Prince Yormie Johnson, publicly called on

Nimbaians to reject the court. Senator PYJ told the gathering that attempt to establish such court for Liberia that could see him appear, he still has his followers (fighters) and they will return to the bush to rain havoc. -*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

**MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS**

**EU not funding L\$16bn audit**

**-As Delegation rejects media report**

The European Union (EU) Delegation to Liberia says it has not provided any kind of technical or financial assistance to any audit or investigation surrounding the alleged missing \$16 billion Liberian Dollars here. "So far the EU has not provided any kind of

technical or financial assistance to any audit or investigation on this issue, as hinted by some media," the EU says in a statement issued Tuesday, 9 October.

The EU however reaffirms its commitment in strengthening good governance, accountability

and transparency in Liberia.

The EU says it welcomes the investigation recently launched by the Liberian authorities into the issue.

The release says on 24th September 2018, the EU Delegation to Liberia, together with other diplomatic missions, received a statement from a number of Liberian Civil Society organizations expressing their position with regard to previous reports of missing money in Liberia.

The EU acknowledges the peaceful manner in which the protesters exercised their right to assembly and the enabling environment created by the Government.

To date, the EU adds that information on this issue remains unclear.

It continues that the allegations are serious, and it's important that a full, complete and transparent investigation is carried out and finished as soon as possible.

The Delegation notes that it remains accessible and open to share information on its work in Liberia.--*Press release*



**Legislature aborts**

*Starts from backpage*

volition, but not requested by President George Manneh Weah.

According to a high placed legislative source who asked not to be named, their return would have given the Senate the opportunity to conduct hearing in the impeachment proceedings against Associate Justice Ja'neh.

Another source claims that their return would have also allowed them to act on the Liberia-China resource swap deal.

On September 21, the chair of the Senate Committee on Order and Administration, Grand Bassa County Senator Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence, intimated that the Legislature would have reconvened, if the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) failed to provide relevant information about the missing money.

"If the CBL does not come up with clear a statement on the missing container, the Legislature will have to reconvene and summon the Bank governor and other

stakeholders," Senator Karnga-Lawrence noted in a Facebook post.

The Legislature officially closed recently for its annual break to return in January 2019.

Senate Pro - Tempore Albert Chie on 7 October, clarified that the Senate was yet to receive a proclamation from President Weah, requesting the Legislature to return to the Capitol Building for extraordinary session.

"I don't know about any communication from the Lower House, but there is no communication from the Senate. Our return from the break can only be affected through an issuance of a proclamation from the President, and such is yet to happen," Chie said.

Sen. Chie maintained that a visit to House Speaker Bhofal Chambers was merely on friendship basis, and not for plans of any imminent return.-

*-Edited by Winston W. Parley*

**Make drugs offense non - bailable**

**-Children Parliament recommends**

*By Ethel A. Tweh*

The Speaker for the Children Parliament in Liberia Jutomue Boetien is calling on the Government of Liberia to make drugs offense a non - bailable.

Delivering a keynote address at the National Mental Health Program in Congo Town Wednesday, 10 October, Jutomue says Government should take serious measures on those that are taking in drugs so as to reduce the high take-in of drugs here.

Regarding mental health, Jutomue says it is an issue in Liberia that needs to be addressed promptly, saying young people are the ones that are mainly affected.

"We the young people need to [be] afraid [of] taking in drugs because we will spoil our own future," he says. Jutomue also says the community needs to play a major role in putting an end to mental health.

He adds that mental health starts with children at the age 14 and above, noting that it is the same age at which young Liberians start to take in harmful substances.

The World Health Organization Regional Director for Africa Dr. Matshidiso Moeti's World Mental Day message says that worldwide,

10 to 20% of children and adolescents suffer from mental disorder.

Dr. Moeti indicates that depression is the third leading cause of mental illness and disability among adolescent globally, while suicide is the



second leading cause of death among 15 to 29 years.

She adds that the harmful use alcohol and illicit drugs among adolescents contribute to risky behaviors such as violence, unsafe sex and dangerous driving.

She notes that in the African region, it is estimated that 5% of the population age below 15 years suffer from a mental disorder.

"As we celebrate World Mental Health Day, I call upon governments to develop and strengthen evidence-based programmes for young people,

with support of national policy makers and programme managers," she concludes.--*Edited by Winston W. Parley*

**They don't have**

*Starts from backpage*

Sen. Johnson also claims he has immunity from prosecution, citing that during the transitional administration of former Head of State Charles Gyude Bryant, the Liberian Legislature enacted a law, granting immunity to leaders of former warring factions and ex-fighters here.

But speaking on a live talk show in Monrovia recently, Bility, who heads the Global Justice and Research Project in Liberia, assured that neither the sub-region nor the rest of the world would standby to allow any ex-warlord to threaten Liberia.

He insists that former Liberian warlords lack capacity to mobilize fighters and wage war against the country, underscoring that no neighboring country is willing to support violence against Liberia.

He had appeared on the show to welcome the recent passage by the U.S. House of

Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee of a resolution sponsored by U.S. Lawmaker Daniel Donovan, calling for full implementation of the TRC final reports and recommendations.

"My constitutes have directly told me how important it is for them that Liberia established an extraordinary war crimes tribunal", Representative Donovan notes and adds that the TRC report clearly calls for the establishment of war crimes court.

As campaign mounts both in the country and abroad for such court, a big conference is being planned in Monrovia next month to continue the debate with the former lead prosecution of the Special Court of Sierra Leone, Stephen Rapp, among international guests expected to attend. -*Story by Jonathan Browne*

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# Français

## L'interdiction de voyager imposée sur Charles Sirleaf et d'autres a été levée

Les informations qui sont parvenues à ce journal mardi 9 octobre indiquent que le nom du gouverneur adjoint de la Banque centrale du Libéria, Charles Sirleaf, fils de l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, et ceux de plusieurs autres cadres de la banque, dont le porte-parole Cyrus Badio, ont été retirés de la liste des personnes qui avaient été interdites de voyager.

La nouvelle intervient exactement une semaine après que la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL) a demandé à l'équipe spéciale d'enquête mise en place par le président Weah pour enquêter sur une disparition présumée de 16 milliards de dollars libériens de lever l'interdiction de voyager de certains cadres pour ne pas entraver le fonctionnement de la banque.

Ils étaient interdits de



Mr. Charles Sirleaf



Mr. Cyrus Badio

quitter le pays aux fins enquêtes sur la disparition présumée des 16 milliards de dollars libériens qui avaient été imprimés à l'étranger, introduits dans le pays et

dont ont auraient perdu les traces juste après qu'ils ont été retirés du port de Monrovia sous l'escorte des éléments des forces de sécurité.

Dans une demande formulée le 2 octobre, le gouverneur de la CBL, Nathaniel Patray, a exhorté le gouvernement à lever les restrictions imposées au personnel de la banque "afin de ne pas interrompre le bon fonctionnement de la CBL". Selon elle, les informations selon lesquelles 16 milliards de dollars ont disparu sont fausses. Aucun argent n'a disparu, tout a été mis en

circulation.

"La Banque centrale du Libéria tient à préciser au grand public et à ses partenaires qu'il ne manque pas 16 milliards de dollars libériens, comme cela a été rapporté à tort dans les médias", a déclaré la CBL, le mardi 2 octobre.

Selon la CBL, ses archives indiquent que la somme totale qui a été imprimée et placée dans ses réserves de sauvegarde s'est élevée à 15,5 milliards de dollars libériens pour la période de 2016-2018. La Banque a indiqué que ce montant a été vérifié à partir des documents internes de la CBL et des documents reçus de la Crane Currency of Sweden, l'imprimeur sous contrat de la monnaie en question.

Elle a ajouté que son évaluation interne des sommes imprimées et importées au Libéria entre 2016 et 2018 est terminée.

La Banque a aussi affirmé ne disposer d'aucun document montrant que les fonds imprimés sous son autorité n'ont pas encore été livrés dans ses réserves.

## Côte d'Ivoire : dernière ligne droite avant les élections locales

En Côte d'Ivoire, on rentre dans la dernière ligne droite de la campagne pour les municipales et les régionales. Le 13 octobre, 6,5 millions d'électeurs vont se déterminer pour élire leur maire et leurs conseillers régionaux. Des scrutins à enjeux locaux, mais aussi nationaux, tant ils préfigurent ce que pourrait

être l'élection présidentielle de 2020 dans ses équilibres politiques. Le RHDP et le PDCI, hier alliés, s'entredéchirent aujourd'hui, ces derniers ne voulant pas faire partie de l'alliance que souhaite Alassane Ouattara. Reportage à Divo dans le centre ouest du pays où pour la course à la mairie, il y a quatre candidats : un RHDP, un PDCI et deux

indépendants.

A Divo, comme un peu partout dans le pays, c'est le balai des sonos qui hurlent la gloire de leurs candidats et de camions plateformes qui sillonnent la ville et les quartiers.

C'est l'heure aussi des maires sortants qui défendent leur bilan, comme Amédée Kouakou, ministre et candidat du Rassemblement



Articles traduits

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des houphouëtistes pour la démocratie et la paix (RHDP) contre l'avis de son parti d'origine le Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire (PDCI). « C'est moi qui emploie le terme "nous allons nous peser". Donc il va y avoir une pesée démocratique le 13, explique l'édile. On verra si ce sont les PDCI pour RHDP qui pèsent plus lourds ou ce sont les anti RHDP qui pèsent lourds. Nous attendons après les élections du 13 pour pouvoir nous prononcer »Celui qui compte peser face au maire sortant, c'est Raphael Serge Yoroba candidat investi par le PDCI d'Henri Konan Bédié. « Ceux qui veulent être malhonnêtes, qui ne sont pas clairs, qui veulent semer le trouble, la zizanie, ils

peuvent vouloir prendre le manteau du PDCI-RDA alors que le PDCI-RDA, la vie c'est un choix. Tu es RHDP, tu es RHDP. Tu assumes, tu es PDCI-RDA, tu es PDCI-RDA et t'assumes », lance-t-il.

Ce qu'espèrent les électeurs, c'est que le débat ne déborde pas en acte violent. « On est stressé parce que les bagarres physiques parce que, si tu parles un peu, ils diront voilà, tu es de tel parti ou de tel parti. Et aujourd'hui, ça nous fait peur. Ça fait que réellement, on ne peut pas trop se positionner » confie un jeune homme.

Pas de débordement pour l'instant dans la région du Lôh-Djiboua, juste l'attente de savoir qui sortira vainqueur du scrutin samedi prochain, le 13 octobre.

# Français

## Éditorial

### Les médias sont au-dessus de la mêlée

Les politiciens en Afrique et partout dans le monde prennent généralement plaisir de critiquer les médias et en font leur cible privilégiée de calomnie, même pour des raisons égoïstes. Qu'il s'agisse du pouvoir ou de l'opposition, ils s'accordent toujours le droit d'établir des normes pour les journalistes, des normes qui conviennent à leur propre interprétation des problèmes.

Les médias au Libéria se sont récemment retrouvés dans la ligne de mire lors d'un forum organisé par l'Association des journalistes libériens de l'Amérique (ALJA). Tenu dans l'État américain du Minnesota, le forum a réuni le leader de l'opposition, Alexander B. Cummings, et le ministre libérien de l'information Lenn Eugene Nagbe, pour discuter de la disparition présumée des 16 milliards de dollars libériens.

Les deux parties ont utilisé les médias comme le chat à fouetter dans leurs argumentations respectives, à commencer par l'ancien chef d'entreprise reconverti à la politique.

« Nous comptons sur vous, journalistes, pour suivre de près cette affaire afin que le gouvernement réponde aux questions qui exigent des réponses : qui a autorisé l'impression de l'argent porté disparu ? Combien exactement a été imprimé ? Où a-t-il été imprimé ? Qui a pris en charge l'argent une fois entré dans le pays ? A-t-il suivi les procédures et processus appropriés à la Banque centrale avant d'être injecté dans la masse monétaire officielle ? », a-t-il dit.

Des médias puissants et indépendants qui surveillent les gouvernants et donnent des informations précises aident les électeurs à demander des comptes aux politiciens corrompus.

Mais le ministre de l'Information, Nagbe, qui a officiellement fixé le montant de l'argent en question à 16 milliards de dollars libériens, pense que les médias sont influencés par les partis politiques de l'opposition et sont utilisés par ces derniers comme un moyen pour promouvoir leurs intérêts politiques égoïstes et pécuniaires.

"Les nouvelles menaces qui visent la liberté d'expression", a-t-il déclaré, "incluent des efforts concertés de certains acteurs politiques, en particulier ceux de l'opposition, qui s'ingèrent dans le fonctionnement des maisons de médias, les poussant à ne pas se conformer à la règle tout en faisant d'eux des instruments pour leurs gains et intérêts politiques égoïstes et pécuniaires."

Le ministre Nagbe a affirmé en outre que refuser d'être indépendant et se livrer à la merci des politiciens en échange des miettes constitue en soi une menace pour les médias libres au Libéria. "Les médias contrôlés par des forces politiques dont l'intérêt peut être opposé à l'intérêt national constituent une menace rampante qui doit être arrêtée", a-t-il ajouté.

Nous aimons rappeler ici que les médias indépendants, généralement appelés le quatrième domaine, ne font allégeance à aucun groupe particulier - qu'il s'agisse des membres du gouvernement ou de l'opposition. Nous aboyons plutôt dans l'intérêt du bien commun. En bref, notre loyauté est envers l'État, le patrimoine commun.

Nous sommes pleinement conscients que, dans notre objectif de placer l'État au-dessus de l'intérêt politique égoïste camouflé en tant que prétendue politique gouvernementale ou prétendue lutte politique pour la rédemption, l'une ou l'autre des parties nous qualifierait d'agents adverses et pourrait tenter de crucifier les médias, comme c'est le cas aujourd'hui. Mais nous pouvons affirmer sans peur que les médias au Libéria sont au-dessus de la mêlée.

## COMMENTAIRE

By Barry Eichengreen

### Le dollar et ses mécontents

**B**RUXELLES - L'unilatéralisme du président américain Donald Trump est en train de transformer le monde de manière profonde et irréversible. Il fragilise le fonctionnement des institutions multilatérales. D'autres pays, pour leur part, ne considèrent plus les États-Unis en tant que partenaire de d'alliance fiable et se sentent poussés à développer leurs propres capacités géopolitiques.

A présent, l'administration Trump érode le rôle mondial du dollar. Ayant réimposé des sanctions contre l'Iran de manière unilatérale, elle menace de pénaliser les entreprises qui font des affaires avec la République islamique en leur refusant l'accès aux banques américaines.

La menace est sérieuse parce que les banques américaines sont la principale source des dollars utilisés dans les transactions transfrontalières. Selon la Société mondiale de télécommunications financières interbancaires (SWIFT), des dollars sont utilisés dans presque la moitié des paiements transfrontaliers, une part beaucoup plus grande que le poids des États-Unis dans l'économie mondiale.

En réponse à la position de l'administration Trump, l'Allemagne, la France et la Grande-Bretagne, ainsi que la Russie et la Chine, ont annoncé des stratégies pour contourner le dollar, les banques américaines et le contrôle du gouvernement des États-Unis. Le mot « stratégie » peut être un peu fort, étant donné que peu de détails ont été fournis. Mais les trois pays ont décrit en termes généraux la création d'une entité financière autonome, détenue et organisée par les gouvernements concernés, pour faciliter les transactions entre l'Iran et les entreprises étrangères.

Ces entreprises régleront vraisemblablement leurs créances en euros au lieu de dollars, les libérant de la dépendance envers les banques américaines. Dans la mesure où le véhicule financier à usage spécial des Européens court-circuite également SWIFT, il sera difficile pour les États-Unis de suivre les transactions entre l'Iran et les entreprises pour imposer des sanctions étrangères.

Ce système est-il viable? Bien qu'il n'y ait aucun obstacle d'ordre purement technique à la création d'un canal de paiement alternatif, ce dernier aurait certainement comme conséquence de faire enrager Trump, qui répondrait probablement avec une autre série de tarifs contre les pays fautifs. Tel est, malheureusement, le prix de l'indépendance politique, au moins pour l'instant.

Après cette leçon douloureuse sur la dépendance au dollar, d'autres pays s'en éloigneront-ils plus généralement? Le fait que le dollar soit utilisé si largement rend cette possibilité très difficile. Les banques et les entreprises préfèrent utiliser des dollars parce que beaucoup d'autres banques et entreprises utilisent cette monnaie et s'attendent à ce que leurs contreparties fassent de même. Le passage à une autre monnaie demanderait une action coordonnée. Néanmoins, puisque c'est exactement ce que viennent d'annoncer les gouvernements de trois grands pays européens, un tel scénario ne peut plus être exclu.

Il convient de rappeler l'origine de l'hégémonie internationale du dollar. Avant 1914, il ne jouait pratiquement aucun rôle international. Mais un choc géopolitique, ainsi qu'un changement institutionnel, a transformé le statut du dollar.

Le choc géopolitique fut la Première Guerre mondiale, qui a rendu difficile pour les pays neutres d'effectuer des transactions avec les banques britanniques et de régler leurs dettes en utilisant la livre sterling. Le changement institutionnel fut la Loi sur la Réserve fédérale, qui a créé une entité qui a amélioré la liquidité des marchés de crédits libellés en dollars et a permis aux banques américaines d'opérer à l'étranger pour la première fois. Au début des années 1920, le dollar avait égalé et, sur certaines dimensions, dépassé la livre sterling en tant que véhicule principal pour les transactions internationales.

Ce précédent suggère que 5-10 ans est un laps de temps plausible au cours duquel les États-Unis pourraient progressivement perdre ce que Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, à l'époque ministre des Finances de la France, a appelé de manière célèbre le « privilège exorbitant » accordé par l'émission de la principale monnaie internationale du monde. Cela ne signifie pas que les banques étrangères et les entreprises éviteront entièrement le dollar. Les marchés financiers américains sont grands et liquides et le resteront probablement. Les banques américaines opèrent au niveau mondial. En particulier, les entreprises étrangères continueront à utiliser des dollars dans les transactions avec les États-Unis eux-mêmes.

Mais à une époque où l'unilatéralisme règne aux États-Unis, elles voudront éviter de prendre trop de risques. Si le choc géopolitique que représente l'unilatéralisme de Trump stimule une innovation institutionnelle qui facilite les paiements en euros pour les banques et entreprises européennes, alors la transformation pourrait être rapide (pour ainsi dire). Si l'Iran reçoit des euros plutôt que des dollars pour ses exportations de pétrole, il utilisera ces euros pour payer ses importations de marchandises. Lorsque les entreprises d'autres pays toucheront des euros plutôt que des dollars, il y aura moins de raisons pour les banques centrales de détenir des dollars en vue d'intervenir sur le marché des changes et de stabiliser la monnaie locale par rapport au billet vert. À ce stade, il n'y aurait plus de retour en arrière.

Une motivation pour lancer l'euro était de libérer l'Europe de la dépendance excessive au dollar. C'est également l'une des motivations de la Chine pour chercher à internationaliser le renminbi. Jusqu'à présent, le succès de ces deux efforts ont été mitigés, au mieux. En menaçant de punir l'Europe et la Chine, Trump est, ironiquement, en train de les aider à atteindre leurs objectifs.

De plus, Trump gaspille l'effet de levier des États-Unis. En travaillant avec les Européens et les Chinois, il aurait pu menacer l'Iran, et les entreprises qui font des affaires dans ce pays, au moyen de sanctions globales et efficaces, dans le cas où il y avait des preuves que le pays ne respectait pas ses obligations de dénucléarisation. Or, collaborer pour assurer la conformité de l'Iran, est, bien sûr, précisément l'objectif du plan global d'action conjoint, auquel a renoncé l'administration Trump au début de cette année.

Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA)  
20th Street Sinkor Monrovia, Liberia  
**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING - NCB**  
Invitation for Air Ticketing  
IFB NO.: LiMA/SBA/NCB/005/18/19



The Liberia Maritime Authority has allocated a portion of its Corporate Funding from 2018-2019 budget towards Air Ticketing Service. The Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA) now wishes to invites sealed Bids from eligible and qualified bidders for Air Travel Tickets Service.

Interested firms that are fully qualified and capacitated to perform this service are required to obtain Bid Document at no cost from the Procurement Section of the Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA), 20th Street, Sinkor between the hours of 10:00a.m., through 4:00p.m. Friday, September 14, to Tuesday, October 16, 2018.

All qualified bidders should have a Current Business Registration, Current Tax Clearance, Business Profile and a list of previous clients and their contacts, a clearance from Social Security (NASSCORP), a Permit from the Ministry of Transport And The Liberia Aviation Authority, must have evidence of PPCC Vendor Registry while a discount and pre-finance will be an added advantage.

Final submission date is 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 16, 2018. Subsequently followed by the bid opening ceremony at 2:00 p.m. on the same date.

All would be interested entities should submit sealed bid to the Procurement Section Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA), located on 20th Street, Sinkor Monrovia.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE

Liberia Maritime Authority  
20th Street, Sinkor Monrovia, Liberia  
**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING – RB**  
Invitation for bids  
Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA)  
IFB NO.: LiMA/SBA/NCB/002/18/19



The Liberia Maritime Authority anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2018-2019 Corporate Core budgets for the procurement of the following budgetary line items (herein referred to as goods). The Authority wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable, eligible, and qualified suppliers for the supply of Stationery Supplies.

#	IFB NO.	Items	Quantity	Description
Lot 1	IFB NO. LiMA/SBA/NCB/002/18/19	Stationery Supply		A4 Sheets, Pens, Pencils, Staple Pins, Glue, Note Pals, Etc.
Lot 2		Printer Cartridges		HP, Dell, Canon

Interested Bidders that are fully qualified and capacitated to deliver these stationery supplies are required to obtain a Bid Document (NO CHARGED) at the Procurement section of the Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA) head office, 20th Street, Sinkor, Monrovia, You can obtain the Standard Bidding Document between the hours of 10:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. from Friday September 14, 2018 to Monday, October 22, 2018.

All would be interested supplier should submit sealed bid labeled to.

**Stationery Supplies**  
IFB NO. LiMA/SBA/NCB/002/18/19  
The Procurement Committee  
Liberia Maritime Authority P.O.Box 10 -9042.  
20<sup>th</sup> Street, Sinkor  
1000Monrovia10 Liberia

Requirement

All Bidders should have a Current Business Registration Certificate, Current Tax Clearance, Profile, A list of current client and their immediate contacts, the ability to supply at all time as the need be, discount and capacity to pre-finance could be an added advantage. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of at least (2%) of the total bid cost. Electronic bid will not be accepted. Final submission date for bid (Stationery Supply) is 1:30 p.m. on Monday, October 22, 2018, subsequently followed by the bid opening ceremony on the same day of submission. All bids will be opened in the presence of bidder representatives who choose to attend the opening ceremony at 2:00 p.m. In the training conference Room of LiMA's Head Office Compound.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE



**UNIVERSITY OF LIBERIA**

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA  
FENDALL CAMPUS  
LOUISIANA, LIBERIA

**Section I. INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS  
(LOT #1: Generators Spare Parts & Lubricant  
LOT #2: Vehicles Spare Parts & Lubricant)  
IFB No.: UL/NCB/005/18/19

- The University of Liberia through the Government of Liberia has received budgetary allotment from the National Budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 and intends to apply part of it towards the procurement of Generators and Vehicles Spare Parts and Lubricant in separate Lot 1 and 2 respectively, through a Framework Agreement with the successful bidders.
- The University of Liberia now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the procurement of Generators and Vehicles Spare Parts and Lubricant for the Fiscal Year 2018/2019.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure specified in the Public Procurement & Concessions Act (PPCA), 2010 and approved by the Public Procurement & Concessions Commission (PPCC), and is open to all eligible bidders in the Country.

**4. Specifications and quantity:**

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit of Measure
LOT #: 1	Generators Spare Parts & Lubricant	Assorted	Pieces
LOT #: 2	Vehicles Spare Parts & Lubricant	Assorted	Pieces

- Eligibility and Qualification requirements include:
  - Valid Government of Liberia Business Registration with appropriate Business Activity code
  - Valid Government of Liberia Tax Clearance
  - Must be registered with the PPCC Vendor Registrar
  - Past performance records in the last 4 years for the supply and delivery of spare parts as per the chosen Lot.
  - Bids must be duly signed by the bidder or person authorized on behalf of the bidder.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain copy of the bidding document from the Procurement Department, Administrative Complex Building, Fendall Campus, AC1-09, University of Liberia for a non-refundable fee of US\$50.00 (Fifty United States Dollars) beginning September 24 - October 24, 2018, between the hours 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.
- All bids must be accompanied by a Bid securing declaration duly signed by the bidder or person authorized on behalf of the bidder.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the address below on or before October 24, 2018, and bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders or representatives who choose to attend on October 24, 2018, at the hour of 2:00 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, Administrative Complex Building, AC1-01, Fendall Campus, University of Liberia. All bids should be addressed as follow:  
In the upper left corner of the envelop, print:  
"SEALED BID FOR (state the appropriate LOT details or both lots if you are bidding for all)"  
REF: IFB No: UL/NCB/005/18/19.  
Below the bid reference number, print the bidder's address  
  
In the middle of the envelope, print the address below:  
Procurement Department  
Administrative Complex Building  
Fendall Campus  
Louisiana, Liberia
- Note that Electronic bids will not be accepted, and that bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fat Ruth Tipoteh (Mrs.) Atty. Norris Tweh  
DIRECTOR Vice President, UL  
Relations  
Procurement Department, UL

# US announces independent investigators

The United States Embassy announced Wednesday that it has asked an independent, internationally recognized firm with specialization in forensic investigations through USAID to conduct a scoping mission that could ascertain the basic facts of the alleged missing Liberian bank notes and determine to what extent a broader mission would be needed.

The US Embassy in its statement said the team of independent investigators would work without the imposition of additional actors from the government, civil society, or international partners.

It is not clear would become of the investigative team already established by the government, the Americans statement said the move is to ensure effectiveness and integrity in the investigative process.

The disclosure comes



barely a day after the Special President Investigative Team probing people of interest delisted at least six names, including Deputy Governor Charles Sirleaf of the Central Bank of Liberia and CBL

spokesman Cyrus Wleh Badio, from a travel ban imposed by the Ministry of Justice, pending outcome of the ongoing investigation.

The removal of some names from the travel ban has raised

eyebrows among Liberians, some expressing serious doubt whether the ongoing investigation would yield fruitful result, especially, when the Executive Governor of the Central Bank of Liberia, Nathaniel Patray has said no money went missing at the Bank.

“According to the records of the CBL, the total amount of money printed and placed in the reserve vaults of the Bank was L\$15.5 billion for the period of 2016 - 2018. This amount was verified from the CBL own internal documents and documents received from the Crane Currency of Sweden (the contracted printer).

The Central Bank of Liberia wants to clarify to 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 and 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 L\$15.5 billion through the Freeport of Monrovia and the Roberts International Airport between 2016 and 2018, and that all these monies were logged by the CBL and delivered into the reserve vaults of the CBL”, Governor Patray maintains.

However, in a statement issued in Monrovia on Wednesday, 10 October the U.S. Embassy says it is its assessment that such a report would be the most credible and effective means to quickly determining the scale of the

problem, and would be an appropriate means for the United States to support the Liberian government’s and citizens’ desire to understand the allegations and facts.

“If a broader and longer investigation were found to be needed after the scoping mission has concluded, the Liberian government could discuss next steps with international partners”, the statement reads.

The Government of Liberia had earlier asked the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Reserve to assist with the ongoing investigation about the missing 16 billion Liberian banknotes.

Meanwhile, the statement says to ensure the effectiveness and integrity of the process, the American and Liberian governments have both agreed that the independent forensic investigators will conduct their work with full access to information needed and without the imposition of additional actors from the government, civil society, or international partners.

“In addition, we have agreed that the completed report will be made public, so that there is full transparency and understanding of the outcomes.”

The statement urges all Liberians to remain patient as the Liberian government, assisted by the United States and other international partners, considers appropriate and expeditious means to help resolve current concerns and questions about Liberia’s currency. - **Statement**

## Liberia’s forestry hijacked

A new investigation from Global Witness has revealed how progressive community forestry here is being undermined by the logging industry - using a number of shady tricks.

Liberian law is meant to give communities the right to sustainably manage their own forests, empowering people to nurture and protect their customary lands and to call the shots when negotiating with companies such as logging firms.

The report ‘Power to the People’ - released on Wednesday by the anti-corruption NGO - has uncovered how logging companies have hijacked this new approach, disempowering communities and undermining rules intended to place forests back in the hands of the Liberian people.

Instead of working with communities to give them space for negotiations, the report says companies are dodging the legal process, forming secret pacts with local elites, and making decisions that serve their own interests rather than those of the community as a whole.

This is not the first time that the Liberian forest has been hijacked by large rapacious logging companies - the Private Use Permits scandal of 2012 saw the logging industry exploiting licenses designed for small operators, with millions of hectares of land handed over to illegal loggers.

Global Witness has also warned that this failure by

logging companies to respect communities creates a serious risk of future conflict.

GW says logging companies are using a number of tricks to undermine community forestry in Liberia, including:

- Seizing control over community forests before permits have even been awarded to communities.
- Drawing communities into secret pacts by working with selected elites who haven’t been formally elected by the people to represent their interests.
- Exploiting legal loopholes to take advantage of weaker areas of regulation and maximise their profits.

Global Witness said it is calling on the Liberian government to take immediate action to investigate and cancel any unlawful company-community agreements, and ensure that its own rules are followed when new community forests are approved.

It is also calling on donors including Norway, the European Union, and the UK to press Liberia to implement the promised independent investigation into the legality of each existing permit, and ensure that any illegally logged timber isn’t being traded for profit by these exploitative companies.

David Young, Liberia Campaign Leader at Global Witness said: “It beggars belief that logging companies are continuing to exploit progressive forest practices for their own profit and gain. Not only this, but this blatant failure by companies to respect communities creates a serious risk of future conflict in Liberia.

“This is because logging companies simply aren’t ensuring benefits - and costs - are shared as they should be across the groups who are meant to have a say on these forests, increasing the risk of resentment about one group benefitting more than the other - and creating a fragile environment for conflict to start.”

The report comes after two years of research and exposes the ways companies attempt to grab timber for their own profit rather than negotiate fairly with the communities who own the land.

Many of the logging companies involved show opaque and unclear ownership.

Some show apparent links to Malaysian logging giant Samling, raising alarm bells that this notorious company - previously linked to the Private Use Permits scandal of 2012 as well as to committing widespread illegal logging - is seeking once again to expand its domination over Liberia’s forests.

David Young added: “Done right, Liberia could be an exemplary model for other countries, showing how progressive community forestry can work. But behind this optimistic outlook hide a number of rapacious logging companies.

“These logging companies are moving fast and are poised to cause irreparable damage to Liberia’s rainforests. If approved, this would impact on a massive 45 percent of the country’s land. That’s nearly half of Liberia. It is vital this remains in the full control of Liberian people, not the logging industry.”

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### COURT DEGREE OF CHANGE OF NAME

Mrs. Martha N. Stubblefield of the city of Monrovia, Liberia petitioner and through her legal counsel, prays the Honorable court for the change of name to be known, registered and called as “Mrs. Marvelous Martha N. Stubblefield.”

Whereas : petitioner’s herein named in the above entitled case of action by and thru her legal counsel having a petition with Affidavit attached thereto requesting an order from the Honorable Court to have the name formally and legally changed from Mrs. Martha N. Stubblefield to Mrs. Marvelous Martha N. Stubblefield.

Whereas, after the court having thoroughly examined petitioner’s petition and having been satisfied of the truthfulness of the allegation set forth as following wit :

Now, therefore, it is hereby directed, and decreed as follows :

The petitioner’s petition is hereby ordered granted and the name of the aforesaid petitioner’s named is now formally and legal changed from Mrs. Martha N. Stubblefield to Marvelous Martha N. Stubblefield.

**THE ORDERED SHALL TAKE EFFECT AS OF THE DATE OF ISSUANCE**



# They don't have power anymore

## -War Crimes Court campaigner Bility



Sen. Johnson



Rep. Borley

Continuous fears and threats from former warlords, including some ordinary Liberians that increased calls for war crimes court for Liberia is a recipe for chaos has been dismissed here as vague threats.

Liberian war crimes court campaigner Hassa Bility says former warlords issuing threats don't have power anymore to wage war and

sustain it in the country, saying "Nobody can threaten Liberia."

He notes that the fears have shifted from victims of the war to the perpetrators of atrocities, who are now issuing threats.

Liberian warlords are over a dozen, prominent among them include Field marshal General Prince Johnson of the defunct INPFL, Sekou Damate Conneh,

leader of the disbanded LURD rebels, Thomas Yaya Nimely of MODEL, retired professor Alhaji G.V. Kromah, leader of former rebels ULIMO-K, Dr. George S. Boley, leader of the defunct Liberia Peace Council or LPC rebels, jailed former president Charles Taylor and generals of his (Taylor's) defunct NPFL rebels.

Dr. Boley and Gen. Prince Yormie Johnson are current members of the 54th Liberian Legislature, and the former is a deportee from the United States where he was held and tried for arming child soldiers during the Liberian Civil War.

The leader of the disbanded Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia or INPFL Senator Prince Yormie Johnson recently threatened that if dragged before a war crimes court, his followers would return to the bush with single barrel guns.



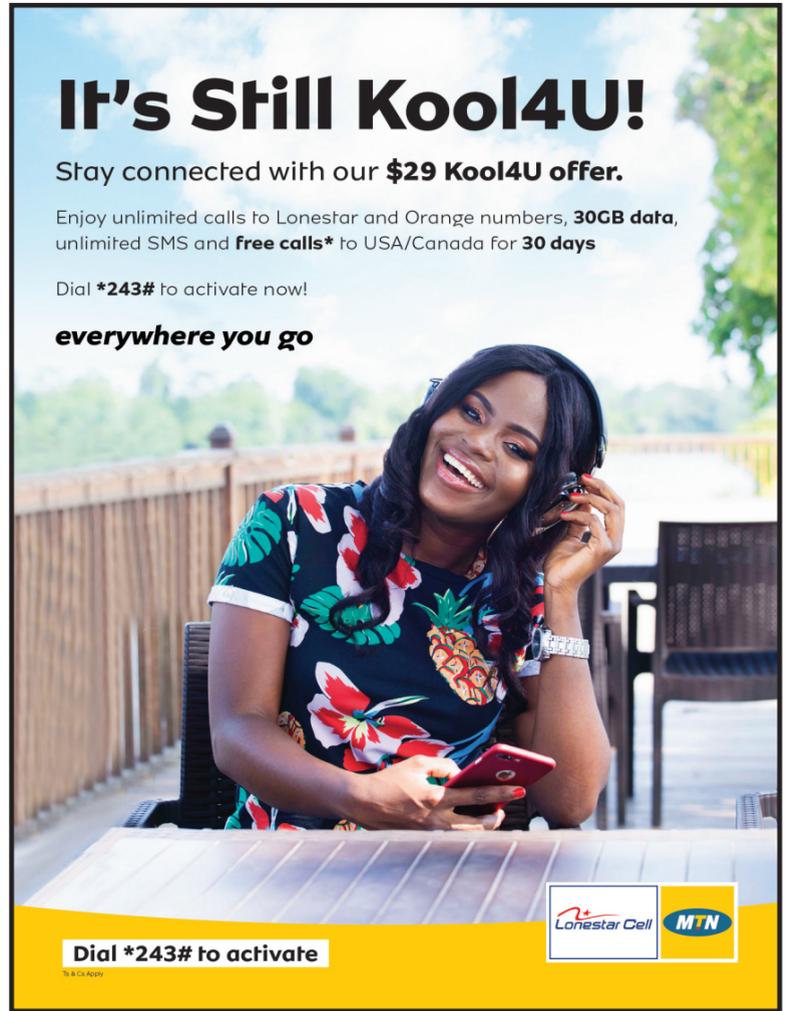
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## Legislature aborts return?

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Information available to this paper suggests that the leaderships of both the House of Representatives and the Liberian Senate are considering plans to abort their return from recess to deal with national issues on Capitol Hill.

The 73 members of the House and the 30 Senators

were expected to commence session on Tuesday, 2 October to help with the investigation of the alleged missing \$16 billion Liberian Dollars and to fast track the impeachment proceedings of Associate Justice Kabinah M. Ja'neh from the Supreme Court bench, respectively.

It was reported in the media recently that lawmakers were planning to boycott recess to

return to work so as to act on several 'unfinished businesses.'

For their return, reports say they were expected to receive US\$10,000 each plus other benefits, including gasoline and recharged cards.

The decision to cut off their break and return to work, this newspaper understands, was done on their own



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