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The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

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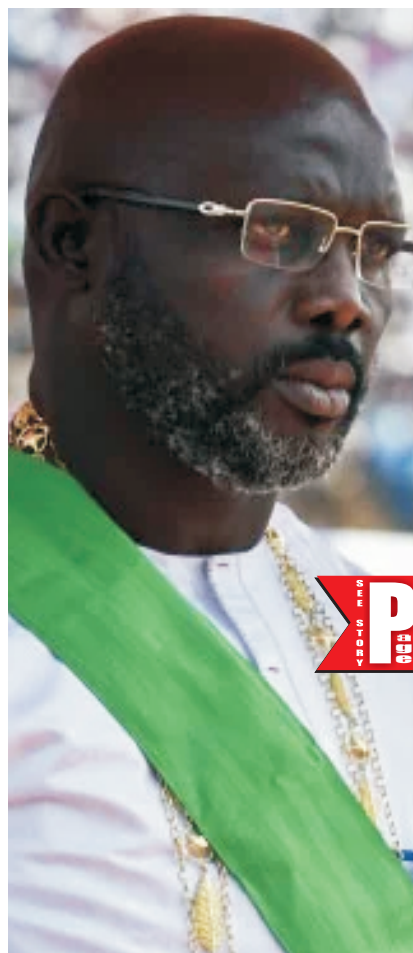


Prince Y. Johnson

PYJ vows massive resistance

-Targets Cllr. Gongloe, Reps. Younquoi, Korga, others

VP Taylor to face Weah in 2023?



President Weah



Vice President Taylor



Continental News

Final hostages freed in Cameroon

The final four hostages of the 81 people kidnapped from a boarding school in Cameroon have been released.

The principal, one teacher and two students were dropped off on the outskirts of Bafut, a town 15 miles (24 km) from Bamenda, local officials say.

It remains unclear who was behind the kidnapping in Bamenda - the government has blamed Anglophone rebels but they have denied responsibility.

Separatists took up arms in English-speaking parts of Cameroon a year ago.

Bamenda journalist Peter Tah said a family member of one of the hostages, who did not want to be named, confirmed that the four had been released at around 08:00 (07:00 GMT) local time.

He added that the school's principal was receiving medical attention. Family sources said she had been traumatised by her ordeal.

Why were the two students not freed earlier?

The other 76 boys and girls were freed last Wednesday, after being seized from a secondary school run by the Presbyterian Church in Bamenda on Sunday 4 November.

It had initially been reported that all of the students, aged 11-17, had

been released but it later emerged that two students were still being held.

"From what I gather, the gunmen tried to find out which of the children had parents who worked for the government," Tah told the BBC.

"People whose parents

worked for the government were held and separated for more questioning. The last two children were held because of their parents' jobs."

Image captionThe North-West and South-West regions are Cameroon's two English-speaking regions

Cameroon's English-speaking minority have long accused the government in the mostly French-speaking country of ignoring them.

Last year, protests became violent and spiralled into an armed movement, demanding independence for the North-West and South-West regions - the country's two Anglophone areas. -BBC

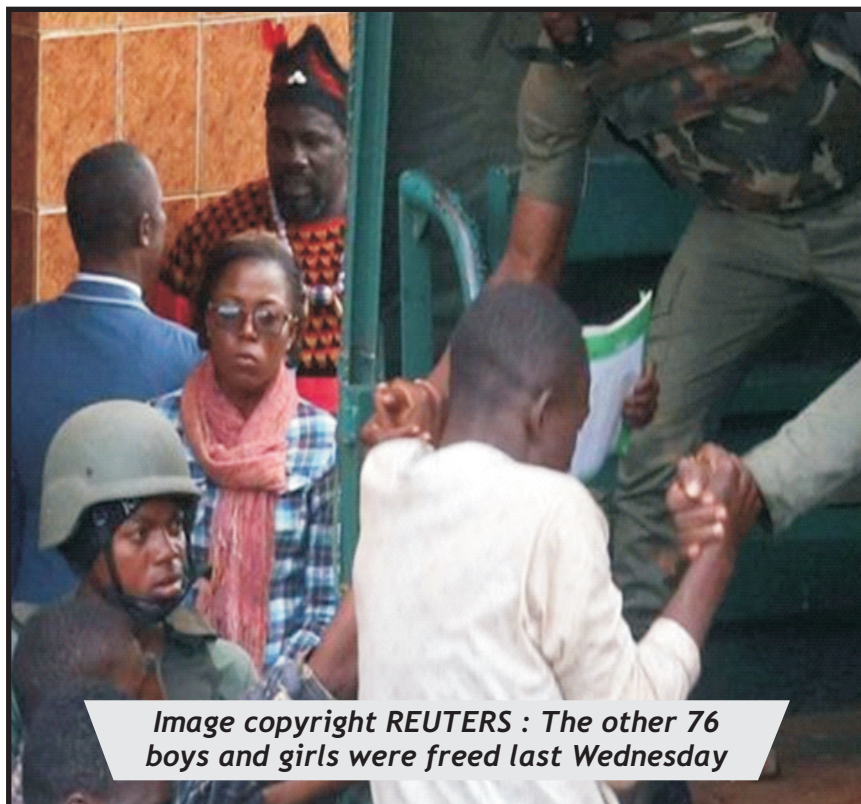


Image copyright REUTERS : The other 76 boys and girls were freed last Wednesday

Zimbabwe govt denies opposition kidnap claims

Zimbabwe's government publicly denied claims on Sunday that its spy agency had attempted to kidnap main opposition leader Nelson Chamisa as he left a rally this weekend.

Chamisa's Movement for Democratic Change party tweeted Saturday that "Central Intelligence Organisation agents

Minister Monica Mutsvangwa said in a statement.

November 21 will mark the one-year anniversary of former president Robert Mugabe's resignation following a brief military takeover that was followed by Mnangagwa's appointment.

Opposition politicians faced frequent harassment and actual violence at the



Chamisa, who lost to Mnangagwa in July 30's presidential polls, claims he was the rightful winner and has staged several victory rallies in recent weeks (AFP Photo/Jekesai NJIKIZANA)

Nigerian opposition candidate says 'intimidated' by govt agents

The presidential nominee of Nigeria's main opposition party alleged Sunday that he was "intimidated" by armed government agents who searched his private plane at the Abuja airport.

Atiku Abubakar, the candidate of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) who

will challenge incumbent Muhammadu Buhari in February, said he was manhandled upon his arrival at the Nigerian capital from Dubai.

"@atiku I arrived to Abuja this morning, to a search by agents of the state, aimed at intimidating me and my staff," Abubakar said on his Twitter

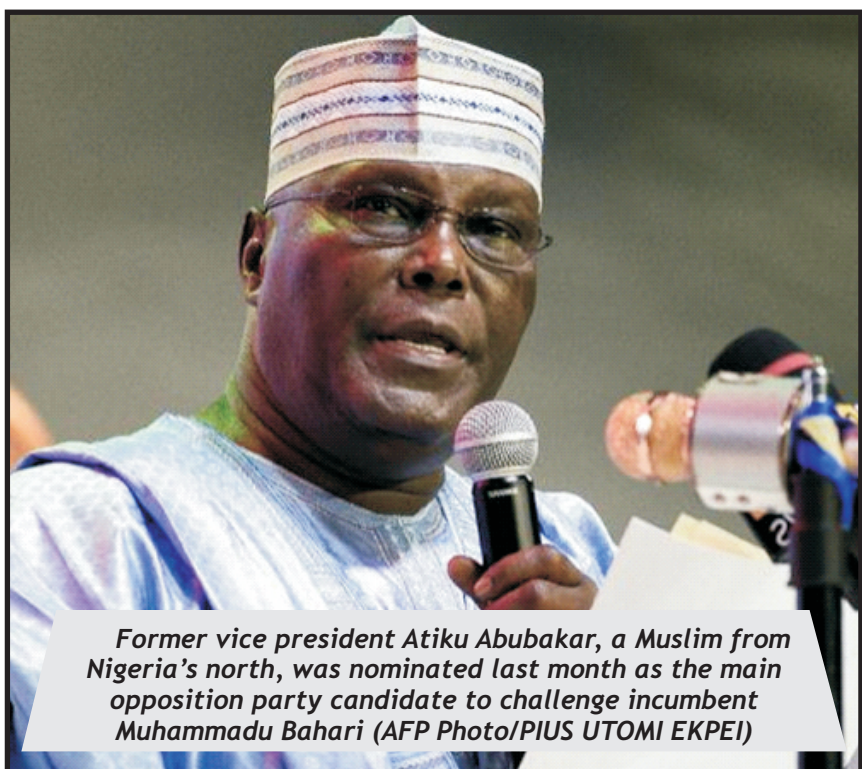
account.

The PDP issued a statement saying it "condemned in the strongest terms the unleashing of a special security squad of army, police and paramilitary agencies by the Muhammadu Buhari presidency to physically harass our presidential candidate."

It alleged that the "Gestapo-style attack" was carried out "on orders from above".

The statement said the agents "rushed our candidate... and attempted to physically manhandle him before invading his aircraft with dangerous weapons to conduct a violent search."

It said the search did not turn up "anything incriminating" but that the agents "tampered with" Abubakar's belongings including campaign documents. The minister of aviation Hadi Sirika described the incident as "routine" and said the process applied "to all international arrivals", in a statement responding to the claims.



Former vice president Atiku Abubakar, a Muslim from Nigeria's north, was nominated last month as the main opposition party candidate to challenge incumbent Muhammadu Buhari (AFP Photo/PIUS UTOMI EKPEI)

(participated) in a failed attempt to abduct" Chamisa following a rally in Marondera, 72 kilometres (45 miles) east of Harare.

The post was accompanied by a screengrab of a video which showed a group of men gathered around an SUV. The party later said that Chamisa was safe following the alleged incident.

But President Emmerson Mnangagwa's government fiercely denied the claims.

"Government is dismayed at the imputation that state agents would attempt to abduct opposition leaders. That notion is not only false but malicious," Information

hands of the security forces under Mugabe's authoritarian rule.

Chamisa's predecessor Morgan Tsvangirai was detained on numerous occasions and was brutally beaten by police in 2007 when he attempted to stage an anti-government rally in a Harare suburb.

Chamisa, who lost to Mnangagwa in July 30's presidential polls, claims he was the rightful winner and has staged several victory rallies in recent weeks.

He has also called for a transitional authority to run Zimbabwe and the country to hold a fresh vote. -AFP

"While it is true that the Task Force on Currency at the airport did the routine action of checking the former Vice President's travel bag, he was accorded full respect as a senior citizen," he said.

Abubakar earlier voiced concern about tensions

surrounding the presidential campaign, telling reporters his rival was "uncompromising" and "power drunk".

Buhari, a 75-year-old former military ruler, was the first opposition candidate to win a presidential vote in the West African country in 2015. -AFP

EDITORIAL

Real Justice creeps into Liberia

FORMER UNITED STATES Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice, Stephen Rapp, is calling on Liberians, especially war victims to exercise patience as justice creeps its way into Liberia, in the wake of both national and international efforts to establish a war crimes tribunal for the country.

“I THINK IT is very important to prevent crimes, to deter, to protect our children, our grandchildren that we do make the decision for justice,” he says and notes, “Today I see the swelling of interest for justice to be delivered in country.”

AMBASSADOR RAPP AND Country Representative of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights Dr. Uchenna Emelonye, attended a justice conference in Monrovia last Friday at the Monrovia City Hall, and have both called for Liberia to set up a war crimes court to prosecute perpetrators of its civil war. Held on the theme, “Opportunities and Challenges for Truth and Justice in Liberia for Past Crimes”, the conference was the first ever in Liberia since the end of the TRC process, bringing together several local and international advocacy groups.

WE AGREE WITH the former Ambassador when he says the only way to prevent impunity and vicious circle of crimes in Liberia is by holding people accountable through fair processes.

BUT THIS IS the reality key actors and their collaborators are trying to evade by issuing vain threats, because they are rewarded with power, and believe they did nothing wrong at all.

THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Dr. Emelonye says a postwar society that does not promote justice and accountability, does not properly heal without scars, and warns that if the victim of today does not heal and forgive, there is a tendency that he or she will be the violator tomorrow.

THE CONFERENCE HELD in Monrovia should send a clear signal that perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Liberia have no place to hide, as time is running out. They must be made to account for their actions.

LIBERIANS SHOULD SEIZE this opportunity being availed by the international community to help stamp out impunity here. This is no witch-hunting, but an honest attempt to deliver justice to the hundreds of thousands of voiceless victims, many of whom are in their graves or are without graves, as their bodies were dumped by the roadside and feasted on by dogs.

THE GOVERNMENT OF Liberia that professes to champion the cause of the common people should demonstrate its commitment by working with the international community to having this war crimes tribunal set up for Liberia, for it would boost its image. For all good reasons, the rest of world believes President George Manneh Weah is in a suitable position to support the establishment of the tribunal because he is a former UNICEF Ambassador for peace.

REGRETTABLY, THE PRESIDENT appears to be reluctant, because he has many of the famous war crimes perpetrators in his government, who have given him political loyalty. The challenge is on Weah and his government to stand up to truth and justice now or never.

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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COMMENTARY

By Kenneth Rogoff

The Global Impact of a Chinese Recession

Most economic forecasts suggest that a recession in China will hurt everyone, but that the pain would be more regionally confined than would be the case for a deep recession in the United States. Unfortunately, that may be wishful thinking.

CAMBRIDGE - When China finally has its inevitable growth recession - which will almost surely be amplified by a financial crisis, given the economy's massive leverage - how will the rest of world be affected? With US President Donald Trump's trade war hitting China just as growth was already slowing, this is no idle question.

Typical estimates, for example those embodied in the International Monetary Fund's assessments of country risk, suggest that an economic slowdown in China will hurt everyone. But the acute pain, according to the IMF, will be more regionally concentrated and confined than would be the case for a deep recession in the United States. Unfortunately, this might be wishful thinking.

First, the effect on international capital markets could be vastly greater than Chinese capital market linkages would suggest. However jittery global investors may be about prospects for profit growth, a hit to Chinese growth would make things a lot worse. Although it is true that the US is still by far the biggest importer of final consumption goods (a large share of Chinese manufacturing imports are intermediate goods that end up being embodied in exports to the US and Europe), foreign firms nonetheless still enjoy huge profits on sales in China.

Investors today are also concerned about rising interest rates, which not only put a damper on consumption and investment, but also reduce the market value of companies (particularly tech firms) whose valuations depend heavily on profit growth far in the future. A Chinese recession could again make the situation worse.

I appreciate the usual Keynesian thinking that if any economy anywhere slows, this lowers world aggregate demand, and therefore puts downward pressure on global interest rates. But modern thinking is more nuanced. High Asian saving rates over the past two decades have been a significant factor in the low overall level of real (inflation-adjusted) interest rates in both the United States and Europe, thanks to the fact that underdeveloped Asian capital markets simply cannot constructively absorb the surplus savings.

Former US Federal Reserve chair Ben Bernanke famously characterized this much-studied phenomenon as a key component of the “global savings glut.” Thus, instead of leading to lower global real interest rates, a Chinese slowdown that spreads across Asia could paradoxically lead to higher interest rates elsewhere - especially if a second Asian financial crisis leads to a sharp draw-down of central bank reserves. Thus, for global capital markets, a Chinese recession could

easily prove to be a double whammy.

As bad as a slowdown in exports to China would be for many countries, a significant rise in global interest rates would be much worse. Eurozone leaders, particularly German Chancellor Angela Merkel, get less credit than they deserve for holding together the politically and economically fragile single currency against steep economic and political odds. But their task would have been well-nigh impossible but for the ultra-low global interest rates that have allowed politically paralyzed eurozone officials to skirt needed debt write-downs and restructurings in the periphery.

When the advanced countries had their financial crisis a decade ago, emerging markets recovered relatively quickly, thanks to low debt levels and strong commodity prices. Today, however, debt levels have risen significantly, and a sharp rise in global real interest rates would almost certainly extend today's brewing crises beyond the handful of countries (including Argentina and Turkey) that have already been hit.

Nor is the US immune. For the moment, the US can finance its trillion-dollar deficits at relatively low cost. But the relatively short-term duration of its borrowing - under four years if one integrates the Treasury and Federal Reserve balance sheets - means that a rise in interest rates would soon cause debt service to crowd out needed expenditures in other areas. At the same time, Trump's trade war also threatens to undermine the US economy's dynamism. Its somewhat arbitrary and politically driven nature makes it at least as harmful to US growth as the regulations Trump has so proudly eliminated. Those who assumed that Trump's stance on trade was mostly campaign bluster should be worried.

The good news is that trade negotiations often seem intractable until the eleventh hour. The US and China could reach an agreement before Trump's punitive tariffs go into effect on January 1. Such an agreement, one hopes, would reflect a maturing of China's attitude toward intellectual property rights - akin to what occurred in the US during the late nineteenth century. (In America's high growth years, US entrepreneurs often thought little of pilfering patented inventions from the United Kingdom.)

A recession in China, amplified by a financial crisis, would constitute the third leg of the debt supercycle that began in the US in 2008 and moved to Europe in 2010. Up to this point, the Chinese authorities have done a remarkable job in postponing the inevitable slowdown. Unfortunately, when the downturn arrives, the world is likely to discover that China's economy matters even more than most people thought.

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O-PED

By Lina Abirafeh

Gender and the Arab City

BEIRUT - One of the top priorities for the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda is to make cities “inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.” City leaders can take a simple step that would go long a way toward achieving this goal: putting the needs of women and girls at the center of the urban planning process.

By 2030, the majority of the world’s population will live in urban areas. And yet, while increased urbanization - and the economic access, mobility, and greater autonomy that accompanies it - will generate new opportunities for women, ensuring gender equality will also become more difficult. This concern is especially relevant to the Arab world.

In many Arab communities, urban space is, by default, male space. Men act as if they “own” the street, which is reflected in how they walk and how they treat women in public. In many Arab cities, as is true elsewhere, men are also far more likely than women to litter, reinforcing the perception that men consider public spaces to be their personal property.

The irony is that the Arab “street” has long been a stage for feminist progress. Even before Arab women raised their voices during the 2011 Arab Spring, urban spaces played host to feminist protests and served as a political barometer for the rest of society.

But urban feminism is not widely studied by city planners in the Arab world. Awareness of how public space in Arab cities is gendered is rare, and little information has been collected on how women affect - or are affected by - planning decisions. Without a deeper understanding of the socio-spatial needs of Arab women, the region’s streets will remain the domain of men.

While sexual harassment is common in Arab cities, attention to gendered urban space is not only about safety. Although many women in Arab cities do risk verbal and physical abuse when they are in public, they must also contend with issues like poor sanitation, limited access to toilets and clean water, and little privacy. Marginalized groups - like migrants, ethnic and religious minorities, young girls, elderly women, and the disabled - are particularly vulnerable to discrimination.

Solutions, therefore, must consider the full range of social and cultural challenges that prevent women and girls from moving freely in urban settings. To help cities in the Arab region progress toward greater inclusivity, governments should focus on four key reforms.

For starters, city planners should cooperate with women’s groups to conduct safety audits and map high-risk areas. By analyzing crime data, for example, planners could determine where to focus improvements such as better lighting and additional policing. When women’s organizations are involved in these types of decisions, cities become safer for women, which in turn improves their access to social, economic, cultural, and political opportunities.

Next, education systems must be reconfigured to encourage more women and girls to pursue careers in architecture, planning, and urban design. In most Arab cities, planning processes are inaccessible to much of the population; they are even less accessible to women. To change the patriarchal status quo, we must encourage more young women to enter these fields, and to design modern spaces that are sensitive to women’s needs.

Third, cities need standardized methods for measuring women’s rights in urban environments. One way to achieve this would be to establish scoring systems created by and for women; surveys could include questions about legal frameworks, engagement in urban planning decision-making, public transportation habits, and views on housing, recreation, and safety.

Finally, urban planners must rethink how they fill public spaces. Consider, for example, historic statues; in many cities, only men are lionized in bronze. Why not women? If gender equality was a criterion in commissioning public art, young women and men would grow up knowing that their city was a place where everyone is honored, protected, and respected.

Urban planning is never gender-neutral, and leaders in Arab cities, in particular, must work hard to account for all residents’ views and desires. For women and girls, requirements include safe streets, well-maintained public facilities, and gender-specific amenities - such as nursing rooms for mothers. In a truly safe city, everyone’s rights are considered, everyone can access public spaces, and everyone is involved in the planning process.

If planners consistently applied such principles to their work, the Arab city would naturally become a catalyst for female empowerment. And when cities become engines of opportunity for women, everyone benefits.

OPINION

By Brahma Chellaney

A Concert of Indo-Pacific Democracies

TOKYO - On his week-long tour of Asia, US Vice President Mike Pence has been promoting a vision of a “free and open” Indo-Pacific region, characterized by unimpeded trade flows, freedom of navigation, and respect for the rule of law, national sovereignty, and existing frontiers. The question is whether this vision of an Indo-Pacific free of “authoritarianism and aggression” is achievable.

One country that seems willing to contribute to realizing this vision is Japan. In fact, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is the originator of the “free and open Indo-Pacific” concept that lies at the heart of President Donald Trump’s new strategy, the successor to Barack Obama’s unhinged “pivot” to Asia.

Having historically punched above its weight internationally, Japan is responding to China’s muscular rise by strengthening its own position in the region. Taking advantage of its considerable assets - the world’s third-largest economy, substantial high-tech skills, and a military that has recently been freed of some legal and constitutional constraints - Japan is boosting its geopolitical clout.

Japan’s world-class navy has already begun operating far beyond the country’s waters in order to establish its position in the region. For example, in order to challenge China’s claims in the South China Sea, a Japanese submarine and three destroyers carried out naval drills there in September. “Japan’s willingness to participate in Asian security,” former US Defense Secretary Ash Carter recently said, “makes it an increasingly important player in the region.”

But creating a free and open Indo-Pacific is not the job of one country alone. Establishing the stable balance of power needed to realize Pence’s vision will require all of the region’s major democracies - from Japan and India to Indonesia and Australia - to come together.

The good news is that Abe seems to recognize the importance of cooperation among Asia’s democratic powers. For example, in discussing the natural alliance between the region’s richest democracy and its largest one, he declared: “A strong India benefits Japan, and a strong Japan benefits India.”

With that in mind, Abe and his Indian counterpart, Narendra Modi, recently held a summit that opened the way for a military logistics pact that would give each country’s armed forces access to the other’s bases. Beyond instituting a joint “two plus two” dialogue among the countries’ foreign and defense ministers, Abe and Modi agreed to deepen naval and maritime-security cooperation and collaborate on projects in third countries, including Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, to enhance strategic connectivity in the Indo-Pacific.

At the summit, Japan and India devised a new motto for the bilateral relationship: “Shared security, shared prosperity, and shared destiny.” The comfort and camaraderie shown by Abe and Modi during their meeting, held at Abe’s private vacation home near Mount Fuji, stood in stark contrast to the stony expressions and somber handshakes on display when, just two days earlier, Abe had met Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.

Cooperation between India and Japan builds on, among other things, the trilateral India-Japan-US “Malabar” naval exercises. Malabar has become an important component of the effort to defend freedom of navigation and overflight in the Indo-Pacific region, through which two-thirds of global trade travels. If India signed a military logistics agreement with Japan, as it has with the US, the Indian navy would be better able to expand its footprint to the western Pacific, while enabling Japan to project its naval power in the Indian Ocean.

Fortunately, relations among the Indo-Pacific’s four key maritime democracies - Australia, India, Japan, and the US - are stronger than ever, characterized by high-level linkages and intelligence-sharing. These countries should institutionalize their “quad” initiative, with the India-Japan dyad forming the cornerstone of efforts to pursue wider collaboration in the region.

But such collaboration will face considerable obstacles. For starters, the relationship between Japan and America’s other closest East Asian ally, South Korea, continues to be held hostage by history.

The issue of “comfort women,” Korean women who were coerced into providing sexual services to Japanese troops during World War II, has long been particularly contentious. A 2015 agreement, endorsed by Abe and former South Korean President Park Geun-hye, claimed to resolve the issue “irreversibly”: Japan offered its apology and one billion yen (\$8.8 million) for a fund created to help the victims.

But, earlier this year, Park’s successor, Moon Jae-in, rejected the deal, arguing that it did not adequately serve the victims or the public. More recently, South Korea’s Supreme Court ordered a major Japanese steelmaker to compensate the “victims of forced labor” during Japan’s colonial rule of Korea, even though a 1965 bilateral agreement was supposed to have settled “completely and finally” all such claims.

The rancorous relationship between Japan and South Korea plays directly into China’s hands. While South Korea obviously should not disregard its history, it should find a way to move past its colonial subjugation and form new, mutually beneficial relationships with Japan, much as India, Taiwan, the Philippines, and Indonesia have done with their former colonizers.

Another potential impediment to a concert of Indo-Pacific democracies is domestic instability in key countries. In strategically located Sri Lanka, for example, President Maithripala Sirisena has ousted Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe (despite the latter’s parliamentary majority) and called a snap election, even though the constitution does not give him the power to do either. A weakening of the country’s democracy could have strategic ramifications for an economically integrated but politically divided Indo-Pacific.

Nonetheless, the deepening relationship between Japan and India serves the goal of forestalling the emergence of a China-centric Asia. If Japan and India - after China, the region’s most influential countries - can leverage their relationship to generate progress toward a broader concert of democracies in the region, the vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific may be achievable after all.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Notification of Extension for the Submission of Bids

4. The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) anticipates funds from the Government of Liberia through budgetary allocations and intends to use portion of it to fund eligible payments under the contract for the procurement of the below listed non-consulting services:

No.	Contract Package	IFB No	First Publication Date	Initial Submission Date	New Submission Date
1	Provision of Catering Services	IFB No. MFDP/SBA/NCB/05/18-19	October 3, 2018	October 31, 2018	November 14, 2018
2	Provision of Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance Services	IFB No. MFDP/SBA/NCB/02/18-19	October 3, 2018	October 31, 2018	November 14, 2018

5. Submission of Bids have now been extended to the Dates mentioned above and must be delivered to the address below **before or at 2:00 PM.** respectively. Bid validity periods must remain the same as indicated in the Bid Data Sheet.

6. Bids will be opened on the new submission dates as specified above in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend and the public in general, at the address indicated below:

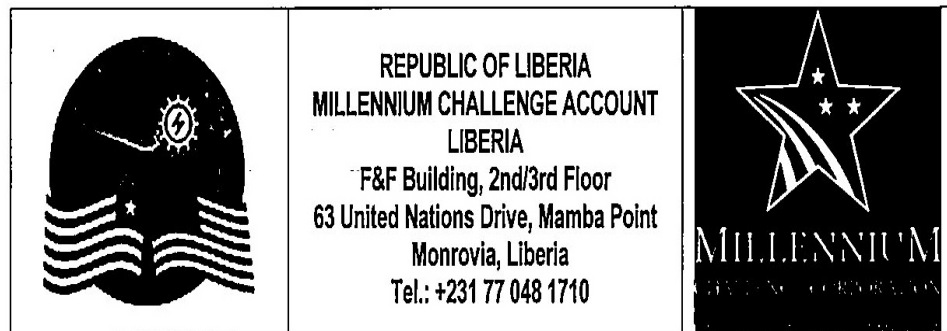
Procurement Unit
3rd Floor, Room 045
Ministry of Finance & Development Planning
P. O. Box 9013
Broad Street & Mechlin Streets
100 Monrovia 10 Liberia
Mobile Number: +231 88 657 9455 / 88 075 3568

Eric B. Arkoi

Director of Procurement

Approved: _____

Hon. Rebecca Younger McGill
Deputy Minister for Administration



CANCELLATION OF INVITATION FOR BIDS

4A430/EP/002

Supply and Delivery of Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunications Lines for Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)

Background and Context

The Government, acting through Millennium Challenge Account - Liberia (the "MCA Entity"), funded by the Millennium Challenge Corporation ("MCC"), issued an Invitation for Bids for the **Supply and Delivery of Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunications Lines for Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC).**

In view of the receipt of non-responsive bids, MCA-Liberia hereby **cancels bidding process for the Supply and Delivery of Wood Poles for Overhead Power and Telecommunications Lines for Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC)** in accordance with ITB 39.1 of the Bidding Document.

MCA-Liberia will re-examine the delivery requirements & technical specifications of the poles and intends to re-launch it at a future date.

Additional information may be obtained at the address below:

MCA-Liberia
Attention: Procurement Agent – MCA Liberia
2nd Floor, F & F Building
63 United Nations Drive
Mamba Point, Coconut Plantation
Monrovia, Liberia
Email: MCALiberiaPA@cardno.com with copy to slewionj@mca.gov.lr

Decomposed body found in Nimba -As hunter mistakenly shoots girl dead

By Thomas Domah/Nimba

The decomposed remains of an unidentified man believes to be in his early 30s have been discovered in a rubber farm in Zuluyee town, Electoral district #2 along the Ganta-Sanniquellie highway in Nimba County.

The body was found about five minutes away from the main road towards the rubber farm.

The New Dawn Nimba County Correspondent, who visited the scene, says ropes were still on the remains, including personal effects of the victim's.



The decomposed body of an unidentified man

Police in Ganta City, Nimba County have invited proprietor of the farm, Augustine Brewer for questioning.

The Town Chief of Garr Zuluyee Sampson Wuo, narrates that prior to the discovery, his 35-year-old son Lanford Wuo, had gone missing about three weeks without trace.

Chief Wuo explains his son was buying rubber for farmer Augustine Brewer from a Guinean national of Naapa inside Guinea.

He laments that since his son went missing some three weeks ago, it was one day to the discovery of the badly decomposed body before Brewer broke news about his disappearance, disclosing to the family that Lanford Wuo absconded with 35,000 Liberian Dollars that was given to him to buy rubber as usual.

According to Chief Wou, after Mr. Augustine Brewer informed them, the next day a body was discovered by some students who had gone in the rubber farm to fetch woods.

A 15-man jury reports the decomposed body was found in the rubber farm with several ropes on skeleton of the victim's, including clothes and other items.

A tapper on the farm Peter George told this paper the victim was never in the employ of the farm neither had he worked there before.

Mr. George discloses that since he started working on the farm, only four tappers have been working there and none of them were missing.

However, Chief Wou alleges that businessman Augustine Brewer informs the family to give him few days to produce the living body of their son Lanford Wuo.

Meanwhile, police in Yekepa, Nimba County have arrested a hunter,

who allegedly killed a 15-year-old girl and wounded her mother.

Our Correspondent says the deceased along with her mother Panicle Dolo, and other family members were returning from the farm when hunter Paye Flomo fired at them with his single barrel gun, instantly killing the 15-year-old girl and wounding her mother, who is said to be receiving medication in Guinea.

Hunter Flomo explains that he mistakenly saw the family like animals and opened fire, killing one instantly.

The body of the deceased, Ophelia Babygirl, has been turned over to the family for burial while hunter Paye Flomo is facing police investigation. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

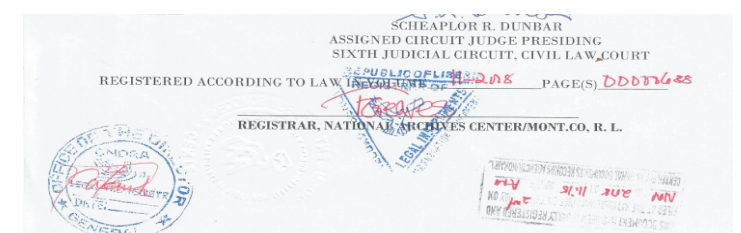
Court's Degree of Change of Name

Whereas, Petitioner herein named in the above entitled cause of action, having file a petition with affidavit attached thereto, requesting an order from this Honorable Court to have the name of Petitioner's name to formally and legally change from "Abigail Amie Kamara" to "Abigail A. Kamara".

Whereas, after the court having thoroughly examined petitioner's petition and this court haven been satisfied of the truthfulness of the allegation set forth.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED, ORDERED AND DECREED AS FOLLOWS TO WIT:

That petitioner's petition is hereby ordered granted beginning this 24th day of October A.D. 2018 and the petitioner's name is now formally and legally changed from "Abigail Amie Kamara" to "Abigail A. Kamara".



Ja'neh faces two branches of gov't

By Winston W. Parley

Court.

But the prosecuting arm of the Executive, the Ministry of Justice which the Supreme Court had simply invited to argue on the side of the law, has now presented itself in an amended brief as counsel for the defiant lawmakers.

On Friday Chief Justice Korkpor said he and his three Associate Justices were divided two against two in their room of deliberation [where recused Justice Ja'neh was looking to see if his colleagues could have decided in majority to issue a writ of prohibition to block the ongoing impeachment against him by the Legislature].

Justice Ja'neh's lawyers have been seeking the Supreme Court's intervention to prohibit the ongoing impeachment on grounds that the House of Representatives was proceeding without rules to have him impeached.

Even if Justice Ja'neh acquires the majority vote on his side for the Supreme Court to issue a writ of prohibition, it remains to be seen if the Legislature would even submit to the Supreme Court's order, given the House's action of



documented disrespect to the nation's highest court in the very case.

Arguing on behalf of Justice Minister Cllr. Frank Musa Dean on the side of the House of Representatives, Solicitor General Cllr. Darku Mulbah admits that at the time Representatives Moses Acarus Gray and Thomas Fallah filed the complaint for impeachment, the House had no rules.

Yet Cllr. Mulbah says the House of Representatives did not proceed by wrong rules, saying Justice Ja'neh filed a premature petition that sought to restrain the House from performing its official duty.

Cllr. Mulbah says the House later mandated an ad - hoc committee to come up with rules within three weeks, informing the Supreme Court that they now have rules but

he doesn't have a copy.

But Ja'neh's lawyer, Cllr. Arthur T. Johnson argues that the House proceeded without rules, telling the court the due process right of his client does not begin when he faces the Senate for trial, but from the very day he was accused by the House through the complaint filed by the lawmakers.

According to him, the portion of the Constitution that gives power to each of the Houses to formulate their own rules has to do with their internal workings that do not concern impeachment matters, noting that the Senate's decision was wrong.

Cllr. Johnson prays the Court to grant his client's petition and issue the writ of prohibition, warning that the same Court that the lawmakers disrespected is the very court that they will be asking to president over the impeachment.

Buttressing Cllr. Johnson, Cllr. Johnny Momo alerts that justice has been attacked by the Legislature when it challenged the Supreme Court through a letter written by the House's Chief Clerk, referring to the Court's writ issued as a "paper" and ordered the court to vacate the writ to avoid embarrassment.

Cllr. Momo warns that the Court cannot submit itself to the wings and caprices of the legislature, saying as lawyers, they are under oath to protect and defend the Supreme

Court.

He asked the Court grant their petition and issue the writ of prohibition, restrain the House from proceeding with the impeachment and order that the matter return to status quo.

On accusations of alleged proved misconduct, abuse of judicial power, among others by ruling party CDC Representatives Moses Acarus Gray and Thomas Fallah, the House of Representatives has drafted, passed and submitted to the Senate, an article of impeachment try and remove Justice Ja'neh from the Supreme Court bench.

Following submission of the article by the House, the Senate amended Rule 63 of its standing rules easing the way for the impeachment trial, ignoring public outcry of alleged Constitutional violation.

Those against the process, including some Senators, are specific about alleged violation of Article 43 that partly says the Legislature shall prescribe rules for impeachment proceedings in conformity with the requirements of the due process of law.

Having heard arguments from both parties, the public now awaits the decision of the Supreme Court that now has four Justices and an Ad - hoc justice to break a tie. **-Edited by Othello B. Garblah**

Light International School System donates to the group of 77

The Light International School System in Sinkor on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, donated several bags of rice to the Group of 77 at Newport Street, Monrovia, Liberia.

The Light International School System has been one of the leading international school systems in Liberia since its establishment in the county in 2006.

Presenting the bags of rice, the Principal of the school Mr. Etem Taniskan said the donation was part of his

institution's means of identifying with the disabled.

"The donation is meant to buttress efforts of the administration of the Group of 77 in providing rations for persons with disabilities in Liberia" Mr. Taniskan added. "The gesture is just one of several donations the Light International School System has made to people with special needs in Liberia."

Mr. Taniskan pointed out that as long as the Light International School System continues to operate in

Liberia, it will always implement outreach programs that will bring relief to the underprivileged and less fortunate in the Liberian society.

Receiving the bags of rice on behalf of the Group of 77, the Executive Director Madam Wayfa F. Ciapha thanked The Light International School System for their continuous assistance to the persons with disabilities in Liberia.

"Light International School System has been among our regular and biggest donors over the years," Madam Ciapha said. "I consider the donation from your institution as timely, and I promise that my leadership will use the rice for the intended beneficiaries."

In a happy mood, some of the beneficiaries and their Program Officer, Mr. Isaac T. Kiba, lauded the efforts of the school and call for more assistance to the Group of 77.

The Group of 77 is catering to more than 10,000 persons with disabilities throughout Liberia.

The group was established by former Liberian President William R. Tolbert, Jr. in 1977 upon his return from the United Kingdom where he got impressed by the way persons with disabilities in the UK were being catered to. **-Press release**



Lawyer demands speedy trial in murder case

By Winston W. Parley

Cllr. Arthur T. Johnson, in defense of defendant Joetta Pinky Abul is demanding prosecutors here to provide speedy trial for his client who stands accused of allegedly murdering her fiancé early this year.

Pinkay is indicted for allegedly murdering Mr. Morris N. Johnson, II, an employee of the National Social Security and Welfare Corporation (NASSCORP) at her home in S.K. D. Sports Complex Community of Paynesville during a night - time scuffle.

But her lawyer Cllr. Johnson told journalists at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia Monday, 12 November that there is no criminal agency as a relates to autopsy to the cause of death to link his client Pinkay to the murder of her boyfriend Morris.

"And we believe that the government lacks the evidence of the cause of death

and the criminal agency that is traceable to the defendant. But we want a speedy trial," Cllr. Johnson notes.

He warned Monday that in just two days, he will go to court to file a motion for speedy trial and another motion for admission to bail.

Cllr. Johnson says the laws require that when a person is indicted and is not tried after two terms, the party has the right in the succeeding term of court to file a motion to dismiss the allegation under Section 18.2 of the Criminal Procedure Law.

Among other things, Section 18.2 of the Criminal Procedure Law states that: "Unless good cause is shown, a court shall dismiss an indictment if the defendant is not tried during the next succeeding term after the finding of the indictment."

"So she has



MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

67 suspects charged in Bong

--following looting at mining company facility

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan
in Bong

Police in Bong County have formally charged 67 persons with multiple offenses and sent them to court for prosecution following serious looting at the MNG Gold Mining Company facilities in Kokoyah District.

Their charge follows preliminary investigations into a violent action against the company on Monday, 5 November by locals in reaction for the death of four victims.

The victims were riding on a motorbike when the company's vehicle collided with the motorbike and killed all occupants, including the bike operator. This led to the looting of MNG Gold facilities.

According to police sources, the suspects include 64 men and 3 women. They have been charged with armed robbery, rioting, arson and burglary.

They also face other charges including criminal conspiracy, criminal mischief and theft.

Police records show that after the accident that led to the deaths of four persons, the

suspects subsequently set ablaze the company's vehicle and later conspired to loot its facilities.

Some of the suspects

But they denied playing any role in the acts. The accident occurred when a Toyota Hilux Pickup belonging to a Chinese firm contracted by MNG Gold ran into a commercial motorcycle, killing the rider and all three passengers.



admitted being on the scene of both the burning of the company's pickup involved in the accident and looting of the facilities, according to police records.

Few minutes later, an angry mob set the vehicle ablaze and later moved onto the Company's facilities close to the accident scene and allegedly carried out massive

looting of the Company's properties.

Several employees of the company reported that the crowd cut off the entire electricity supply in the company's compound for several hours while the looting was taking place.

The situation was brought under control few hours later through the help of Police Support Unit (PSU) officers from the Gbarnga Regional Justice and Security Hub.

The officers had responded to avoid further damage. Police in the early hours of Tuesday, 6 November initially arrested 55 suspects based on footage from the CCTV security Camera, while 12 others were arrested later.

This is the latest in a series of mob violence incidents seen across Liberia.

Bong County Police Detachment Commander, Col. Frederick Nappy, who was in the area with a team of senior police officers from Monrovia, told our Bong County correspondent that the Company's entire facilities were looted.

On Tuesday, Internal Affairs Minister Varney Sirleaf, Bong County Superintendent Esther Walker and the Chairman of

the Bong County Legislative Caucus Senator Henry Yallah as well as Representative Albert Hills, who represents the affected district in the House, visited Sayeweh town and the Company's facilities.

The officials say their visit was part of efforts to get firsthand information about the overall situation in the area.

During a meeting with the citizens in Sayeweh, Minister Sirleaf and other officials assured the locals that all will be done to ensure their relatives that were killed in the motor accident are given a befitting burial.

Before the accident, there had been growing tensions between the people of Sayeweh Town and MNG Gold for several months.

The tension has surrounded allegations that the Company was not living up to the implementation of projects under the mineral development agreement (MDA) and the Memorandum of Understanding it signed with the citizens.

But the company has persistently denied the allegation. --**Edited by Winston W. Parley**

Liberian gov't commends Cuban Chargé d'Affairs

By Ethel A. Tweh

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs commends the Chargé d'Affairs of the Republic of Cuba for work and impact made on Liberia and the Liberian people at large.

Speaking at the farewell ceremony of the Chargé d'Affairs Mr. Yordenis Despaigne Vera over the weekend at a local hotel in Monrovia, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Elias Shoniyin notes

that Liberia and Cuba have a strong relationship and thanks the Cuban envoy his services here.

"Farewell occasion is not always the best, it's not easy to say good bye. You were here when Liberia needed you the most; you helped us combat the deadly Ebola Virus." He notes.

He recalls the Chargé d'Affairs took over during the Ebola crisis when people were leaving, yet he and his country stood by Liberia, provided

Doctors, and their embassy was never closed, adding that Cuba supported Liberia in the post-Ebola recovery.

Deputy Minister Shoniyin further recalls that since April 1974, the bilateral relationship between Liberia and Cuba has been strong. "As you depart, Liberia will continue to cooperate with your embassy. On behalf of the President, we say farewell."

Chargé d'Affairs Yordenis Despaigne Vera says he came to Liberia at a most difficult time when people were unable to shake hands, adding that it was a difficult task for him at first, but later he got used to the situation.

He says it was a privilege to have been a witness to Liberia's election last year and the peaceful transition of one government to another, thanking the former and current officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, noting that it was the first door that was always open to them.

He also expresses gratitude to the Liberian press for always standing by the embassy, which enabled staff to express the Cuban reality and bring his country close to the Liberian public. --**Editing by Jonathan Browne**



Lawyer demands

Starts from page 6

been indicted two months ago, and now the burden is on the government to make sure [she goes to court]," he continues.

Cllr. Johnson says his client was indicted two court terms back, but she is yet to face trial, adding that he will be seeking bail for his client because "the proof is not evident and the presumption is not great."

Under Chapter 13.1 of the Criminal Procedure Law, Cllr. Johnson argues that when the proof is not evident and the presumption is not great, the Court is under obligation to grant the accused a bail even if the the case is criminal or a capital offense.

The provision cited by the lawyer partly says: "A person in custody for the commission of a capital offense shall, before conviction, be entitled as of right to be admitted to bail unless the proof is evident or the presumption great that he is guilty of the offense."

Cllr. Johnson recalls that there was a scuffle between the late Morris who was allegedly very drunk and defendant Pinkay at her house during the night to the point that no know can confirm who

wounded the other.

He says Pinkay took a knife from her kitchen and tried to threaten the deceased with it so that he could leave.

But Cllr. Johnson says while Pinkay was attempting to enter her room to lock the door, the late Morris allegedly turned her hands, took the knife from her and allegedly inflicted injury on her.

While she was allegedly in the pool of blood, Cllr. Johnson narrates that the deceased tried running away before he fell more than two or three times from the stairs "with the knife rolling down."

"And as a result [he] was seen lying on the same knife that he took from the ... defendant," he explains.

Cllr. Johnson insists that there is no evident to link his client Pinkay to the murder of her boyfriend, but says police decided to charge her for murder.

He says they want their day in court to prove their innocence. The lawyer says he is particularly troubled that the accused is separated from her two years old daughter who is in the custody of the late Morris' parents to the displeasure of Pinkay.

Français

Appel à juger les responsables de crimes pendant la guerre civile

Le représentant au Liberia du Haut-Commissariat des Nations unies aux droits de l'Homme (HCDH) et des ONG ont appelé vendredi à Monrovia les autorités à juger les auteurs de crimes commis pendant la guerre civile qui a ravagé ce pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest de 1989 à 2003.

"Comment un pays qui a connu des violations flagrantes des droits de l'homme peut-il se réconcilier avec son passé pour façonner son futur ?", a déclaré à l'ouverture d'une conférence organisée par des ONG libériennes et internationales le représentant du HCDH, Uchenna Emelonye.

"Comment peut-il s'assurer que leurs auteurs rendent des comptes, décourager l'impunité et parvenir à une réconciliation durable ? Tel est le dilemme de tous les pays post-conflit, dont le Liberia", a-t-il souligné.

Quinze ans après la fin de ce conflit particulièrement atroce qui a fait quelque 250.000 morts, un très grand nombre de personnalités



directement impliquées dans la guerre civile occupent toujours des positions importantes dans les sphères du pouvoir politique et économique.

Les recommandations du rapport de la Commission vérité et réconciliation (TRC) publié en 2009 sont restées largement lettre morte,

notamment au nom du maintien de la paix, certains des chefs de guerre incriminés étant considérés comme des "héros" par leurs communautés respectives.

En juillet, le Comité des droits de l'Homme de l'ONU a regretté que "très peu de mesures" de ce rapport aient

été adoptées et l'absence de poursuites à l'encontre des personnes citées, disant craindre "qu'une telle situation ne favorise un climat d'impunité et ne fasse obstacle à la justice transitionnelle".

"La position du Haut-Commissariat aux droits de l'Homme est que tous les acteurs, sous l'impulsion du

gouvernement, doivent faire en sorte que les comptes soient rendus pour les crimes du passé", a ajouté M. Emelonye, insistant sur la nécessité que les Libériens s'approprient ce processus, dans le respect des normes internationales.

La députée Rustonlyn Dennis a exprimé le soutien du Parlement libérien à ce processus, mais souligné les possibles problèmes budgétaires qu'elle pourrait entraîner pour ce pays pauvre. "Nous sommes inquiets par le financement d'un tribunal pour juger les crimes de guerre et la sécurité des habitants", a-t-elle dit, souhaitant que cette conférence "apporte un nouveau visage à la justice au Liberia".

L'un des principaux acteurs du conflit, l'ex-chef de guerre devenu président (1997-2003), Charles Taylor, a été condamné en 2012 pour des crimes contre l'humanité et des crimes de guerre perpétrés en Sierra Leone voisine, mais n'a pas été inquiété pour les atrocités commises dans son propre pays. Africa N° 1

Côte d'Ivoire : les agents de la santé suspendent leur mot d'ordre de grève

La Coordination des centrales syndicales du secteur de la santé de Côte d'Ivoire (Coordisanté) regroupant les syndicats de personnel de la santé du pays, a suspendu samedi à Abidjan, son mot d'ordre de grève pour deux semaines, (soit jusqu'au 24 novembre) en vue de donner une chance au dialogue avec le gouvernement, a

constaté APA sur place. «La Coordisanté suspend pour deux semaines son mot d'ordre de grève en vue de s'inscrire dans l'appel au dialogue du gouvernement. Nous nous retrouverons le samedi 24 novembre pour faire le point de cette trêve», a dit à APA, Boko Kouaho, le porte-parole de cette organisation à l'issue

d'une Assemblée générale bilan des cinq premiers jours de grève de la Coordisanté qui ont eu lieu du 05 au 09 novembre dernier.

Ce consensus entre les syndiqués de la Coordisanté a été acquis à l'issue de houleuses discussions qui ont duré plus de sept heures d'horloge au Centre hospitalier universitaire (CHU) de Yopougon à l'ouest d'Abidjan où s'est tenue l'Assemblée générale. Le point d'achoppement entre la majorité des syndiqués et le directoire de leur organisation était la « reconduction immédiate ou non » de la grève. « Nous mettons à profit ces deux semaines de suspension pour exiger la libération de deux de nos camarades (Kouakou Hyacinthe et Niamkey Séverin) détenus à la préfecture de la police d'Abidjan. Nous accédons à l'appel du gouvernement et à partir de lundi, nous sommes disposés à dialoguer avec les autorités sur nos points de revendications »,

a ajouté M. Kouaho assurant de que le service reprendra dès dimanche dans tous les hôpitaux publics du pays.

« Nous avons discuté lundi dernier avec le ministre de la fonction publique rien que sur la forme de nos griefs. Au terme des discussions, aucun point de nos revendications n'a été discuté et satisfait », a-t-il expliqué auparavant à ses camarades.

Plusieurs points sont inscrits sur la plateforme revendicative de cette faïtière des agents de la santé. Il s'agit entre autres, de la prime d'incitation au secteur de la santé,

les indemnités de logement, l'indemnité de responsabilité et la revalorisation indiciaire (100 points et 150 points d'indice).

Relativement au bilan des cinq premiers jours de grève (du 05 au 09 novembre dernier), le porte-parole de la Coordisanté s'est satisfait du suivi de cet arrêt de travail dans les hôpitaux ivoiriens sur l'ensemble du territoire

national. « Nous sommes satisfaits de la mobilisation que vous avez donné sur le terrain », a dit M. Kouaho. Tour à tour au pupitre, les représentants syndicaux de la Coordisanté à l'intérieur du pays ont, assuré du suivi total des cinq jours de grève dans leurs localités respectives.

Dès l'entame de cette grève lundi dernier, le ministre ivoirien de la santé et de l'hygiène publique, Dr Eugène Aka Aouélé avait plaidé auprès des syndicats du personnel de santé de sursoir à leur mot d'ordre de grève pour lui donner le temps de régler leurs problèmes.

Dans une déclaration faite mercredi dernier, le gouvernement ivoirien s'est étonné à son tour, de ce que les membres de la Coordisanté, bien qu'ayant bénéficié des acquis du protocole d'accord portant trêve sociale dans le pays, notamment le paiement du stock des arriérés, la bonification indiciaire, veuillent remettre en cause ladite trêve sociale.



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Français

Éditorial

Notre humble avis sur la procédure de destitution en cours

Les législateurs de Capitol Hill préparent une procédure de destitution à l'encontre du juge associé Kabineh M. Ja'neh depuis juillet sous l'administration du président George Manneh Weah.

Ils affirment que le juge Ja'neh a commis une inconduite avérée, un abus de pouvoir, un abus de son pouvoir discrétionnaire, des fraudes, un détournement de pouvoir et des actes de corruption. En juillet dernier, deux députés de la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir, Moses Acarous Grey et Thomas Fallah, ont présenté à la Chambre basse un projet de loi portant destitution du juge associé Ja'neh.

Cependant, sur la base de la requête du juge Ja'neh qui visait à obtenir une suspension de la procédure au niveau de la Chambre des représentants, la Cour suprême du Libéria a émis une ordonnance de suspension et invité les législateurs à se pencher sur les questions soulevées par l'équipe juridique de M. Ja'neh.

Mais les membres de la Chambre des représentants ont catégoriquement rejeté cette ordonnance. Ils ont plutôt rédigé, adopté et soumis au Sénat libérien le projet de loi sur la destitution, de sorte que le juge Ja'neh puisse désormais être poursuivi en justice dans le cadre des charges portées contre lui.

Notre attention a été attirée par le drame qui se produit à Capitol Hill, en premier lieu à cause du bruit généralisé selon lequel les législateurs procèdent en violation de l'article 43 de la Constitution du Libéria qui stipule que « le législateur prescrira la procédure de destitution qui sera adoptée conformément aux exigences d'une procédure régulière. »

Nous prenons également note du contre-argument de certains des législateurs, en particulier des sénateurs qui estiment qu'il est acceptable de simplement adopter l'instrument soumis par la Chambre des représentants pour juger le juge Ja'neh, car le Sénat libérien a modifié l'article 63 de son statut qui concerne les procédures d'impeachment.

Nous mettons en garde le Sénat, auquel la Constitution donne le pouvoir de juger toutes les procédures de destitution, de suivre les étapes prévues par la loi organique. Il est à craindre que cette affaire historique pourrait amener l'Assemblée législative à créer un mauvais précédent dont d'autres voudront bien se servir demain pour continuer à abuser de la Constitution.

Déjà, il semble y avoir une division au Sénat, un groupe de sénateurs ayant averti que procéder «de manière inconstitutionnelle causerait le chaos », tandis que d'autres sénateurs pensent que cet avertissement n'est rien d'autre qu'une simple tactique alarmiste, soulignant la nécessité de procéder parce qu'ils ont déjà modifié l'article 63 du Règlement permanent du Sénat en matière de destitution.

S'il est avéré que la loi a été ignorée, comme l'ont signalé certains sénateurs, il n'est pas trop tard de faire une lecture minutieuse des textes et de respecter la bonne procédure à la lettre avant même de commencer un procès en destitution. Nous pensons qu'il serait ainsi assez juste.

Nous aimerions rappeler que ceux qui ont rédigé nos lois avant l'élection et la nomination de ceux qui se trouvent au Capitole aujourd'hui n'ont pas eu tort quand ils ont inscrit à l'article 43 de notre Constitution que « L'Assemblée législative prescrira la procédure de destitution qui sera adoptée conformément aux exigences d'une procédure régulière. » Comme certains sénateurs l'ont fait valoir, si le terme « Assemblée législative » désigne à la fois la Chambre des représentants et le Sénat libérien, nous estimons que cette définition devrait être maintenue ainsi.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Kenneth Rogoff

L'impact mondial d'une récession chinoise

CAMBRIDGE - Quand la Chine connaîtra enfin sa récession de croissance inévitable - qui sera presque sûrement amplifiée par une crise financière, compte tenu de l'endettement massif de l'économie - comment sera affecté le reste du monde? Alors que la guerre commerciale du président américain Donald Trump frappe la Chine juste au moment où la croissance était déjà en plein ralentissement, il ne s'agit pas d'une question fictive.

Les estimations typiques, par exemple celles qui figurent dans les évaluations du risque pays du Fonds monétaire international, laissent penser que le ralentissement économique en Chine affectera l'ensemble du monde. Mais la douleur aiguë, selon le FMI, sera plus concentrée au niveau régional et confinée que dans le cas d'une récession profonde aux États-Unis. Malheureusement, cela pourrait être un vœu pieux.

Tout d'abord, l'effet sur les marchés internationaux des capitaux pourrait être considérablement plus grand que ce que ne laissent penser les liens avec le marché des capitaux chinois. Quel que soit le niveau de nervosité des investisseurs mondiaux concernant les perspectives de croissance des bénéfices, un choc de croissance chinoise rendrait les choses bien pires. Bien qu'il soit vrai que les États-Unis sont de loin le plus gros importateur de biens de consommation finale (une part importante des importations de produits manufacturés chinois est composée de biens intermédiaires qui finissent par être incorporés dans les exportations vers les États-Unis et l'Europe), les entreprises étrangères continuent néanmoins à faire d'énormes profits sur les ventes en Chine.

Aujourd'hui, les investisseurs sont également préoccupés par la hausse des taux d'intérêt, qui non seulement amortit la consommation et l'investissement, mais aussi réduit la valeur de marché des entreprises (en particulier les entreprises technologiques) dont les valorisations dépendent fortement de la croissance des bénéfices à long terme. Une récession chinoise pourrait encore aggraver la situation.

J'apprécie la pensée keynésienne habituelle selon laquelle, si toutes les économies ralentissent partout, cela réduit la demande globale mondiale et impose donc une pression à la baisse sur les taux d'intérêt mondiaux. Mais la pensée moderne est plus nuancée. Les taux d'épargne asiatiques élevés au cours des deux dernières décennies ont été un facteur explicatif important du faible niveau global des taux d'intérêt réels (corrigés de l'inflation), tant aux États-Unis qu'en Europe, à cause du fait que les marchés de capitaux asiatiques sous-développés ne peuvent tout simplement pas absorber de manière constructive tout l'excédent d'épargne.

Les travaux célèbres de l'ancien président de la Réserve fédérale américaine, Ben Bernanke, ont caractérisé ce phénomène bien connu en tant qu'élément fondamental de la « surabondance de l'épargne mondiale ». Ainsi, au lieu de conduire à une baisse des taux d'intérêt réels mondiaux, un ralentissement chinois qui se propagerait à travers l'Asie pourrait paradoxalement conduire à une élévation des taux d'intérêt dans les autres régions - surtout si une deuxième crise financière asiatique conduisait à une forte diminution des réserves des banques centrales. Ainsi, pour les

marchés mondiaux de capitaux, une récession chinoise pourrait facilement se révéler être une double peine.

Aussi mauvais que soit un ralentissement des exportations vers la Chine pour de nombreux pays, une hausse significative des taux d'intérêt mondiaux serait bien pire. Les dirigeants de la zone euro, en particulier la chancelière allemande Angela Merkel, reçoivent moins de reconnaissance qu'ils ne méritent pour maintenir l'intégrité de la monnaie unique, qui est fragile politiquement et économiquement face aux risques économiques et politiques importants. Mais leur tâche aurait été presque impossible sans les taux d'intérêt mondiaux ultra bas, qui ont permis aux responsables de la zone euro, paralysés politiquement, d'éviter les dépréciations et restructurations de dette nécessaires dans la périphérie.

Lorsque les pays avancés ont eu leur crise financière il y a dix ans, les marchés émergents ont récupéré assez rapidement, grâce à un faible niveau de dette et à la vigueur des prix des matières premières. Aujourd'hui, cependant, les niveaux d'endettement ont augmenté de manière significative et une forte hausse des taux d'intérêt réels mondiaux étendrait presque certainement les crises qui se préparent aujourd'hui au-delà de la poignée de pays (dont l'Argentine et la Turquie) qui ont déjà été touchés.

Les États-Unis ne sont pas non plus immunisés. Pour le moment, les États-Unis peuvent financer leurs déficits, se chiffrant en billions de dollars, à un coût relativement faible. Mais la maturité relativement courte durée de leurs emprunts - moins de quatre ans si l'on intègre les bilans de la Fed et du Trésor - signifie qu'une hausse des taux d'intérêt aurait pour conséquence que le service de la dette évincerait rapidement les dépenses publiques nécessaires dans d'autres domaines. En même temps, la guerre commerciale de Trump menace également de saper le dynamisme de l'économie américaine. Sa nature quelque peu arbitraire et politiquement motivée la rend au moins aussi nuisible à la croissance des États-Unis que les réglementations que Trump a si fièrement éliminées. Ceux qui ont fait l'hypothèse que les prises de position de Trump sur le commerce étaient pour la plupart des fanfaronnades de campagne devraient être inquiets.

La bonne nouvelle est que les négociations commerciales semblent souvent impossibles jusqu'à la dernière minute. Les États-Unis et la Chine pourraient parvenir à un accord avant que les tarifs punitifs de Trump n'entrent en vigueur le 1er janvier. Un tel accord, on espère, refléterait une arrivée à maturité de l'attitude de la Chine envers les droits de propriété intellectuelle - semblable à ce qui s'est passé aux États-Unis au cours de la fin du 19e siècle. (Dans les années de croissance élevée de l'Amérique, les entrepreneurs américains ne se privaient pas de voler des inventions brevetées au Royaume-Uni.)

Une récession en Chine, amplifiée par une crise financière, constituerait la troisième étape du supercycle de la dette qui a commencé aux États-Unis en 2008 et a atteint l'Europe en 2010. Jusqu'à présent, les autorités chinoises ont fait un travail remarquable pour retarder le ralentissement inévitable. Malheureusement, lorsque la récession arrivera, le monde est susceptible de découvrir que l'économie chinoise est encore plus importante que ce que la plupart des gens ne pensaient.

ARTICLES

US 2018 MIDTERM ELECTION AND LIBERIA



By Dagbayonoh Kiah Nyanfore LI

The US midterm election will be held this Tuesday, November 6, 2018. The question is which of the political party will control Congress? Presently, the Republican Party controls both houses. All 435 representative seats are vacant, but only 35 of the 100 senate seats are open. The Democrats need a net 23 seats to capture the house.

Latest polls show the Democrats will win the house, and the Republicans will retain the Senate chamber. In addition to congressional races, there are state races for governor and city councilor major. But polls are not gospels. In 2016 presidential election, the polls had Hilary ahead and she was to win. The results showed otherwise.

In this midterm congressional election, the real stats tell what is ahead or what could happen. According to the New York Times, 194 seats in the House are likely or solidly Democratic, while 171 are likely or solidly Republican seats. The Democrats need only 218 seats to take over. As said before, there are 100 Senate seats. Only 35 seats are open for this election. Of this number, 26 are Democrat incumbents while 9 are Republicans. In other words, the Democrats have more to lose than gain. They would be happy if they get one or two seats in the Senate.

A midterm election is usually a referendum on the sitting president. So this election will be about Donald Trump. While the US economy is viewed positively under him, his approval rate is unfavorable. He is under 50%. Most past US presidents lost the House at this rate. Losing Congress during midterm does not necessarily mean that the president would lose re-election. Bill Clinton lost both houses in his first midterm but won re-election. He was also impeached by the Republican-controlled Congress. Obama lost the House and yet was re-elected despite the poor economic record. If the Democrats take over the house, it could create problems for Trump. He could be investigated regarding the alleged Russia influence in the 2016 Presidential Election and could be impeached. The Democrats could also make it difficult for him achieving his agendas.

The American people like strong and firmed leader that puts America first and makes difficult decisions. Though Carter was a nice guy and moral, he was considered weak, and he made America appeared weak internationally. He lost for a second term after the American hostage crisis. With conservatism and protectionism are on the rise in the US, Trump could be re-elected regardless of his unfavorable rating.

Secondly, as other analysts have indicated, there is no iconic leader in the Democratic Party so far. Ronald Reagan, a Republican president, easily won re-election because of conservatism and hard-core foreign policies; ie, his stance against communism and the Soviet Union, which he called "the evil empire".

This election should be of interest to Liberians. Wynfred Russell, a Liberian born, is running as a Democratic candidate for the city council of Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. If elected, he would be the second elected Liberian born in high-power US politics. The first I think is Wilmot Collin, Mayor for Helena, Montana. Russell has been active in local affairs, including the City Planning Commission.

What does this midterm congressional election mean for Africa in general and Liberia in particular? US foreign policy for Africa will not significantly change. But for Liberia, there could be a big change. Presently, there is a bill in the US Congress calling for the implementation of the TRC Recommendations and for the establishment of a war crime court in Liberia. The TRC (Truth and Reconciliation Commission) was set up to address the factors and perpetrators of the Liberian civil war and to make recommendations which "shall" be implemented. The recommendations, which also call for the punishment for those who caused the war, were not implemented by the Sirleaf government. Sirleaf was accused in the TRC report as a key contributor to the war.

US Congressman Daniel M. Donovan, Jr., a Republican from New York, introduced the bill. It has passed the House Foreign Sub-Committee. If the full House passes the bill and the Senate approves it, it could form a central piece of the US policy for Liberia. He has discussed the Liberian matter with the US Secretary of State and with the Secretary of Defense.

Considering US historical, political, and economic role in Liberia, The Weah government could be forced to abandon his seeming protection of those recommended by the TRC for punishment. If the Weah administration refuses to comply, the US could issue arrest warrants and travel ban on the perpetrators. The US could also put economic pressure on the Weah government, providing an opportunity for anti-Weah forces to undermine the new government, thus intensifying their effort at home and abroad. Past external pressures should be lessons as discussed below.

During the Doe regime, anti-Doe forces in the US influenced Congress to adult a policy against the Doe

administration. Although Doe tried to beg for US reconsideration by sending a delegation headed by Ambassador Winston Tubman to Washington, US officials met demanded Doe's resignation. The result is history.

Historically moreover, during the Charles Taylor government, after mounting external pressures, Bush demanded that Taylor Must Go. Within few months of the Bush announcement, Taylor was almost arrested in Accra, Ghana at a conference had the Ghanaian government not intervened. But Taylor was forced to say at the conference that he would not participate in the coming Liberian presidential election. This prepared an interim government headed by Gyude Bryant. Certainly, Taylor and his power were gone, thanks particularly to the US.

Sirleaf attempted to protect Taylor from persecution after her winning the 2005 election, in which she received support from the Taylor camp. But the US put pressure on her resulting in the capture of Taylor in Nigeria while he was escaping to Cameroon. What I am saying is that US possible policy pressure should not be taken lightly. Weah should not take the call for the establishment of a war crime court jokingly. As stated in an earlier article, some Liberian presidents in the past encountered serious difficulties when they tried to protect perpetrators of crimes and fostered a culture of impunity. Weah should take history as a guide and should not listen to opportunists. He must protect his young government and his legacy. He must do the right thing for justice. He could put the issue in a referendum, as suggested by others.

One might say that Representative Donovan is a Republican and if he loses and the Democrats take over the house, his bill might lose. Not really. Most bills are sponsored by two individuals, sometimes from two separate parties. The sponsors have colleagues and if the bill is for a human and just cause, it has a good chance of passing whether the primary sponsor is absent. Further, there is no known established lobby group against the bill; and there is an organized group of US citizens and Liberian nationals for the bill and hence it could pass. Even if the bill encounters a problem, Trump could initiate a policy putting pressure on the Liberian government to institute a war crime court, considering his dislike of criminals getting away and foreign corrupt officials and those promoting a culture of impunity. He could use the arrests of Liberian warlords in foreign countries as a precedent.

Anyway, the elections should be interesting.

VP Taylor to face Weah in 2023?

By E. J. Nathaniel Daygbor

Liberia's Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor is seriously contemplating on contesting for the Presidency in 2023 on the NPP ticket against President George Manneh Weah, according to the embattled chairman of the former ruling party, James Biney.

The current ruling Coalition for Democratic Change is a conglomeration of the Congress for Democratic Change of President George Manneh Weah, jailed former President Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Party presently headed by ex-First Lady of Jewel Howard Taylor, and the Liberian People Democratic Party of criminally indicted former Speaker Alex Tyler's, respectively.

"Mrs. Taylor came at my NPP's office in Congo Town and said to me, we are in the coalition for four or five years but I want to contest the presidency in 2023 and we need people who will join you that will remove us from the coalition and I said, Mrs. Taylor, that will be the saddest mistake you will make. You want to contest the presidency in 2023 with a fracture party? We need to be rebranded and be accepted by our international partners. There



are lots of people who have misgivings about our party; wait for 12 years. Her response to me is, if I don't conform to her thought; I should get out because the NPP belongs to her husband. I refused because I was duly elected. I told her that it will be great an error politically because it will destroy the party."

The tough-spoken Biney is a stalwart of the NPP and former lawmaker for Maryland County. He served under jailed ex-president Charles Taylor up to era of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

This is his first response

since the internal wrangling in the NPP as a result of his reported expulsion from the party characterized by fistfight among partisans during a recent executive committee meeting.

Speaking to this paper on Friday, 09 November along the Roberts International Airport here, Mr. Biney explains the internal crisis that has engulfed the NPP was allegedly masterminded by Vice President Taylor after some senior partisans of the party refused to give in to her presidential ambition.

He narrates the NPP and its

partisans should be grateful to the Congress for Democratic Change for bringing the former ruling party to political life.

He notes that five months prior to the formation of the Coalition, the NPP was dead politically, as its standard bearer Madam Taylor, was associating with former presidential candidate Dr. Mills Jones of the Movement for Economic Empowerment, while Bomi County Senator Sando Johnson was with the All Liberian Party of businessman Benoni Urey, and its secretary general Andrew Peters contested on the ticket of the former ruling Unity Party, and another NPP stalwart Lawrence George, was running mate at a smaller political party during the 2017 Presidential and Representative elections.

Commenting on his reported expulsion from the chairmanship, Mr. Biney says: "I being accused of wanting to merge the party with the Congress for Democratic Change, wait and see because meager is not done in the dark, every aspect leading to meager has to go the National Elections Commission for legal standing and recognition and the public will see the unfolding, but as things are, there is no evidence to establish their claims. The reason for the battle is Madam Taylor is creating what I called divide and rule. One man cannot merge a party with the others secretly; it takes the

executive committee to do such. I can fully understand because they are from the National Patriotic Front of Liberia background where one commander to take over and says your come charge, but political party does not work like that" he says.

Senator Sando Johnson had earlier accused Biney of meeting stalwarts of the CDC for meager talks and that President Weah is also reportedly behind the meager engagement.

"Sando does not understand anything about political party, that's why he's acting and behaving in such manner", he responds.

Biney says it took extra time and energy to encourage people to return to the party and that, his mandate from the NPP convention that elected him as national chairman is to rebrand the party.

He points out that over the period of time he had engaged foreign missions here and abroad to rebrand the NPP. "Under the former and founding Standard Bearer, former President Charles Taylor, the NPP never had a charter [chapter] in the United States but today, under his leadership, the NPP has a charter now in the United States. It took several negotiations before Madam Taylor could be accepted at the State Department," the embattled Biney reveals.

According to him, those claiming he is expelled are not members of the NPP, as they are total strangers and returnees who do lack political grounds to raise such argument.

He further argues the constitution of the NPP is very clear: If any partisan resigned and decided to return, that individual has to pick up a membership form and start all over as 'just partisan'.

He notes for anyone who was partisan and resigned and to think that upon his or her return, that previous position held are still available for them without convention or endorsement, that person might come from different planet. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

PYJ vows massive resistance

By Thomas Domah/Nimba

Former rebel leader and prime war crimes suspect Senator Prince Yormie Johnson, appears to be paranoid by the increasing campaigns and calls for the establishment of a war and economic crimes tribunal for Liberia, threatening to unleash massive resistance and go after key advocates, including fellow lawmakers here.

The Nimba County Senator, who broke away from Charles Taylor and founded the defunct rebels Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia or INPFL that captured and mutilated President Samuel Kanyon Doe to death in 1990, threatens to attack homes of his kinsmen, for being supportive of the war and economic crimes tribunal. Over 300,000 people were killed in the violence that spanned from December 25, 1989 to September, 2003.

Liberia's Truth and Reconciliation Commission or TRC lists PYJ and other warlords as people who committed heinous crimes and crimes against humanity during the country's civil war,

calling for prosecution.

He specifically names Representatives Larry P. Younquoi, Samuel G. Korga and Cllr. Tiawan Gongloe as members of his kinsmen pushing for a war crimes court, and vows that he and his loyalists will go after them in their respective homes.

The renewed threat comes when some groups of Liberians, calling themselves victims of atrocities protested Monday, 12 November before the United States Embassy near Monrovia and in principle streets, demanding prosecution and justice. Monday's protest was preceded by a one-day National Justice Conference held on Friday, 09 November at the Monrovia City Hall, rallying support for the establishment of war and economic crimes tribunal for the country.

Jointly organized by several local and international advocacy groups, including the Global Justice and Research Project, the Center for Justice and Accountability (CJA) of the United States, the Advocates for Human Rights, and Human Rights Watch, the forum was graced by former United States Ambassador-at-

Large for Global Criminal Justice, Stephen Rapp, and the Country Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights here, Dr. Uchenna Emelonye.

Both officials express support for the formation of the court to curb impunity and avoid a repeat of violence. "We very much recognize to prevent atrocities in the future - murder, rape, the burning and destruction of homes and communities and livelihoods - one needs to held responsible, at least the major actors of those crimes, to account", says Ambassador Rapp.

But Senator PYJ had on several occasions, publicly threatened that any attempt to have him arrested would be strongly resisted with a magnitude of force that could lead to renewed violence in Liberia. He threatened to deploy men armed with single barrel guns in the bushes to resist his arrest.

Meanwhile, Senator Johnson has ordered police in Ganta, Nimba County and his supporters to arrest one Emmanuel Wongen, for accusing him of training rebels in the county.

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Speaking on a community station recently in Ganta, Emmanuel accused PYJ of training men to resist his arrest for future prosecution. Since he made the statement, state security forces in Nimba are yet to publicly invite

Emmanuel Wongen for questioning. Instead, they have gone on his (Emmanuel) farm and arrested his 17-year-old son Perry D. Wongen along with others to show Emmanuel whereabouts. **-Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Ja'neh faces two branches of gov't

-in impeachment allegation



Associate Justice Kabineh Ja'neh

The legal arm of the Executive branch here is fighting on the side of the Legislative branch to impeach Associate Justice Kabineh M. Ja'neh, in spite of public outcry against lawmakers' disrespect to the Supreme Court to honor a stay

order in the proceedings.

Lack of quorum in previous deliberation among Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr. and his three Associate Justices necessitated a re-argument of Justice Ja'neh's petition for a writ of prohibition on Friday, 9

November to update newly appointed Ad - Hoc Justice Boima Kontoe to break a tie.

Since their votes are not known except they are expressed through minority dissent against the Court's Opinion, one cannot say for sure what decision either of the justices voted for.

But newly seated Associate Justice Joseph Nagbe could be heard questioning Ja'neh's lawyers if their client had not acted prematurely as he was not under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at the time he sought prohibition on the basis of hearing that there was a complaint against him.

Throughout the hearing at the Supreme Court, the House of Representatives insists that it cannot honor the Supreme Court's citation to appear and address allegations made by Justice Ja'neh that lawmakers were proceeding without rules and must therefore be prohibited by the



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Heineken Int'l, Abi Joudi launch new brands

By Winston W. Barclay
Dutch company, Heineken International in partnership with Liberian-based Lebanese owned Abi Joudi business has launched its newest brands in Monrovia, including Sol, the Legend and Star Beer.

At a colorful event Saturday, 10 November at Bella Casa in Sinkor, officials, business representatives and special invitees turned out to

witness the launch.

In a presentation, Heineken International Trade Marketing Manager for Africa, Middle East and Central Asia, Andre Woldt discussed the company's five brands that will now be available on the Liberian market including Heineken, Sol, Legend (Stout), Star Beer and Amstel.

He also shared some plans that Heineken International wants to implement with its

partners for another 30 prosperous years, having hit first 30 years of partnership.

"At the end of the day, we will show you what we believe is the most powerful portfolio of beer brands that Liberia has ever seen," says Andre.

Following presentations of slides at Bella Casa, Andre describes Heineken as the undisputed global leader of international premium beer segment.



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