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-for dancing with CDC



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Continental News

Mali opposition rejects 'power grab' transition

The opposition coalition which led mass protests in Mali ahead of last month's coup has rejected a transition charter.

On Saturday, the country's military leadership agreed to establish an 18-month interim government until an election could take place.

It followed three days of talks with opposition and civil society groups.

But the M5-RFP group, which took part in the negotiations, said the resulting document was an attempt by military leaders to "grab and confiscate power".

It also said the document did not take into account what it said was a majority vote for a civilian interim leader, and "did not reflect the views and decisions of the Malian people". West Africa's regional bloc, Ecowas, had also called for the interim president to be a civilian, but the military leadership says a civilian or a soldier can fill the role.

The interim charter

announced by the military leaders also states that an interim legislative body is to be established comprising M5-RFP members.

Mali is struggling with intense Islamist and ethnic violence, as well as a faltering economy.

The BBC's Africa Editor Mary

Harper says the deep tensions between the military and the group which led enormous protests against ex-President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita only threatens further instability. The ousted former president left the country last week.

The 75-year-old former

leader flew to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 5 September for medical treatment, after suffering a minor stroke, military officials said.

His former chief of staff said he could be away for up to 15 days. After the coup, West African leaders said they wanted a rapid return to civilian rule. Mali's new military rulers had previously said they wanted the interim period to last for two years.

"We make a commitment before you to spare no effort in the implementation of all these resolutions in the exclusive interest of the Malian people," Col Assimi Goita, the head of Mali's military junta, said.

President Keita was overthrown on 18 August following mass protests against his rule over corruption, the

mismanagement of the economy and a dispute over legislative elections.

The coup sparked international condemnation, but it was welcomed by many Malians.

Mr Keita was detained by the military, but later freed. This was the fourth coup in the West African state since it gained independence from France in 1960.

A previous coup in 2012 led to militant Islamists exploiting the instability to seize territory in northern Mali. French troops helped regain territory, but attacks continue.

The coup leaders earlier promised to respect international agreements on fighting jihadists.

Thousands of French, African and UN troops are based in the country to tackle the militants. BBC



Last month's coup was welcomed by many Malian civilians

Behind Ghana and Nigeria's love-hate affair

In our series of letters from African journalists, Ghanaian writer Elizabeth Ohene looks at the fraught relationship between Ghana and Nigeria, which underlies the current tensions over the closure of some Nigerian-owned shops in Ghana. We see them as too loud, and abrasive and chaotic and we believe they think they can outsmart everybody, especially

Ghanaians.

They think we are too submissive, not very smart, always punching above our weight and nothing upsets them more than Ghana defeating Nigeria, in anything.

The Ghana-Nigeria rivalry has been around for as long as both countries have existed.

When I was a child, there was a Nigerian in every town and village in Ghana.

I went to school with them

and there was the Nigerian woman - "Mami Alata" they were called - who sold everything and you could wake her up in the middle of the night to buy three cubes of sugar. The Nigerians were especially visible in the retail trade sector and in the diamond mining towns.

The two countries do not share borders, but it has always felt like we did. That we are separated by Togo and Benin has never really mattered - we feel like we are neighbours.

Obviously, something to do with the two countries being English-speaking and British colonies in the midst of French-speaking countries. Until independence, we had the same currency and airline, and the same apex court settled all judicial matters.

There were regular sporting competitions between our Achimota School and their Kings College.

I know of one lasting marriage that came out of those sporting meetings.

Then in 1955, came the 7-0 thrashing by Ghana of the Red Devils, as the Nigerian national football team was called at that time.



Uganda and Tanzania sign \$3.5bn oil pipeline deal

Tanzania and Uganda have signed an agreement allowing for the construction of a 1,445 km (898 miles) crude oil pipeline.

The \$3.5bn (£2.7m) project will connect Uganda's oil fields to Tanzania's port of Tanga.

The signing ceremony was attended by the presidents of both countries.

Oil reserves were found in Uganda in 2006 but production has been delayed partly by a lack of infrastructure including an export pipeline.

A start date for construction has not yet been announced for what is set to become East Africa's first major oil pipeline.

But there are warnings the project could come at a huge cost to some Ugandan communities. More than 12,000 families risk losing their land and livelihoods, according to a joint report by the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and Oxfam.

Conservationists have also



warned that ecosystems are at risk from the drilling in Uganda's nature reserves.

French oil giant Total is leading the plans along with China's CNOOC, and the governments of Uganda and Tanzania.

Sunday's ceremony comes days after Total, the majority shareholder in Uganda's oil fields, said it had reached an agreement on the pipeline with Uganda's government.

About 80% of the pipeline will run through Tanzania and the project is expected to create more than 18,000 jobs for Tanzanians, Reuters news agency quotes government spokesman Hassan Abassi as saying. BBC

It is the stuff of legends, and for years, it hung there behind every conversation, every argument, private or national, between our two countries. Then Ghana got her independence in March 1957 and our Nigerian cousins got theirs in October 1960.

This did not feel right - for many Nigerians, they were bigger and should have got their independence before small Ghana.

They might be bigger, but at the time, Ghana felt and was richer than Nigeria - before oil was discovered. BBC

EDITORIAL

No sin should go unpunished

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S travel sanction placed on Liberia's suspended Passport Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Monrovia Andrew Wonplo and his immediate family last week comes as a slap in the face of the Government of Liberia that failed to press charges in court. The U.S. Government's action is not a reproach only to Mr. Wonplo, his wife and children, but the entire Liberia.

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION INTO a major passport scandal at the Foreign Ministry in 2019 resulted to charges brought against Mr. Wonplo and his accomplice, a Nigerian national, Adedoyin Emmanuel Atir, who allegedly purported as an authority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in awarding travel opportunities and receiving money from his victims.

BUT WHEN THE case went to court, Criminal Court C at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia under Judge YamieGbeisay in July 2019 dropped prosecution against defendant Andrew Wonplo, and his associate due to the Ministry of Justice (prosecutors') failure to make substantial follow-up on the case. Wonplo then thought his sin was covered since prosecutors failed to appear in court.

UNITED STATES SECRETARY of State Michael Pompeo last week Thursday, 10 September sanctioned Mr. Wonplo and his immediate family from traveling to America "due to his involvement in significant corruption."

MR. POMPEO DETAILED that in his official capacity at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2018 to 2019, Mr. Wonplo was involved in passport fraud that undermined the rule of law, reduced the Liberian public's faith in the current government's management of identification and travel documents, and compromised the integrity and security of immigration processes. "This designation is made under Section 7031(c) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (Div. G, P.L. 116-94)", he said in a statement posted on the U.S. Embassy's official website in Monrovia.

HOWEVER, IN A turnaround over the weekend, the Weah administration shamelessly said it reserves the right to prosecute Mr. Wonplo for corruption, having been reluctant earlier to press prosecution when the case went to court, leaving the judge to dismiss charges.

WHAT A PARADOX by the CDC-led government! After the strong action by the U.S. Department of State that has brought reproach to the Republic of Liberia with a suspended official designated for his involvement in significant corruption, then the authorities here say they want to take Wonplo to court for corruption.

DOES THE GEORGE WEAH government have political will to fight corruption? We don't think so. We see pronouncement by the Minister of Information Lenn Eugene Nagbe as face-saving or cover-up. The government spoke out of embarrassment, for it is not interested in prosecuting Wonplo for his scandalous activities within the Passport department that saw Liberian diplomatic passports sole to unscrupulous individuals impersonating abroad as diplomats from Liberia.

BESIDES, THE DESIGNATION of Wonplo and his immediate family by the United States Government should send a very strong message to this current Liberian administration that corruption in public offices would not be swept under the rug, as has been the case in the first three years of the Weah government. Perpetrators would be made to account for their actions now and even after, which is justice in its real sense.

COMMENTARY

By Barry Eichengreen

The Pandemic's Most Treacherous Phase

The most dangerous phase of the COVID-19 crisis in the US may actually be now, not last spring. If the economy falters a second time, whether because of inadequate fiscal stimulus or flu season and a second COVID-19 wave, it will not receive the additional monetary and fiscal support that protected it in the spring.

BERKELEY - April marked the most dramatic and, some would say, dangerous phase of the COVID-19 crisis in the United States. Deaths were spiking, bodies were piling up in refrigerated trucks outside hospitals in New York City, and ventilators and personal protective equipment were in desperately short supply. The economy was falling off the proverbial cliff, with unemployment soaring to 14.7%.

Since then, supplies of medical and protective equipment have improved. Doctors are figuring out when to put patients on ventilators and when to take them off. We have recognized the importance of protecting vulnerable populations, including the elderly. The infected are now younger on average, further reducing fatalities. With help from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, economic activity has stabilized, albeit at lower levels.

Or so we are being told.

In fact, the more dangerous phase of the crisis in the US may actually be now, not last spring. While death rates among the infected are declining with improved treatment and a more favorable age profile, fatalities are still running at roughly a thousand per day. This matches levels at the beginning of April, reflecting the fact that the number of new infections is half again as high.

Mortality, in any case, is only one aspect of the virus's toll. Many surviving COVID-19 patients continue to suffer chronic cardiovascular problems and impaired mental function. If 40,000 cases a day is the new normal, then the implications for morbidity - and for human health and economic welfare - are truly dire.

And, like it or not, there is every indication that many Americans, or at least their current leaders, are willing to accept 40,000 new cases and 1,000 deaths a day. They have grown inured to the numbers. They are impatient with lockdowns. They have politicized masks.

This is also a more perilous phase for the economy. In March and April, policymakers pulled out all the stops to staunch the economic bleeding. But there will be less policy support now if the economy again goes south. Although the Federal Reserve can always devise another asset-purchase program, it has already lowered interest rates to zero and hoovered up many of the relevant assets. This is why Fed officials have been pressing the Congress and the White House to act.

Unfortunately, Congress seems incapable of replicating the bipartisanship that enabled passage of the CARES Act at the end of March. The \$600 weekly supplement to

unemployment benefits has been allowed to expire. Divisive rhetoric from President Donald Trump and other Republican leaders about "Democrat-led" cities implies that help for state and local governments is not in the cards.

Consequently, if the economy falters a second time, whether because of inadequate fiscal stimulus or flu season and a second COVID-19 wave, it will not receive the additional monetary and fiscal support that protected it in the spring.

The silver bullet on which everyone is counting, of course, is a vaccine. This, in fact, is the gravest danger of all.

There is a high likelihood that a vaccine will be rolled out in late October, at Trump's behest, whether or not Phase 3 clinical trials confirm its safety and effectiveness. This specter conjures memories of President Gerald Ford's rushed swine flu vaccine, also prompted by a looming presidential election, which resulted in cases of Guillain-Barré syndrome and multiple deaths. This episode, together with a fraudulent scientific paper linking vaccination to autism, did much to help foster the modern anti-vax movement.¹

The danger, then, is not merely side effects from a flawed vaccine, but also widespread public resistance even to a vaccine that passes its Phase 3 clinical trial and has the support of the scientific community. This is especially worrisome insofar as skepticism about the merits of vaccination tends to rise anyway in the aftermath of a pandemic that the public-health authorities, supposedly competent in such matters, failed to avert.

Studies have shown that living through a pandemic negatively affects confidence that vaccines are safe and disinclines the affected to vaccinate their children. This is specifically the case for individuals who are in their "impressionable years" (ages 18-25) at the time of exposure, because it is at this age that attitudes about public policy, including health policy, are durably formed. This heightened skepticism about vaccination, observed in a variety of times and places, persists for the balance of the individual's lifetime.

The difference now is that Trump and his appointees, by making reckless and unreliable claims, risk aggravating the problem. Thus, if steps are not taken to reassure the public of the independence and integrity of the scientific process, we will be left only with the alternative of "herd immunity," which, given COVID-19's many known and suspected comorbidities, is no alternative at all.

All this serves as a warning that the most hazardous phase of the crisis in the US will most likely start next month. And that is before taking into account that October is also the beginning of flu season.

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O-PED

By Tony Blair

Transforming Africa's Agriculture

Strengthening Africa's agriculture systems will not only make the continent more self-reliant and resilient to future shocks, but will also boost global health, prosperity, and security. The international community therefore has both moral and self-interested reasons to support this process.

LONDON - Over the next 30 years, Sub-Saharan Africa's population will double to over two billion, and its economies will industrialize. Africa's development will therefore be critical to the world's future stability, prosperity, and health. Given this, the continent should be receiving much more international attention.

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted a number of global vulnerabilities, including the uncoordinated nature of the world's pandemic response, its inability to support the poorest countries and their populations in managing the economic fallout, and of course the weakness of existing health-care infrastructure. Leaders must now urgently address these weaknesses, alongside other major global challenges, ranging from climate change and rising inequality to technological disruption and global terrorism.

Moreover, fragile agriculture and food systems, particularly in Africa and other low-income regions, have exacerbated the pandemic's impact. Unless addressed, these systems' shortcomings could deepen any crisis in the decades ahead.

The argument for fundamental reforms is partly a moral one. The United Nations World Food Programme warns that the number of people suffering from acute hunger in low and middle-income countries - including in Africa - could almost double this year, to 265 million, as a result of the pandemic. Strengthening Africa's agriculture systems is vital to making the continent more self-reliant and resilient to future shocks. Otherwise, economies will remain stagnant, limiting tax revenues and leaving welfare systems unable to support people through crises such as COVID-19.

But it is also in the enlightened self-interest of all countries - including members of the G20 and OECD - to ensure well-functioning agriculture and food systems in Africa and other poor regions. This is because food and agriculture are central to making the world's health, economic, and security systems fit for the twenty-first and twenty-second centuries.

For starters, vibrant food and agriculture sectors are essential for preventing malnutrition - one of the leading global causes of illness - and strengthening them is important in managing pandemics as well. COVID-19 lockdowns and social-distancing measures failed in less developed countries with large informal economies, mainly because of concerns that such regulations would severely harm people's ability to earn enough to feed their families.

Agriculture is also crucial to successful economic transformations. There can be no global economic stability, green economy, or eradication of mass poverty if African and other developing countries do not industrialize. And as the United States, Europe, and Asia have demonstrated, industrialization first requires an agricultural revolution, which Africa has yet to experience.

Bolstering global security, too, entails transforming agriculture and the food system. Terrorism feeds on the disenfranchisement of rural populations in regions like the Sahel, where people can gain more through illicit activity than through the lawful economy and public services.

Finally, revamping agriculture - particularly in Africa - is a precondition for sustainably feeding a global population that could increase to almost 11 billion by the end of this century.

Many African leaders are focusing on reforming agriculture - and making progress. Senegal's development of rice and other subsectors, Ghana's Planting for Food and Jobs program, and the work of Ethiopia's Agricultural Transformation Agency are all excellent examples of strong government leadership in this field.

Given the right focus by governments, policymakers can identify agricultural sectors, which, with the deployment of technology and new practices, can attract investment, in turn spurring employment, economic growth, and tax revenues - thereby initiating a virtuous cycle of development. Investment and reform - both domestically and externally financed - can accelerate change.

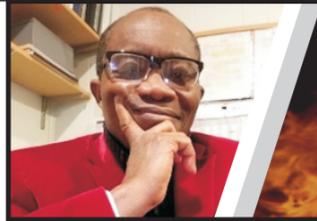
For example, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire need to process their cocoa into chocolate themselves, while Nigeria needs to mechanize its agriculture and transform its livestock sector. Mozambique needs to develop its various agricultural corridors, and Kenya has huge potential to be a global food-processing hub.

A series of upcoming global events provide the world with excellent opportunities to advance this agenda - starting with the African Green Revolution Forum, which has been taking place this week, hosted by the government of Rwanda. This gathering is crucial in highlighting the need for Africa - backed by the international community - to step up its efforts to transform its agriculture and food systems in a way that will allow the world to achieve the targets established by the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. This year's forum focuses on how to feed Africa's rapidly growing cities and urban centers - potentially the global economy's greatest source of future growth.

I have been taking part in the forum for the third consecutive year, though for the first time remotely. My teams and I have focused on how to scale up investment in Africa's agriculture and agro-processing to transform the sector, increase its resilience to crises like pandemics and climate change, and spur the continent's burgeoning industrialization and technological revolution. Then come the UN General Assembly later this month, the G20 summit in November, and the UN Food Systems Summit next year.

The COVID-19 pandemic is a stark reminder that the inability of many poorer countries' agricultural systems to meet their populations' most basic needs will have huge geopolitical consequences if not tackled urgently. Fortunately, the upcoming global gatherings will allow the world to debate the best way forward so that governments can take rapid and effective decisions. We all have a stake in seizing the opportunity.

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With Jones Mallay

fredrickdiamondm@yahoo.com

LIBERIA POLITICAL

HOT-FIRE

Politics Is a Dangerous Game, Don't Get Involved When You Are Not Ready

The late Doe killed President Tolbert, shot and killed 17-Americo-Liberians who held power and accumulated huge wealth for themselves from 1847 to 1980. The Americo-Liberians who were in politics at that time lost everything including power and influence in a few seconds--that too is the danger of politics. The late Doe was also killed in cold blood, he too lost all his wealth power and influence within a split second--that too is the danger of politics. Taylor amassed huge wealth, power and influence for himself, he later lost all his huge wealth, power, and influence, but manages to save his own life by being behind bars in Whitman's land for 50 years--that too is the danger of politics. Who knows what will happen to former President Sirleaf and current president Weah. But whatsoever that may or may not happen in the future, that too would be considered as the danger of politics as well. It is never too late for anything to happen to political leaders and their players in politics, especially in Africa, where politics is a visible death trap-"BITTER, BUT SWEET."

Most Liberians venturing into politics had not studied normal political science in former academic settings either at a university or a tertiary institution across Liberia that would equip them to fully engaged their time and services in the public life of their country Liberia.

The fact of the matter is that politics have consequences and hidden dangers unawareness to political participants and their followers, especially in Liberia. Most of the Liberian politicians are either college dropouts or ex-rebel fighters who have no other qualifications but to turn to politics, especially the part of politics that requires them to represent their people in the Liberian Legislature. Some of the major outcomes of politics can be deadly, devastating, dangerous and the destruction of properties and even sudden death of those participating in politics, especially on the part of those who are not preparing for politics, but will want to get involve for multiple rationales. For example, some little experienced politicians can sometimes be burned alive, their homes set on fire and all their children can sometimes be burned and or buried alive or killed. Some can be adopted, and or kidnapped and taken away and slaughtered and their bodies are thrown in remote pits. Others are armed bushed, beaten, and or hunted at night or even intending to eliminate them for good.

Political science is one of the many sciences being offered as an academic course in most Tertiary institutions for students who are interested in politics. The knowledge and wisdom gained from political science are purposely for the good governance and the smooth management of government that propelled the wheels of society. But it appears multiple individuals are discovering their paths to politics with a relatively different agenda. For example, individuals who run as Representatives or Senators often claimed to be the mouthpiece of their people who elected them to parliament. They also claimed they represent them in Parliament.

Since the end of Liberian brutal civil genocide that killed about 150000 Liberians and non-Liberians also in cold blood and the nation swiftly returned to normalcy from a political standpoint, the political appetite on the part of hundreds and hundreds of Liberians both at home and abroad has become astronomical. Most of the newcomers within the Liberian political circles, do not have rich job creation skills or concepts, their paramount focus is to canvas to run as representative or senator in their districts across the length and breadth of Liberia while foreigners' takeover the Liberian business enterprise to the detriment of Liberian own businesses.

Most Liberians who now see a representative job as formal job creation for them, are not fully aware of the dangers embedded in such local political undertakings, especially politics that are practiced in the hinterlands. For instance, most chiefs have abandoned their farming duties with the hope of migrating to Monrovia in search of a political job at the Liberian Ministry of Internal Affairs. Most of such chiefs have crafted what is called the "Council of Chiefs" supported by funding from taxpayers.

Those chiefs did not only bring disservice to their native villages, urban towns, and cities but have virtually let the young generation of farmers down in those villages, who by and large have overtime engaged in mechanized farming to feed surrounding villages and have cash returns in place of goods that are no more because politics have overwhelmingly overshadowed those food generating concepts especially in the hinterlands of Liberia.

Those disappointed Liberian chiefs who moved into politics had shown a very bad signal that seeking for better future in politics in Monrovia was the newest way forward in life, as a result, most villagers and village kids who have themselves become men and women in their rights, are beginning to take advantage of local politics either as a representative or a senator within the corridor of the Liberian Legislature.



SOLICITATION NUMBER: VA-669-20-00010

ISSUANCE DATE: 09/07/2020
 CLOSING DATE/TIME: 10/06/2020 (17:30 local time)

SUBJECT: Solicitation for the Senior County Health Services Advisor, Cooperating Country National Personal Service Contractor (CCNPSC)

Dear Prospective Offerors:

The United States Government, represented by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), is seeking offers from qualified persons to provide personal services under contract as described in this solicitation.

Offers must be in accordance with Attachment 1, Sections I through III of this solicitation. Incomplete or unsigned offers will not be considered. Offerors should retain copies of all offer materials for their records.

This solicitation in no way obligates USAID to award a PSC contract, nor does it commit USAID to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of the offers.

Any questions must be directed in writing to the Point of Contact specified in the attached information.

Sincerely,
 /s/
 Robert W. Appiah
 Supervisory Executive Officer

ATTACHMENT 1**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

SOLICITATION NO: VA-669-20-00010

- ISSUANCE DATE:** 09/07/2020
- CLOSING DATE/TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** 10/06/2020 at 17:30 Monrovia time
- POSITION TITLE:** Senior County Health Services Advisor
- MARKET VALUE:** USD \$51,630.00 to USD \$82,612.00 equivalent to CCN-12 in accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of the US Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia. Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value.
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** Initial contract will be for one year (with optional years included for extension, not to exceed five years), based on the programmatic needs, funding availability, and performance. This is considered a permanent position.

Employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of series of sequential contract; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.

- PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia with possible travel within the country and overseas.
- SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility and computer access
- STATEMENT OF DUTIES:**

A. BASIC FUNCTION OF THE POSITION

The incumbent is a recognized expert in the field of public health in Liberia, particularly in primary health care service delivery and reproductive, maternal, newborn, and child health (RMNCH). S/he serves as an advisor on the Service Delivery Team within USAID/Liberia's Health Team, providing substantive advice and support in the formulation and administration of USAID/Liberia's service delivery programs. S/he is instrumental in the conceptualization, design, development, negotiation, and implementation of highly visible and critical projects, which directly impact on the success of achieving USAID's goals and objectives in Liberia's health sector. The Specialist will lead government-to-government activities for the USAID Health Office. The Specialist provides expert advice in engaging program managers, stakeholders, and policy makers, as well as health workers in developing programs and strategies needed at national, county, and district levels to strengthen service delivery, regulatory frameworks, and technical programs. S/he has a strong understanding and experience working in program management. The incumbent uses his/her professional judgment and initiative to complete complex tasks with minimal supervision.

The incumbent has extensive knowledge of the public health sector and in working with high level government officials and other donors to achieve health program objectives. S/he coordinates with the Government of Liberia (GOL), other donors, and stakeholders to ensure maximum impact of USAID's investments in the health sector. S/he serves as the primary liaison with county health teams to ensure strategic engagement on key health issues and USAID coordination. S/he facilitates shared communication and vision between USAID health team staff and county health team counterparts.

The Senior County Health Services Advisor is supervised by the Service Delivery Team Leader.

B. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**A. Strategic and Technical Leadership 40%**

The Senior County Health Services Advisor provides strategic leadership in support of the USAID/USG health programs with emphasis at the county level for improved health outcomes and efficiency of resources. S/he provides senior policy, strategic, and technical advice and guidance to the Ministry of Health in the planning, drafting of county level plans specific to the USAID's Government to Government Agreement. S/he oversees effective monitoring and evaluation plans, including compiling lessons learned and the dissemination activity results to appropriate USG staff and partners. S/he:

- Serves as the primary liaison with county health teams to ensure well-coordinated communication of USAID resources and activities, most critically the USAID's Government to Government activity.
- Coordinate/facilitates open and productive engagement between USAID technical staff and county health teams to ensure optimal oversight and maximization of resources.
- Identifies challenges and solutions at the county level in collaboration with county health teams and USAID technical advisors and coordinate lessons learned and recommendations that improve alignment with county health teams' goals and planning.
- Advise Health Office Senior Management on technical, strategic, and donor coordination issues with the GOL and within the USG.
- In collaboration with the Health Team's Family Planning/Reproductive Health Specialist, forges relationships with key partners necessary for the achievement of USAID's program objectives, especially related to RMNCH.
- Represents the USG on various MOH technical working groups and in technical discussions on issues related to health service delivery.
- Provides technical leadership and policy and program guidance to the USAID/Liberia Health Team, particularly related to health service delivery.
- Develops program and policy options and recommend appropriate courses of action based on a comprehensive analysis of development problems, alternative actions, objectives, and consistency with overall USG domestic and international policy and law.

B. Program/Project/Activity Management, Monitoring and Reporting 40%

The Senior County Health Services Advisor serves as Manager of USAID's activity providing direct, government-to-government support to the Ministry of Health (MOH), with an annual budget of over \$10 million. This activity incorporates investments in strengthening i) public financial management, ii) management and supervision systems, and iii) service delivery. The incumbent will assist the Service Delivery Team Lead and the Team in managing resources and supporting both program and financial monitoring and evaluation. Management of this activity involves knowledge of program/project management principles, provision of technical advice and guidance, both in-house and with government counterparts, and analysis and follow-through on program reports. It also requires coordination with other health team activity managers on technical components that link with the MOH: financing, service delivery, management, and supervision.

- S/he conducts regular site visits to review program implementation at the county level and meets with beneficiaries and county health teams; based on information collected during visits, s/he adjusts or recommends adjustments to programs/projects/activities as appropriate.
- Provides technical contributions to USG program designs, budget allocations, strategic planning documents and reporting mechanisms.
- Conducts site visits on a quarterly basis, at a minimum, and provides hands-on oversight in Monrovia as well as at the site of implementation.
- Ensures monitoring and evaluation systems are in place to capture results and contributions to targets, approves annual work plans, and maintains detailed and updated project management records.
- Ensures all financial management procedures and payment approval documents are prepared and executed according to guidelines and standards for government-to-government agreements.

C. External Donor and Partner Coordination 20%

The Senior County Health Specialist, alongside the county health teams, serves to ensure that USAID's investments at county level are well coordinated and positioned with other external donors and partner efforts. S/he:

- Participates in Ministry of Health partner coordination meetings, technical working groups, and other forums representing USAID's county level efforts.
- Actively collaborates with external donors and partners to ensure USAID county level activities and planning are shared and understood.
- Provides guidance to USAID senior leadership on county level planning and decision making for activities that includes external donor landscape and planning.

9. AREA OF CONSIDERATION: Open to All Interested CCNs (Cooperating Country Nationals).

AIDAR, Appendix J. 1 (b) Definitions:

- (6) "Cooperating country" means the country in which the employing USAID Mission is located.
- (7) "Cooperating country national" ("CCN") means an individual who is a cooperating country citizen or a non-cooperating country citizen lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the cooperating country.

10. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

11. POINT OF CONTACT:

All application packages are to be submitted:
Senior County Health Services Advisor
 by email to: LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

12. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

Education: Master's degree in a related field such as public health or public administration required.

Prior Work Experience: At least 7 Years of progressively responsible, professional experience in public health is required, including program design, implementation, and management and data analysis, interpretation, and presentation. At least 5 years of experience in development assistance, other donor agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGO), or the private sector and should also have experience working in the public health sector.

Post Entry Training: Mandatory USAID Contract/Agreement Officer Representative (COR/AOR) training courses. Health state-of-the-art workshop attendance, as well as other trainings to update technical competence, as required.

Language Proficiency: Strong written and oral communication skills in English (Level IV – Fluent) required.

Job Knowledge: Must have thorough knowledge of the concepts, principles, and approaches to primary health care/ RMNCH service delivery in developing countries. Must have thorough knowledge of health programs. Should have thorough knowledge of Liberia's economic, social, political, and cultural characteristics. Should have or be able to acquire a thorough knowledge of USG legislation related to development assistance, USAID programming policies, regulations, procedures, and documentation.

Skills and Abilities: The ability to plan, organize, manage, and evaluate important and complex projects is required. Ability to obtain, analyze and evaluate a variety of financial and technical data and to organize and present it in meaningful terms to others is also required. Ability to draft factual and interpretive reports covering complex subject matter is required. Demonstrated ability to exercise good social and professional judgment and excellent interpersonal skills in a cross-cultural setting is required. Demonstrated ability to establish and maintain an extensive range of contacts with high level host government officials and with influential persons in the private sector is required. Demonstrated ability to maintain collaborative working relationships within a team structure is required. Proficiency in word processing is required. The ability to use related computer packages (i.e. Internet, PowerPoint, Excel, etc.) is required.

I. POSITION ELEMENTS

- Supervision Received:** The Senior County Health Services Advisor works under the supervision of the Service Delivery Team Lead, who provides overall objectives, suggests approaches to consider, and reviews completed reports and assignments. Most assignments occur in the normal course of the work, but the Senior County Health Services Advisor is required to determine those that must be coordinated with superiors. The supervisor provides a review of the assignment, the goals, and objectives to be achieved, and the expected results. The Senior County Health Services Advisor will seek advice and assistance as required.
- Supervision Exercised:** The Senior County Health Services Advisor does not have any supervisory duties.
- Available Guidelines:** Available administrative guidelines establish a broad pattern of operations that require a frequent need to exercise judgment and interpretation and provides an opportunity for initiative and innovation. Relevant guidelines include the USAID Automated Directives System (ADS), PEPFAR and PMI guidelines, Country Operational Plans, Health Implementation Plan, Country Development Cooperation Strategy, National Health Strategic Plan, Mission Orders, and other directives. Guidelines are often general in nature and not specific to the situation at hand, requiring considerable interpretation.
- Exercise of Judgment:** Independent judgment is required for developing, implementing, and managing programs/projects/activities, many of which are emergent institutions in areas of political and social sensitivity, and for reporting, and for other assignments. Judgment is required to make decisions, based on careful analysis of facts and variables, possible alternatives, and potential political and development implications and impact. The County Health Services Advisor must exercise good judgment and completes work independently. S/he monitors implementation of activities and maintains accountability for results achieved.
- Authority to Make Commitments:** The County Health Services Advisor exercises the authority given to program/project/activity managers and GATRs/CORs/AORs, and may make administrative arrangements consistent with ADS guidance and Mission policy. The County Health Services Advisor takes action and establishes priorities based on available guidelines and professional judgment. Within the scope of the authority delegated, the County Health Services Advisor may indicate to ranking counterpart and implementing partner officials that s/he will make a recommendation to USAID on a specific activity issue or problem. The County Health Services Advisor has no independent authority to expend USG funds.
- Nature, Level, and Purpose of Contacts:** The County Health Services Advisor has a full range of contacts within the U.S. Mission, at all levels, and maintains contact with contractors and grantees implementing USAID-funded programs/projects/activities in the sector. Within the Embassy, contacts are with counterpart staff and with senior staff as needed. Host-government, local, and other contacts vary widely with the type of activity being implemented, and may be at any level – including Ministerial, Deputy Minister, Permanent Secretary, Director etc. Frequent and substantive personal contacts with senior-level counterparts from external donors and partners engaged in the health sector in Liberia are for the purpose of explaining and defending USAID/USG policies, objectives, and procedures, and to transmit and interpret GOL attitudes and concerns, and the attitudes and concerns of individual Liberians to senior USAID officials.
- Time Expected to Reach Full Performance Level:** One year

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

Applicants selected for interview will also be evaluated on their interview, as well as reference checks. Following is the evaluation criteria for this position:

- Education background (10 points)
- Experience and Qualifications Related to Program Design & Administration (30 points)
- Experience and Qualifications Related to Strategic and Technical Leadership (35 points)
- Oral and Written Communication (25 points)

SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants meeting the required qualifications for the position will be evaluated based on information presented in the application. After initial screening of applications, only short-listed applicants will be contacted and invited for an interview, as well as a written exercise.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications shall be submitted no later than the closing date specified, and should include the following:

- A clearly typed application cover letter that briefly summarizes why you believe you are qualified for this position.
- Resume or CV.
- The names and contact details of three references that can attest to your work experience.
- Documentation (e.g. copies of certificates, coursework, on the job training or degrees) that address the minimum requirements of the position.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Mission provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

CPP accuses NEC

By Othello B. Garblah

Ahead of the much publicized mid-term Senatorial Elections scheduled for December 8, 2020, the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP), has begun raising a red-flag, accusing the National Elections Commission (NEC) of taking unilateral decisions in coordination with the ruling party without the input from other political parties.

Under the Inter-Party Consultative Committee (IPCC), any decision that will affect the conduct of free and fair elections here should reference all political parties through the IPCC, the key stakeholders in the process.

But according to the CPP which comprises the former ruling Unity Party, Liberty

established IPCC mechanism to get other parties input decided to launch the Voters' Registration Update Exercise adapting a Mobile process.

"Our keen interest in the VRU process stems from the fact that the 2017 Voter Registration Exercise that gave rise to the current FINAL REGISTRATION ROLL was associated with grave irregularities as authenticated by the Supreme Court of Liberia. Again, we note that you continue to tread the path of unilateralism, in collusion with the same one party - the CDC-led Administration.

Your latest action of launching the Voters Update Exercise and adopting the method by which the exercise (MOBILE PROCESS) would be carried out without any reference to the other parties who are equal

the irrefutable realities of the national experience of 2014.

In 2014, the Registration process was done by a MOBILE PROCESS for a period of five (5) weeks, in the dry-season month of March, with a problem-free Voters Roll from 2011.

Although that process achieved the objectives of including the names of those who had attained the age of 18 years and above then, and those who transferred residence from one location to another, that MOBILE PROCESS encountered serious problems in 2014, because, in many cases, the teams arrived at locations where the people to register had not arrived, or departed when those to do the registration had already left.

The CPP noted that "it is only foolhardy to believe that what could not be properly achieved under favorable conditions in 2014, over a period of five (5) weeks, can be achieved under less favorable conditions in two (2) weeks. It would interest you to note also that, although the NEC targeted to register one hundred and twenty thousand (120,000) voters in the 2014 VRU, a target the NEC failed to achieve over a period of five months, it is utterly unbelievable that your leadership has planned to magically register three hundred thousand (300,000) voters over a two-week period, as we have gathered from credible sources".

"On account of the above, the CPP wishes to inform you that the only viable option to a VOTERS ROLL UPDATE EXERCISE in Liberia is the STATIONARY APPROACH, which entails opening all the precincts across the Country for the entire period of the Registration Process. We note very vehemently that no Voter Registration or Update Exercise has ever been conducted in Liberia for 15 days, particularly in a rainy season, even with the use of the Stationary Approach.

To insist that the pending Voters Roll Update Exercise be conducted using the MOBILE METHODOLOGY is tantamount to mere symbolism and cosmetic showmanship intended to achieve a rigging of the process." See full communication on pages 10&11.



Sept. 12, 2020: ANC leader Cummings addressing a crowd in Gbarnga, Bong County

Party, Alternative National Congress and the All Liberian Party, NEC has disregarded this mechanism and has been acting unilaterally in coordination with the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC).

The CPP in a communication addressed to NEC Chair Davidetta Browne Lansanah, indicated that the decision to push the mid-term election date from its constitutional mandated date in October 2020 to December 8, 2020 was unilaterally decided by the NEC's board of commissioners in coordination with the CDC.

The parties said as if that was not enough the NEC again in coordination with the CDC, without reference to the

competitors in this sacrosanct democratic undertaking, raises grave and unsettling concerns.

This unilateral action on the part of the NEC, in coordination with the CDC-led Administration, to decide on the use of a previously-failed MOBILE PROCESS, instead of the time-tested standard STATIONARY APPROACH, is totally unacceptable and we demand that we stick with the time-tested method of a STATIONARY PROCESS in the pending VOTERS UPDATE EXERCISE," the CPP noted.

The four opposition parties opined that their concern of a potentially prospective disastrous outcome using the MOBILE PROCESS in this Voters Update Exercise is justified by

Weah declares rape

Starts from back page

announced subsequently including Executive Orders aimed at protecting the vulnerable and banning harmful traditional practices.

Further, he says President Weah urges all Liberians, activists, advocates along with local and international stakeholders to work with the government in defeating the scourge of rape in the country.

The Cabinet meeting on Friday followed a National Conference on SGBV in the wake mass anti - rape protests held in Monrovia and other parts of Liberia in late August to push the Weah administration to take some steps aimed curtailing the increasing rape cases and other sexual - related offences

here. Reports of rape cases continue to rise here of recent with victims even less than a year - old and in some cases, the perpetrators acting very brutally to prey on their victims.

In one case that emerged from Gbarpolu County of recent, a perpetrator is accused of using razor blade to cut the private part of a three - year - old girl so as to pave his way to abuse her sexually.

But these anti - rape protests seem not to have deterred some child abusers, judging from more new alleged rape cases that continue to emerge based on police authorities' report.

K#52

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA)
MONTERRADO COUNTY)



IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, CIVIL LAW
MONTERRADO COUNTY SITTING IN ITS
JUNE TERM, A.D. 2020

BEFORE HIS HONOUR: J. KENNEDY PEABODY RESIDENT CIRCUIT JUDGE

IN RE: MR. ARTHUR SATURDAY GBORPLAY, BY AND
AND THRU HIS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT, WILSON
GBORPLAY OF THE CITY OF MONROVIA,
LIBERIA..... PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

MRS. VENUS M. GBORPLAY, ALSO OF THE
CITY OF MONROVIA, LIBERIA
..... DEFENDANT

ACTION OF DIVORCE FOR INCOMPATIBILITY
OF TEMPER

WRIT OF RE-SUMMONS

REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, TO THE SHERIFF/DEPUTY SHERIFF OF MONSERRADO COUNTY,
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, G R E E T I N G:

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED TO SUMMON THE ABOVE NAMED
RESPONDENT(S)/DEFENDANT(S) AS YOU WERE BEFORE COMMANDED TO SUMMON THE
ABOVE NAMED RESPONDENT(S)/DEFENDANT(S), TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SIXTH JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT COURT, MONTERRADO COUNTY, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, SITTING IN ITS JUNE TERM,
A.D. 2020, SAME BEING THE 15TH DAY OF JUNE, A. D. 2020, AT THE HOUR 10:00A.M.

YOU ARE FURTHER ORDERED TO SUMMONS THE DEFENDANT(S) HEREIN TO FILE THEIR
RETURNS TO THE PETITIONER'S PETITION, ON OR BEFORE THE 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D.
2020, THAT UPON THEIR FAILURE TO APPEAR, JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE RENDERED
AGAINST THEM.

MEANWHILE, YOU WILL RETURN THE ORIGINAL WRIT OF SUMMONS TO MY OFFICE ON/OR
BEFORE THE 5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, A.D. 2020, WITH THE OFFICIAL RETURNS ENDORSED ON
THE BACK OF THE ORIGINAL AS TO THE MANNER OF ITS SERVICE.

COURT'S SEAL

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT
THIS 26TH DAY OF AUGUST, A.D. 2020.


ELLEN HALL KAMARA
CLERK OF COURT

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Daily



MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Fire Chief tours Buchanan

The Director of the Liberia National Fire Service Col. Alex K. Dickson has concluded a two-day assessments visit in the port city of Buchanan, Grand Bassa County as part of efforts to reopen the county's fire

During the assessment tour, the fire chief held discussion with Grand Bassa County Superintendent Janjay Baikpeh on reopening of the fire station there.

Speaking to reporters in the county, Col. Dickson said based

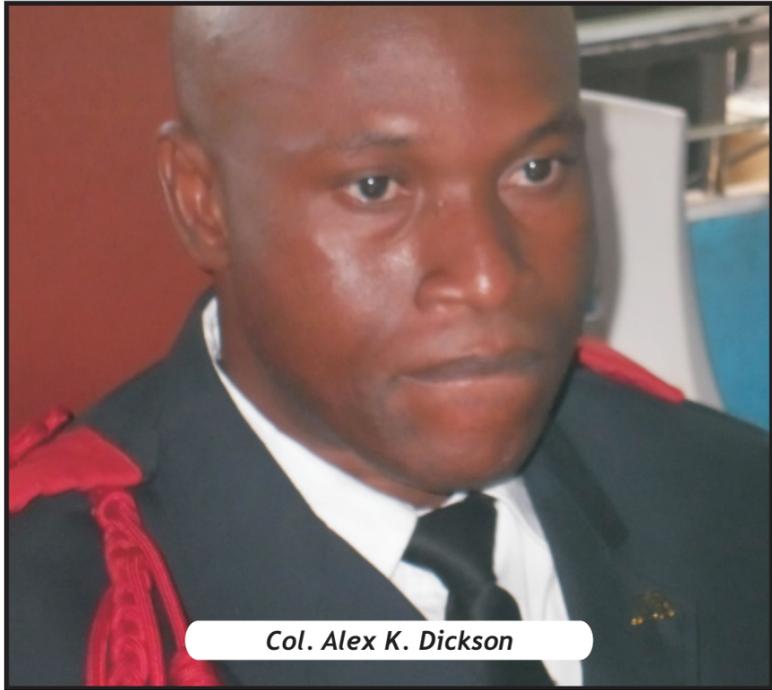
Gbehzohngar M. Findley also played a cardinal role in the reopening of the station.

It described Grand Bassa as the county that has the second most fire incidents next to Montserrado County, stressing a need to reopen the county's fire station and deploy firemen and truck for quick intervention.

Director Dickson also disclosed that hundred volunteers have been trained and are ready for county assignment.

He cautioned the public against improper use of candles, mosquito coils and generators in homes, while asking residents to take preventive measures to avoid fire outbreaks.

Col. Dickson said at no time fire fighters go to a fire scene to look at the fire before preparing to fight it, saying whenever there is a fire incident that has to do with electricity, the LNFS communicate to the Liberia Electricity Corporation to off breakers in a particular zone to reduce the grade of the fire that would enable fire fighters to successful battle the fire. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Col. Alex K. Dickson

station with a fire truck assigned.

a news release issued over the weekend quotes Col. Dickson saying, the fire station in Buchanan has been inactive since 2013 due to the lack of a fire truck.

on mandate form President George Manneh Weah, the LNFS thought it prudent to decentralize operations of the Fire Service in Liberia.

According to the release, former Foreign Minister and senatorial aspirant

CPP endorses

Starts from back page

Bong County and the World that Prince Kermue Moyer is our Candidate' Cummings adds.

He noted that it is not just about certificating him but they will ensure that he is elected in the December 8th elections.

"Hon. Moyer is a strong man, he has Bong County under his control politically and we are very sure that he can help us unseat President George Manneh Weah in 2023" the CPP chair said to a huge applaud.

Also speaking, former Vice President Joseph Boakai extended commendations to the people of Bong County for turning out in very huge number to witness the certification of their son.

"I am very happy to see all of you coming to form part of the program, I want to tell you that after the certification don't go and sleep, you need to show to the rest of the world what you have agreed to do this. Keep supporting Hon. Moyer, pray for him stand with him so that he can be elected," the former VP Boaka said.

For his part, Deputy Speaker Prince Moyer expressed his gratitude for the CPP endorsement and promised not to uphold the confidence repose in him.

According him, the love displayed by his fellow team members will never be

forgotten maintaining that he is certain that the CPP has already reserved space at the Senate.

"I trust my people, when you look into their faces you will see love for me, I didn't think about contesting but they came to me because they want complete representation so there is no way that they will not support me" he adds.

Our Bong County Correspondent says, before the CPP endorsement, Rep. Moyer had received over fifty endorsements across Bong County.

It is cleared that the citizens' decision to endorse the Deputy Speaker comes from the back-drop of his statement in 2018 that he will not seek third term in District #2.

The citizens have said that it might undermine development of Bong if the face of Rep. Moyer is no longer seen in the Bong County leadership.

Meanwhile, former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf has encouraged Bong County citizens to stand with Deputy Speaker Moyer if developments of the County should continue.

Madam Sirleaf in a telephone interview with a local radio station promised to complete the Sirleaf market project if Rep. Moyer becomes Senator.

Old folks benefit 500 bags of rice

The Executive Director of the National Old Folks of Liberia (NOFOL) has benefited more than 500 bags, including gallons of oil and bags of beans distributed by the World Food Programme (WFP) as part Government of Liberia stimulus package for vulnerable groups. The food is expected to be distributed over 400 old folks.

Director Momo Allison Binda indicated that the actual number of items provided include 575 bags of rice, 286 gallons of oil and 57 bags of bean which were received over the weekend by the organization at its headquarters in Barnesville Estate outside Monrovia.

Director Binda made the disclosure recently when the organization commenced distribution of the food items to old folks across various communities in Monrovia and its environs.

He lauded WFP for the support to vulnerable old folks across the country something, he said, would bring dignity to older people.



He noted that when people age in Liberia, most of them are described as witches and wizards in society which undermines their dignity.

Director Binda disclosed the organization has petitioned the 54th Legislature to enact a bill to support old folks here, adding that the bill is sponsored by Representative Richard Koon of Montserrado County electoral District #12.

He said this will ensure that when Liberians serve their country and retire, government should support them until their last day on earth.

According to him, the United States of America is blessed because it has national programs that cater to vulnerable groups in its population.

He said it is time Liberia

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considers having national programs to support vulnerable populations, noting that most Liberians after retirement become vulnerable in society.

Director Binda emphasized that the passage of such bill will go a long way to enhancing dignities of old people, citing the disgraceful death of former Justice Minister Jerkins Z. B. Scott in garbage site in Monrovia.

He said the organization is appealing to the international community to build the capacity of the NOFOL through

technical skills to be able to adequately address old folks care and treatment in the country.

He said NOFOL has been engaged in farming activities over the years to assist its members with food, but due to financial constraint the farm activities have been halted.

Director Binda disclosed that an estimated 50,000 vulnerable old folks across Liberia need urgent food assistance especially, as the country battles the COVID-19 pandemic. *-Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Français

Pourquoi le sénateur Wesseh a perdu l'élection de la présidence de l'UP

Le sénateur du comté de River Gee, Conmany B. Wesseh, ne digère toujours pas sa défaite brutale de mardi soir 8 septembre 2020 lors de l'élection pour la présidence du parti de l'unité (UP, ancien parti au pouvoir). Il a même disparu du siège du parti situé à Congo Town, dans la banlieue de Monrovia, bien avant l'annonce officielle des résultats du scrutin.

Fidèle parmi les fidèles de l'ancienne présidente Sirleaf, et progressiste des années 70, le sénateur Wesseh a été battu lors de l'élection par l'homme d'affaires reconverti à la politique, Amin Modad. Avec un score sans appel de 34 voix contre 8, M. Wesseh a été littéralement humilié.

Le célèbre politicien, activiste, diplomate et commentateur libérien est une figure charismatique dans l'arène politique du Libéria, ce, depuis des décennies. C'est pourquoi sa défaite a un arrière-gout amer pour ses nombreux partisans, sympathisants et admirateurs, dont notamment le Mouvement pour la justice en Afrique

(MOJA), un groupe d'éveil de conscience auquel il est toujours resté fidèle.

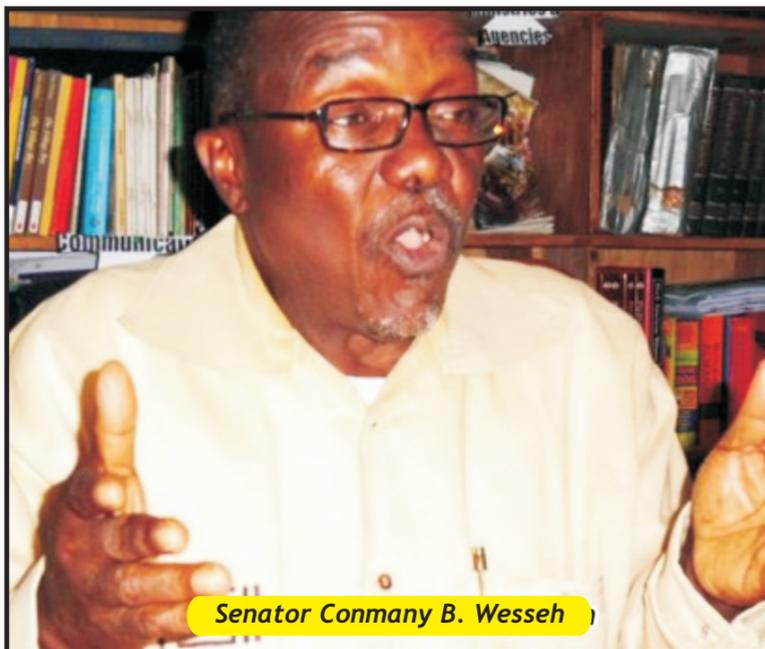
L'ancien parti au pouvoir a renouvelé mardi dernier son bureau politique, quelques jours après les violents affrontements qui ont entaché ses primaires dans le comté de Nimba. Le parti de l'Unité est membre de la Collaboration des partis politiques (PPC), une coalition politique qui regroupe les quatre principaux politiques

de l'opposition.

Le NewDawn a recueilli des réactions des partisans à la suite de la défaite inattendue du politicien vétéran, et la plupart d'entre eux lui reprocheraient sa loyauté totale envers l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Plusieurs militants, lors de l'élection, ont ouvertement

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Senator Conmany B. Wesseh

Le président Weah appelle à durcir la loi face à une « alarmante recrudescence » de viols

Depuis des semaines, les Libériennes se mobilisent pour dénoncer une situation critique, l'impunité et le peu d'engagement de l'Etat.

Le président George Weah a appelé à durcir les lois du Libéria face à ce qu'il a décrit comme une « alarmante recrudescence » des cas de viols dans son pays, lors de la première

conférence nationale sur la question, mardi 8 et mercredi 9 septembre. La conférence de deux jours, ouverte mardi par le chef de l'Etat libérien, s'est poursuivie mercredi en présence de son prédécesseur, Mme Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, de représentants d'organisations féminines, de l'ONU et de chefs traditionnels.

« L'amélioration et le durcissement des lois en

vigueur et des politiques de prévention et de lutte contre les violences sexuelles réduiront la fréquence des viols » et d'autres maux liés au genre, a déclaré M. Weah à l'ouverture de la conférence mardi. Il a appelé les participants à « chercher les meilleures pratiques » pour « mettre fin aux viols et autres formes de violences sexuelles et liées au genre » au Libéria qui subit « une épidémie de viols à côté de la pandémie de coronavirus ». Depuis quelques semaines, les Libériennes se mobilisent dans la rue contre le viol et protestent contre l'inaction reprochée au gouvernement et au président.

Absence de sanctions

« Nous avons enregistré plus de 600 cas de viol entre juin et août », avait avancé fin août Margaret Taylor, directrice de l'ONG Women Empowerment Network œuvrant pour les droits et l'émancipation des femmes. En mai, c'était entre 80 et 100 cas, a-t-elle

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Guinée : « candidat du peuple », le mot est lâché pour les lâches

Tout contre-pouvoir, encadré par le pouvoir lui-même cesse d'être contre-pouvoir pour devenir allié objectif du pouvoir. » AS

Adversaires et Partenaires, c'est ami-ami pour des intérêts Privatifs liés contre ceux du Peuple des dupes qui se rangent dans l'appellation fourre-tout de PEUPLE. Au Nom du Peuple, lequel Peuple ? « LE PEUPLE, C'EST CEUX SUR LESQUELS S'EXERCENT LE POUVOIR ET QUI N'ONT JAMAIS LA POSSIBILITÉ D'EXERCER DU POUVOIR. » Michel Onfray

Des Gens capables de se détester, de s'étriper pour ceux qui les méprisent, se tuer pour ceux qui n'ont que dédain pour eux. Capables d'idolâtrer leurs Bourreaux parce qu'endoctrinés et enrégimentés sans aucun libre arbitre sur les réalités.

Période Électorale, Unique instant pour les Candidats de se rappeler des personnes du Peuple et laps de temps de Gloriole pour El Pueblo (Le Peuple) pour les Sacs de Riz et Oripeaux (Tee-Shirt Yiwou - Pagnes). Après, c'est le mépris de Classes pour les petits composants du Petit Peuple, ceux que certains supposés intellectuels délités (Pourris) nomment en Guinée « Le Bas Peuple » dans le bas fond de la Société la plus inégalitaire. « Le Bas Peuple » des abattables comme agneaux sacrificiels pour les Gens Nichés plus Haut, dans les sphères des Pouvoirs du très « Haut Peuple » de la Caste des Crapules de la République.

Incapables d'exiger des comptes sur les mécomptes de la République - Les crimes politiques, les détournements de deniers publics et toutes les autres avanies dans le Pays. « Bas Peuple », injure contre les Guinéens qui se saignent comme l'hévéa de Sérédou pour permettre aux Crapules de vivre dans la Luxure aux Frais de l'État-Providence et Procureur de Tout pour Eux et rien pour leurs Victimes ostracisées et étiquetées « Bas Peuple ».

Lectrice, lecteur Guinéens, vous qui vous réclamez du Peuple, quels pouvoirs exercez-vous réellement en Guinée ?

Que Dirigez-vous en Guinée ? Même pas vos prières, qui sont dirigées par certains « Religieux » qui vous récitent lors des Sermons (Prêches) leurs Bréviaires de Démagogues au profit de votre faux Dieu du moment [C'est

Dieu qui veut ça, c'est faux - Dieu électeur, ça n'existe pas].

Vous qui êtes dirigés comme des Girouettes dans vos Pirouettes habituelles, manipulés par la Caste des Crapules Intouchables du Pays, ces Personnes qui sont Responsables de tous les Maux de Guinée et qui ne sont coupables de Rien en Guinée - Avec vos complicités, vous êtes les premiers à vous aligner derrière les auteurs de vos misères à chaque période électorale pour leur remettre les Règnes - laissez du Pouvoir. Pour accorder le Permès et droit de tuer vos Enfants. Vos votes sont Cartes Blanches pour Noirs Dessesins et Criminels patentés.

Tous Obsédés par les élections voulues par les prétendants Obnubilés par les élections pour la domination de leurs futures victimes approbatrices.

Dans le texte avec les orthographes* Contre-pouvoir et Contrepouvoir, CQFD - Ce Qu'il Fallait Dire - Ce Qu'il Fallait Démontrer.

L'épithète Peuple* PQS / Pour Que ça se Sache !

Sa définition est conforme à la situation actuelle de la Guinée, il n'exerce aucun Pouvoir, ce Peuple - Contrairement aux autres Peuples, ailleurs dans le Monde - Comme le Peuple Malien qui a le pouvoir de virer et reprendre son Mandant des mains d'un autocrate timbré (fou)

Dans le cas Guinéen, le vocable PEUPLE, c'est l'élixir buvable de la POPULACE qui ne se lasse jamais d'être derrière ses Bourreaux. Populace suiveuse éternelle des auteurs des maux de Guinée, pour permettre à ceux-ci de recommencer, de refaire les mêmes maux. Peuple composé » Des Gens qui se souviennent de rien », même pas des jeunes tués (Plus de 200), même pas les Femmes violées au Stade du 28 Septembre, même pas du type accusé d'avoir acheté une Maison aux Usa avec l'argent Public Guinéen, même pas des 700 Millions de Rio Tinto, même pas les Pas des Crapules, même pas du » Même pas » et de maintenant (aujourd'hui avec les misères actuelles).

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Français

Pourquoi le sénateur Wesseh

dit qu'avec le départ de l'administration Sirleaf en 2018, la chance pour M. Wesseh de diriger le parti est passée. Selon eux, l'UP, sous la direction de son leader politique actuel, Joseph Nyumah Boakai, préfère travailler avec de nouveaux visages pour tracer sa propre voie.

Ils estiment que placer le sénateur Wesseh en particulier à la tête du bureau politique du parti reviendrait à demander à l'ancienne porte-étendard Ellen Johnson Sirleaf de tirer les ficelles et de maintenir son ombre sur le parti. Selon eux, le leader politique Boakai a particulièrement combattu pour l'écartement des gens de la vieille école et misé sur le rajeunissement total du bureau politique afin d'avoir un certain contrôle sur le parti.

Son objectif était d'avoir à ses côtés des jeunes gens dynamiques, peins d'énergie et capables de travailler sans accro avec les autres partis membres de la Collaboration politique pour faire face à la Coalition pour le changement démocratique (coalition au pouvoir) lors des prochaines élections.

Le président élu Amin Modad, qui est énormément riche, est maintenant le bras droit de Boakai. En tout cas les partisans de l'UP sont fermement convaincus que sous sa présidence, le parti réussira à sortir de sa situation financière qui est actuellement délicate.

Modad remplace le président controversé Wilmot Paye, dont le recours devant la Cour suprême pour licenciement 'illégal' est toujours en stand-by.

Le président Weah appelle

expliqué à l'occasion d'un rassemblement marquant à Monrovia et dans d'autres villes du pays le début de trois jours de mobilisation.

La fréquence des viols dans ce pays pauvre d'Afrique de l'Ouest, éprouvé par les guerres et le virus Ebola au cours de son histoire récente, est une préoccupation ancienne. Un rapport de 2016 des Nations unies faisait état de 803 affaires de viol l'année

précédente dans ce pays de 4,5 millions d'habitants, et dénonçait l'absence de sanctions contre les auteurs, des hommes adultes connus de leurs victimes dans la grande majorité. Les Nations unies attribuaient ce chiffre en partie à « l'héritage d'impunité laissé par quatorze années de guerre civile » de 1989 à 2003, qui ont fait 250 000 morts et au cours de laquelle le viol a servi d'arme de guerre.

Guinée : « candidat du peuple »,

Lectrice ou lecteur Clandestinos - lecteurs clandestins - Vous lisez cachés, vous exercez quels pouvoirs en Guinée ? Vous qui n'avez même pas de pouvoir dans vos cuisines, vous les obligés de jouer aux Amuseurs publics pour avoir vos pitances de Pigeons (Khöni en langue Guinéenne). Même pas de pouvoir sur vos Danseuses (Débô, Mosso, Guinée, femmes) obligées de passer leurs temps à Danser pour les autres au lieu d'exiger Justice Pour leurs Enfants tués - Les enfants des Voisins, enfants Guinéens. Vous incultes primaires imbibés de jalousies, défenseurs des indéfendables (Changement de Constitution et 3ie mandat), vous exercez quels pouvoirs en Guinée ?

Vous ignorants parfaits, gorgés de haines, vous qui voulez voir la Guinée s'engluer d'avantage dans les Misères et la Division, vous exercez quels pouvoirs en Guinée ?

Vous qui êtes prêts à jouer aux agneaux sacrificiels pour les Crapules et pour le Malheur Guinéen, vous exercez quels pouvoirs en Guinée ?

Vous, Danseuses méprisées (Alfa N'bamba n'fari / porter Alpha à califourchon) vous exercez quels pouvoirs en Guinée en étant dans vos bicoques lépreuses de Conakry ?

Vous dans toutes les ignominies contre les autres pour d'autres, vous exercez quel pouvoir en étant relégués dans les seconds Rôles de Laquais et Valets de la République ?

Vous qui parlez au Nom des autres sans être désignés, ni élus par ceux-ci, vous exercez quels pouvoirs en Guinée ?

En 10 ans, qu'est-ce qui a changé dans vos vies en Guinée. Eau, électricité, saleté, service de voiries, logements, hospices ? Alphaphiles, Alphadolâtres, Citoyens de la République du « Bas Peuple » - Ceux qui vivent des fausses promesses et dansent sur les Corps des Guinéens.

COMMENTAIRE

By Barry Eichengreen

Octobre, le moment le plus périlleux de la pandémie

BERKELEY - Pour les USA, avril a été le mois le plus dramatique et, selon certains, le plus dangereux de la crise du COVID-19. Les morts s'accumulaient, les cadavres s'empilaient dans des camions réfrigérés stationnant devant les hôpitaux de New-York. La région était confrontée à une pénurie dramatique de respirateurs et d'équipements de protection individuelle. L'économie s'écroulait, tandis que le taux de chômage atteignait 14,7%.

Depuis lors, l'approvisionnement en matériel médical et en équipement de protection s'est amélioré. Les médecins savent mieux à quel moment mettre un patient sous respirateur et à quel moment le retirer. L'importance de protéger les populations vulnérables, notamment les personnes âgées, est reconnue. La moyenne d'âge des patients a baissé, ce qui réduit encore le nombre de décès. Soutenue par la loi CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security), l'activité économique reprend, bien qu'à un niveau inférieur à celui d'avant-crise.

C'est du moins ce que l'on nous dit. Car c'est peut-être maintenant que les USA approchent de la phase la plus dangereuse de la crise. Le taux de mortalité des personnes infectées diminue grâce à l'amélioration des traitements et à la diminution de l'âge des patients, mais on compte encore quelques 1000 décès par jour. Cela correspond au niveau de début avril, ce qui est inquiétant pour l'avenir.

La mortalité est une conséquence majeure de la pandémie, mais ce n'est pas la seule. Beaucoup de rescapés du Covid-19 souffrent de problèmes cardiovasculaires et d'une détérioration de leurs fonctions mentales. Si 40 000 nouveaux cas quotidiens constituent la nouvelle normalité, les conséquences en terme de morbidité, de santé publique et de niveau de vie seront gravissimes.

Que cela plaise ou non, il semble que nombre d'Américains, en tout cas leurs dirigeants, sont prêts à accepter 40 000 nouveaux cas et 1 000 décès quotidiens. Ils se sont habitués à ce bilan ! Le confinement leur déplaît et ils ont politisé le port du masque.

Nous approchons de ce qui pourrait être une phase encore plus périlleuse que la précédente pour l'économie. En mars et avril, les responsables politiques ont mis tout en œuvre pour éviter une catastrophe économique. Mais si l'économie se dégrade à nouveau, le soutien politique sera moins important. La Réserve fédérale peut décider d'un nouveau programme d'achat d'actifs, mais elle a déjà abaissé les taux d'intérêt à zéro et mis en réserve une grande partie des actifs concernés ; c'est pourquoi les responsables de la Réserve fédérale ont fait pression sur le Congrès et la Maison Blanche pour qu'ils agissent.

Malheureusement, le Congrès ne va sans doute pas rééditer l'accord bipartisan qui a permis l'adoption de la loi CARE fin mars. A terme, il va être mis fin à l'indemnité chômage

supplémentaire de 600 dollars par semaine. Le discours agressif du président Trump et d'autres dirigeants républicains quant aux villes dirigées par des démocrates laisse à penser qu'elles ne doivent pas compter sur une aide fédérale.

Au cas où l'économie se retrouve à nouveau fragilisée (que ce soit en raison d'une mauvaise politique budgétaire, de l'arrivée de la grippe ou d'une deuxième vague de la pandémie), l'aide dont elle pourrait bénéficier sera bien moindre qu'au printemps dernier.

Le vaccin est bien entendu la solution miracle que tout le monde attend. Mais il constitue un énorme danger.

Il est très probable qu'un vaccin sera mis en circulation fin octobre, à la demande de Trump - que les essais cliniques de phase 3 confirment ou non son innocuité et son efficacité. Rappelons-nous du vaccin contre la grippe porcine sous la présidence de Gerald Ford, lancé à la hâte en raison de l'approche d'une élection présidentielle. Il a provoqué des cas de syndrome de Guillain-Barré et de multiples décès. Cet épisode, ainsi qu'un faux document scientifique établissant un lien entre vaccination et autisme, ont fortement contribué au développement du mouvement antivaccinal moderne.

Le danger ne réside donc pas seulement dans les effets secondaires d'un mauvais vaccin : la diffusion d'un tel vaccin pourrait susciter par la suite une opposition à grande échelle à un vaccin qui aurait franchi la troisième étape des essais cliniques et qui aurait le soutien de la communauté scientifique. C'est d'autant plus inquiétant que le scepticisme à l'égard de la vaccination tend à augmenter après une pandémie que les responsables de la santé publique (supposés compétents en la matière) n'ont pas réussi à éviter.

Des études montrent que vivre une pandémie ébranle la confiance dans l'innocuité de la vaccination et dissuade toute une frange de la population de faire vacciner ses enfants. C'est notamment le cas des personnes en âge d'être facilement influencées (entre 18 et 25 ans), car c'est à ce moment là que se forment durablement les opinions à l'égard de la politique publique, plus particulièrement en matière de santé. Observé à divers moments et en divers lieux, ce scepticisme accru à l'égard de la vaccination persiste pendant le reste de la vie de l'individu.

Par leurs déclarations inconsidérées et mêmes inexactes, Trump et son équipe risquent d'aggraver ce problème. Si l'on ne rassure pas la population quant à l'indépendance du processus scientifique et à sa fiabilité, la seule voie restante sera l'immunité collective. Or, du fait des nombreuses comorbidités connues et suspectées liées au COVID-19, ce n'est pas une solution.

Tout cela montre que la phase la plus dangereuse de la crise aux USA commencera très probablement le mois prochain. Or le mois d'octobre est aussi le moment du début de la grippe saisonnière.



COLLABORATING POLITICAL PARTIES (CPP)

CPP Raises Fundamental Issues on Elections and VRU Final

September 10, 2020

Hon. Davidetta Browne Lansanah

CHAIRMAN

National Elections Commission

9th Street, Sinkor

Monrovia, Liberia

Hon. Chairperson:

I have the honor to extend to you our compliments, and on behalf of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP), write to inform you of our determination to work with the National Elections Commission (NEC) to ensure free, fair and credible democratic elections in Liberia consistent with the rule of Law. In this regard, we wish to reiterate that the peace and stability of our country depend on the ability of the NEC to conduct credible and transparent elections.

While the CPP believes that your stewardship at the NEC would be characterized by integrity, credibility and unwavering patriotism exclusively to Mama Liberia, we were gravely concerned that the NEC, in May 2020, requested the Government of Liberia, led by the CDC, to postpone the pending Special Senatorial Election scheduled as per the Constitution of Liberia for October 2020, without any input whatsoever from, nor reference to other political parties via the established mechanism of the Inter-Party Consultative Committee (IPCC), the key stakeholders/players in the process.

We are amazed because the NEW MANAGEMENT TEAM at the National Elections Commission arrived at such a monumental decision with no reference to the Collaborating Political Parties or other political parties, except the CDC that ultimately made the decision unilateral. For the record, as a major stakeholder in the Liberian political process, we are profoundly disturbed and do hereby register in the strongest terms, our outrage and utter repugnance to the negative manner in which your new administration has embarked on a very delicate national journey.

While the CPP will not cry now over spilled milk, on the unilateral act of collusion between the NEC and the CDC-led Administration, on effecting the postponement of the Special Senatorial Elections, we shall henceforth seize the moment, day-by-day, to remain robustly and proactively engaged with the sequence and substance of events and processes, moving forward to the Elections Day in December 2020.

In light of the above, the CPP wishes to raise the following fundamental concerns and to request detailed information on, 1. detailed information on the feasibility, integrity and credibility of the pending Voters Roll Update (VRU); 2. the mode of operations and status of the voters roll clean-up exercise; 3. progress towards preparation for the conduct of the December 8 Senatorial Elections and Referendum; and 4. status of your monthly reporting to the National Legislature on the progress of the elections.

1. Integrity and Credibility of the Voters Roll Update Process

The CPP considers the Voters Roll Update exercise crucially indispensable and cardinal to the conduct of the 2020 Senatorial Elections, because the exercise will streamline the total Voter Registry of Liberia which stands at two million one hundred eighty-three thousand six hundred twenty-nine (2,183,629) eligible voters. Our keen interest in the VRU process stems from the fact that the 2017 Voter Registration Exercise that gave rise to the current FINAL REGISTRATION ROLL was associated with grave irregularities as authenticated by the Supreme Court of Liberia.

Again, we note that you continue to tread the path of unilateralism, in collusion with the same one party - the CDC-led Administration. Your latest action of launching the Voters Update Exercise and adopting the method by which the exercise (MOBILE PROCESS) would be carried out without any reference to the other parties who are equal competitors in this sacrosanct democratic undertaking, raises grave and unsettling concerns.

This unilateral action on the part of the NEC, in coordination with the CDC-led Administration, to decide on the use of a previously-failed MOBILE PROCESS, instead of the time-tested standard STATIONARY APPROACH, is totally unacceptable and we demand that we stick with the time-tested method of a STATIONARY PROCESS in the pending VOTERS UPDATE EXERCISE.

Our concern of a potentially prospective disastrous outcome using the MOBILE PROCESS in this Voters Update Exercise is justified by the irrefutable realities of the national experience of 2014. In 2014, the Registration process was done by a MOBILE PROCESS for a period of five (5) weeks, in the dry-season month of March, with a problem-free Voters Roll from 2011. Although that process achieved the objectives of including the names of those who had attained the age of 18 years and above then, and those who transferred residence from one location to another, that MOBILE PROCESS encountered serious problems in 2014, because, in many cases, the teams arrived at locations where the people to register had not arrived, or departed when those to do the registration had already left. It is only foolhardy to believe that what could not be properly achieved under favorable conditions in 2014, over a period of five (5) weeks, can be achieved under less favorable conditions in two (2) weeks.

It would interest you to note also that, although the NEC targeted to register one hundred and twenty thousand (120,000) voters in the 2014 VRU, a target the NEC failed to achieve over a period of five months, it is utterly unbelievable that your leadership has planned to magically register three hundred thousand (300,000) voters over a two-week period, as we have gathered from credible sources.

On account of the above, the CPP wishes to inform you that the only viable option to a VOTERS ROLL UPDATE EXERCISE in Liberia is the STATIONARY APPROACH, which entails opening all the precincts across the Country for the entire period of the Registration Process. We note very vehemently that no Voter Registration or Update Exercise has ever been conducted in Liberia for 15 days, particularly in a rainy season, even with the use of the Stationary Approach. To insist that the pending Voters Roll Update Exercise be conducted using the MOBILE METHODOLOGY is tantamount to mere symbolism and cosmetic showmanship intended to achieve a rigging of the process.

According to you, the current VRU exercise will, 1. verify the eligibility and subsequent inclusion on the Voter Roll of thousands of individuals in possession of Voter Registration cards whose names are not on the Voter Roll, also known as the Final Registration Roll (FRR); 2. Correct errors associated with data of Registrants on the FRR. Such errors include photos that are not recognizable, misspelled names, and placing names in rightful centers where registration was done; 3. Include the names of Liberians who have turned 18 years and above, along with the names of Liberians who were 18 years and above in 2017 but did not participate in the 2017 Voter Registration Exercise; and 4. transfer of the names of individuals who are currently residing in locations different from where they registered in 2017.

As you are aware, the current FRR is critically flawed due to the fact that thousands of Voter Registration Cards are in the possession of individuals whose names are not on the Roll. Moreover, there is more than one version of the FRR in existence, as evidenced by the discovery at the NEC during the 2019 Montserrado County Senatorial and District 15 By-Elections. However, since the 2017 Voter Registration Exercise, many Liberians have attained the age of 18 years and above. As such, they must be included on the FRR during the VOTERS ROLL UPDATE process, in order to exercise their franchise during the pending Senatorial Election. The need to address all these issues in a timely manner prior to the conduct of the Senatorial Election in December 2020 has made the VOTERS ROLL UPDATE EXERCISE A NATIONAL IMPERATIVE of utmost urgency. We maintain that the current NEC and no NEC in the world can achieve all of the above in two weeks and through a MOBILE exercise during the raining season.

We are equally concerned about the following:

According to circulars from you, the NEC will carry out a Voters Roll Update (VRU) from September 11 - 25, 2020. During this process, "about 500 or more Voter Roll Update Teams will move across the country, at three-day intervals, from Voter Registration center to Voter Registration Center, covering more than 2080 Centers". "Each Team will comprise a Registrar, Clerk, Shader, and Photographer. Each Team will cover a maximum of four Centers."

Although the CPP recognizes and demands the right of every Liberian citizen of voting age to register and vote, without discrimination, the CPP however believes and suspects that your proposed methods opens a floodgate for double and triple registration, voters' cards padding and accumulation by powerful and wealthy candidates, for distribution to illegally imported voters. These loopholes will ultimately result to double registration, and registration by people who may not even be Liberians.

As you know, Section 3.1 of the New Elections Law of Liberia requires any VRU process to register an eligible Liberian citizen upon a proof of:

- Production of a valid Liberian passport;
- Production of a birth certificate and, where applicable, evidence of renunciation of a second nationality, proving that the applicant is a Liberian citizen;
- Production of an original or certified copy of a certificate of naturalization;
- Sworn statements by two other registered voters, who shall appear in person before the appropriate elections officer, confirming that the applicant is a Liberian Citizen.
- Confirmation by a Liberian traditional leader, who shall appear in person before the appropriate elections officer, that the applicant is a Liberian citizen.

The CPP believes first, that the potentially massive scale and expected huge turn-out of the pending VRU process will be fraudulently abused, where some individuals with Liberian passports, birth certificates, nationalization certificate or National IDs will double register. Second, the process of sworn statements by two other registered voters, and confirmation by a Liberian traditional leader, will be fraudulently abused and some individuals will criminally facilitate multiple registrations.

The CPP therefore requests detailed information from the NEC on the criteria that will be used to prevent multiple registration.

2. Voters Roll Clean-up exercise

As you are aware, it has been acknowledged publicly that the 2017 Final Registration Roll (FRR), also known as Voters Roll (VR), is plagued with several irregularities. On account of irregularities, the Supreme Court of Liberia in 2017, in the case National Elections Commission of Liberia versus. Charles Walker Brumskine et al, mandated the National Elections Commission to "conduct a full clean-up of the FRR to ensure that multiple names of identification numbers are removed therefrom" ... in consultation with and information to political parties..."

Consequently, the 54th National Legislature in a Joint Resolution on June 5, 2020 further mandated that "a clean-up process of the 2017 FRR shall be conducted by the NEC with the involvement of political parties...". The Resolution also mandated the NEC to employ the "services

CPP Raises

Cont'd from page 10

of technicians from Political Parties for the cleaning up of the 2017 FRR..."

As a result, a team of technicians was seconded to the NEC by the CPP to participate and be involved in a full clean-up process of the 2017 FRR. The technicians have informed CPP that the NEC has provided contradictory accounts about the status of the clean-up exercise, and that the technicians have not been allowed to participate in any clean-up process of the FRR. For example, the technicians reported that the NEC, during one meeting four weeks ago, took them on a facility tour of the NEC Data Center, and told the technicians that the clean-up exercise of the FRR will be conducted exclusively by NEC; and that any technician discovering discrepancy through individual scrutiny of the FRR should report it to the NEC. The CPP believes this mode of operation attributed to the NEC is contrary to the mandates of the Supreme Court and the National Legislature, which require that a full clean-up must be conducted with the participation and involvement of political parties.

Furthermore, the technicians reported to the CPP that in another meeting about two weeks ago, the NEC informed them that the NEC conducted a "full-clean-up" of the 2017 FRR before the June 5, 2020 Joint Resolution of the National Legislature.

The CPP requests the NEC to confirm or deny: 1. Whether or not, a full clean-up of the 2017 has been conducted as mandated by the Supreme Court and the National Legislature; 2. whether or not, the NEC, in the first instance, informed CPP technicians that the clean-up exercise would be conducted exclusively by NEC, and requested the CPP technicians to conduct individual review of the FRR, and report any discrepancy; 3. whether or not the NEC, in the second instance, informed CPP technicians that the full clean-up of the FRR was conducted by the NEC prior to the Joint Resolution.

In the event you respond that a full clean-up of the FRR has already been conducted, the CPP requests detailed information on the dates said exercise was conducted, who conducted it, and whether or not political parties participated?

In the event you respond that a full clean-up of the FRR has not been conducted, the CPP still

requests information on when you intend to conduct a full-lean-up; and further requests additional information on how you intend to carry out the exercise, and advise us on how the CPP, through its technicians, can participate in an open, clear and transparent clean-up exercise of the FRR. The CPP requests full and unhindered participation and involvement in the full clean-up of the roll as mandated by the Supreme Court and the Legislature.

3. Preparation for the conduct of Elections

On May 7, 2020 (five months to the holding of the October 13th 2020 Senatorial Elections), the NEC wrote and informed the President of Liberia that due to inadequate preparations for the elections and referendum, it was not possible to conduct the Senatorial Elections and Referendum on October 13, 2020, and therefore requested postponement of the elections to a new date. Based on your letter, the President requested, and postponement was granted by the National Legislature, to move the Senatorial Elections date to December 8, 2020. The basic point of your request for postponement was that 5 months 7 days was inadequate time to carry out any meaningful preparations for conduct of elections.

The CPP observes however, that although we are left with barely 3 months to the conduct of the December 8, 2020 election, no meaningful preparations have been undertaken by the NEC for the conduct of said elections.

The CPP seeks clarification from the NEC about the following:

1. What preparations, if any, has the NEC made to support the conclusion that credible elections, short of haphazard arrangements, will be conducted?

2. Why the NEC was unable to undertake preparations for elections in five (5) months but now believes that three (3) months will now be adequate to undertake the same preparations?

3. Has the Government provided any funding to the NEC for the conduct of the December 2020 election?

4. How much of the funding required for the December 2020 elections has not yet been provided to the NEC by the Government?

4. Monthly Reporting to the Legislature on Progress Towards Conduct of the Elections.

The Joint Resolution of the Senate herein mentioned, also mandated the NEC to give a written progress report every thirty (30) days to the Legislature so that all problems faced by the NEC will be promptly resolved and that the Senatorial Elections and Referendum will be held on

December 8, 2020.

The CPP seeks answers from the NEC about the following:

1. Has the NEC submitted any or all required reports to the Legislature?

2. If the NEC has not submitted any of the required reports to the Legislature, can the NEC provide an explanation as to why the NEC has failed to report to the Legislature as required by the Joint Resolution? The CPP requests copies of your reports to the Legislature for the past three months.

Last, while we await detailed information to our inquiries, we hereby follow up on our letter of September 6, 2020 requesting for the entire copies of the 2017 FRR; and we also hereby request for all Source Documents to the FRR in the possession of the NEC.

5. Discovered Difficulties with ongoing VRU

As we rightly warned against above, we have just received credible reports this morning that the ongoing VRU is being manipulated by NEC field staff. For example, we have been informed that the schedule of movement and registration centers have been changed, and those waiting to be registered based on the official scheduled previously provided to political parties by NEC cannot locate the whereabouts of NEC staff conducting the registration. This has affected the entire Grand Cape Mount County and District 2 in Montserrado County. We demand that NEC openly corrects this manipulation. Additionally, we have been informed that registration will not commence today in Maryland County due to the absence of cameras by NEC mobile teams. Four other rural counties have reported that NEC teams have not arrived up to now. We believe this may these happenings may be taking pace in other counties and districts throughout the county. CPP maintains that the MOBILE REGISTRATION process unilaterally decided by NEC in collusion with the CDC-led government is problematically not credible is a flawed process intended to legitimize rigging of the elections on December 8, 2020.

As a matter of urgency and transparency, it is imperative that regular consultations between the Political Parties and the NEC are sustained without let. Such consultations shall relate to major electoral issues impacting the peace and stability of our Country; emerging issues relative to the capacity and preparedness of NEC to conduct free, fair, transparent and credible elections; emerging issues of political parties' perceptions and observations of the evolving level playing field for all players;

Bishop Seh warns against violence

The Bishop of the Word Sanctified Cathedral of Faith (WSCF) has warned Liberians against using violence to seek redress on national issues.

Bishop J. Maxwell Seh said violence is not the way forward to seeking government's attention on issues confronting the society, but rather dialogue is the way to resolving problems.

Bishop Seh gave the warning recently when he consecrated offices of the Disbanded Soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia in central Monrovia.

ordained for the nation.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Disbanded Soldiers of the Armed of Liberia, Jerry Kollie said his administration will seek dialogue with central government in receiving their just benefit.

Kollie stressed that disbanded soldiers will not do anything to undermine the fragile peace of Liberia, saying government, under President Weah leadership should do everything possible to settle their benefit, which he did not specify.

He argued that they were disbanded un-constitutionally



According to him, violence has not done any good for Liberia and its people, citing the 14-year civil war as a reflection that every Liberian became a victim of violence.

He admonished the disbanded soldiers to dialogue with government for whatever benefit they are claiming, rather than engage in confrontation.

Bishop Seh lamented that Liberians should desist from insulting President George Manneh Weah and the Liberian Presidency and instead, pray for national leadership that God has

after serving the nation during their youthfulness.

According to him, a humanitarian Liberian has provided 200 scholarships for disbanded soldiers to seek further education, disclosing that 100 scholarships will be directed to widows of ex-soldiers.

He pointed out that the balance 100 scholarships, 50 for children of disbanded soldiers and the other 50 for interested ex-soldiers to further their education at university level. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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and the continuing trustworthiness of the referee(s) under the established rules of the game. It is this essential need of building and sustaining a mutually respectable and professional relationship that engendered the IPCC (Inter-Party Consultative Committee) mechanism in the first place and that has, since 2005, greatly assisted in reducing suspicions of mistrust between the NEC and the Political Parties.

The Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) hereby calls for a SPECIAL SESSION of the INTER-PARTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

(IPCC) to deliberate and decide on the methodology to be used, the duration and the date of the VOTERS ROLL UPDATE EXERCISE.

As we look forward to your prompt response in order to facilitate our working collectively together for the timely and credible conduct of the pending SPECIAL SENATORIAL ELECTION IN DECEMBER 2020 to avoid a CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS come January, 2021, we remain patriotically yours,

Yours truly,
Aloysius Toe
Secretary General

Weah declares rape national emergency



By **Winston W. Parley**

President George Manneh Weah has issued a proclamation declaring the scourge rape a national emergency, roughly two weeks after mass anti-rape protests were held in three successive days here, attracting women, men and children from all walks of live, including former

President Ellen Johnson - Sirleaf.

Having faced criticisms for his failure to appear in - person to take delivery of anti - rape protesters' petition throughout the protest days ending 27 August, Mr. Weah however convened a Cabinet after being presented a National Anti - Rape and Sexual and Gender - based Violence (SGBV) Roadmap which evolved from

deliberations of Inter-Ministerial Task Force.

Under the National Rape Emergency, President Weah on Friday, 11 September announced as yet an unnamed Special Prosecutor for rape as well as the setting up of a National Sex Offender Registry.

Mr. Weah also announces the establishment of a National Security Task Force on SGBV and the allotment of an initial amount of US\$2 Million to fund to beef up the fight against rape and SGBV.

Though Mr. Weah did not address journalists after they had been posted for several hours to get an update from the Cabinet meeting, his Deputy Press Secretary Smith Toby however indicated that the president had assured that his administration will spare no effort in ensuring that the epidemic of rape and SGBV is curtailed.

According to Toby, additional measures will be

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CPP endorses Rep. Moye

By: **Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong County**

The Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) has endorsed Liberia's Deputy Speaker Prince Kermue Moye to contest on its ticket in the December 8th Senatorial elections.

The CPP said Rep. Moye is the single best choice to contest on its ticket in such a critical election if they should have an accurate

representation at the Senate.

The endorsement program was attended by former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boikai, CPP Chairman Mr. Alexander Cummings, and several other executives of the CPP.

Presenting the certificate of qualification to contest, CPP Chairman Mr. Alexander Cummings said their decision to select Moye is based on the level of consistency he has shown to the Unity Party over



the past ten years.

He explained that Rep. Moye has been very committed to the Unity Party even though he has the right to leave and join any other party of his choice.

"Hon. Moye is a committed man, besides being committed, he has proven to us that he deserves this certificate. Amongst the bests there is always the best so we have come to tell the People of

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

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