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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA
MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022	L\$152.4755/US\$1.00	L\$154.2028/US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

The New Dawn
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VOL. 12 NO. 131 THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022 PRICE LD\$40.00

Weah to meet Joe Biden

US Pres. Joe Biden Pres. Weah

P11

Images of wounded UL students

Probe order or mere bluff?

As dozens of students nurse wounds from protest

MTN MoMo

MoMo
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Dial *156#

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Continental News

DR Congo protests: Anti-UN anger rages amid war crime warning

contain violence by armed groups.

The UN warns attacks on its mission, on the ground for more than two decades, may constitute a war crime.

Attacks were made on two of its bases, in Goma and in Butembo, where two Indian

Wednesday, protesters again targeted UN bases in the region.

A spokesman said UN Secretary General António Guterres had called on the Congolese authorities to investigate the incidents.

The UN blamed the violence and looting of its property on criminals pretending to be protesters.

It said they had seized weapons from local police and opened fire.

"Mobs are throwing stones and petrol bombs, breaking into bases, looting and vandalising, and setting facilities on fire," said Farhan Haq, deputy spokesperson for Mr Guterres, in a statement.

"The situation is very volatile and reinforcements are being mobilised. Our quick reaction forces are on high alert and have been advised to exercise maximum restraint, using tear gas to disperse protesters and only firing warning shots when UN personnel or property are under attack."

Congolese troops were helping protect UN facilities, Mr Haq added.

Local police have also accused some members of

armed groups of infiltrating the protests to incite hatred of the peacekeepers, whose force is officially known as Monusco.

The DR Congo's army is battling both the M23 armed movement and the Allied Democratic Force (ADF), a group affiliated with so-called Islamic State, and many other militias.

Anger is widespread over the UN's failure to halt violence by armed groups operating in the mineral-rich east.

"They are tear-gassing us because we came to say that

Monusco does not help us," protester Anselme Musimbwa told the Reuters news agency in Goma on Tuesday.

"They've been in Congo for 22 years and nothing works."

Fellow protester Jack Sinzahera said: "We have our own police that will look after our security and property. We don't want anything to do with Monusco."

UN peacekeepers have often been targeted by rebels in DR Congo and have often faced accusations of failing to protect civilians - criticism the UN has always dismissed.

But the latest protests pose a serious complication for the UN's largest and most heavily funded peacekeeping mission. BBC

Police in the eastern part of Democratic Republic of Congo have clashed with demonstrators on a third day of violent anti-UN protests.

At least 17 people including three members of



The UN has denied firing at any protesters

the UN peacekeeping force have been killed, officials say.

Protests erupted in the town of Goma as people accused the UN of failing to

peacekeepers and a third member of the UN force were killed.

More than 50 people have been injured since the clashes began on Monday. On

Malawi President launches anti-corruption campaign to fight graft

BLANTYRE, MALAWI – Malawian President Lazarus Chakwera launched a nationwide anti-corruption campaign Tuesday at the end of a two-day conference on graft. While many Malawians have welcomed the campaign as a step forward, others are skeptical and note that similar efforts in the past have failed.

Chakwera's 20-week anti-corruption campaign calls for Malawians to recite and abide by the campaign's slogan: "Corruption is our biggest enemy and is not welcome here."

"This is an important campaign that we are starting today," Chakwera said. "It is important because every time we say those words, we will make it known to those around us what we think of corruption and what we are personally committed to do about it."

This is the first national anti-corruption campaign during Chakwera's administration, which started in 2020.

During the launch, Chakwera also co-signed statements of commitments from 12 institutions that detailed their plans of action for fighting corruption.

The 12 stakeholders include the judiciary, civil society organizations, the business community, traditional leaders and parliament.

Fiona Kalemba, clerk of Malawi's parliament, said, "The legislature pillar commits to the

president and people of Malawi to take the following interventions: Reviewing the laws, including the Corrupt Practices Act, the Public Procurement and Disposals of Assets Act, the Public Audit Act, the Political Parties Act and [the] Public Finance Act.

"This will be done within the mandate of the legislature and the purposes of the mandate for the legislature," she added.

Also, the business community pledged to name and shame businesses and



Malawi's President Lazarus Chakwera speaks in Glasgow, Scotland

Liberian students wounded in cost of living protest



The allegations of violence against students at the protest has sparked outrage

University students have been injured in Liberia after their protest against the high cost of living was allegedly disrupted by supporters of the ruling party - the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC).

The incident happened as the country celebrated its independence anniversary on Tuesday.

The protesters included some members of the ruling party, who are unhappy with the government's performance..

They had gathered in front of the US embassy, as President George Weah attended an official programme with visiting heads of state.

entrepreneurs involved in corruption and have their names published in the media.

The new campaign comes at a time when Malawi is struggling to end corruption.

"A week does not pass

An image of a protester severely-bruised has been shared on Facebook, sparking outrage.

It is unclear how many of them were wounded.

According to local media on Wednesday, the group disrupting the protest, called the "Council of Patriots", was heard saying they had gone to stage a counter protest to dispel claims by the student demonstrators that the government of George Weah was not performing well.

Supporters of the counter-protesters also called Liberian radio stations on Wednesday supporting opposition to the original demonstration, saying it was wrong to have such an event on independence day.

However, an outspoken ruling party member has condemned the attack on the student protesters. BBC

without new revelations about embezzlement of public funds, corruption of public procurement contracts of goods and services, and incidents of abuse of office across the sectors," said Martha Chizuma, director of the Anti-Corruption Bureau in Malawi. VOA

EDITORIAL

The death of LACC

RECENT AMENDMENT OF the Act creating the Liberia Ant-Corruption Commission by the 54th Legislature with a clause seeking to dissolve the current leadership at the LACC is a calculated attempt by the Weah administration to render the vital anti-graft commission a toothless bull dog.

ANY STRUCTURE EMERGING from the current ploy would amount to nothing less than an empty frame that would exist only on paper without any power to fight corruption in the public sector, judging from how Capitol Hill is proceeding.

IT IS HIGHLY incomprehensible that while the current LACC, headed by Executive Chairperson Cllr. Edwin Klar Martin, is exerting efforts in fighting corruption with recent audit reports indicting officials of three government institutions, the Legislature would embark on a process to dissolve the current leadership of the Commission.

WHILE THE EXECUTIVE says it seeks to grant the LACC prosecutorial power to move against corrupt officials, we think the scheme on Capitol Hill is cleverly designed to render this important integrity institution powerless in order to allow corruption to flourish instead, under this government with no remorse.

LACC EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON Cllr. Edwin Klar Martin, who has alarmed of insecurity, said that he will challenge the amendment by the Legislature in court.

SUSPICIONS OF ATTEMPTS to remove Cllr. Martin and his corps of commissioners would not have gone wide if the LACC hadn't just released audit reports on the National Road Fund, National Census Fund and the Ministry of Agriculture, respectively, which indict officials of these entities.

IT IS UNFORTUNATE that this government would pay lip-service to corruption that is eating up the very existence of this country with no regard whatsoever, for the thousands of poverty-stricken citizens who go to bed hungry daily, while schools and hospitals across the country lack essential support.

BY THEIR SINGULAR move, members of the 54th Legislature are creating room for corrupt officials to compile more wealth for themselves while the national coffer is stripped naked.

CORRUPTION UNDERMINES DEMOCRATIC governance and President George Weah would have to explain at the upcoming African Leadership Summit in Washington, DC, that is, if he goes to America, how has his governance of Liberia promoted accountability and transparency in the usage of public funds when integrity institutions are being butchered under his watch.

MORE BABIES, WOMEN giving births and elderly persons would continue to die across this country, as State funds that should be directed at improving our health system, training and paying doctors and teachers better salaries are being diverted to pockets of corrupt officials, while funeral for key institution such as the LACC are being held for its eventual burial

New Dawn
DAILY INDEPENDENT

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COMMENTARY

By Gordon Brown

Prosecuting Putin Starts Now

EDINBURGH - The world has responded to Russia's invasion of Ukraine with sanctions, travel bans, and deliveries of humanitarian and military aid, all of which have been stepped up as Russian President Vladimir Putin's war crimes claim more lives every day. Now, with the Ukrainian people's courage and solidarity having stirred the collective conscience of Europe and much of the world, pressure is growing to complement these measures with criminal indictments of Putin and his closest associates.

The momentum is global. Some 140 prominent jurists and former leaders have issued a declaration of support for a "special tribunal for the punishment of the crime of aggression against Ukraine" - an idea first proposed by Philippe Sands of University College London. Indeed, Ukraine's lead prosecutor has announced that she is already compiling evidence of war crimes committed by Putin and his forces, and legal authorities in Germany and Poland are launching investigations of their own. In Spain, a magistrate has been building a case upon which to issue international arrest warrants for Putin's inner circle, as was done 20 years ago to arraign Chile's former dictator, Augusto Pinochet.

Moreover, following requests from at least 39 countries, the lead prosecutor of the International Criminal Court is opening an investigation into war crimes and crimes against humanity in Ukraine (though the ICC cannot prosecute Russia for the specific crime of aggression). And Michelle Bachelet, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, has announced that a UN Human Rights Council commission of inquiry will compile a dossier documenting crimes against humanity, war crimes, and aggression.

Meanwhile, Russia's own hired legal gun at the International Court of Justice has resigned, saying, "Enough is enough. It's become impossible for me to represent a country that so cynically despises the law."

Putin's crimes are so grave that all investigations are both essential and welcome. But the priority now is to move fast. The world needs to send a message to the people of Ukraine that the world will act, and to Russia's current leadership that anyone helping to sustain Putin's war of aggression will not escape with impunity and would do well to distance themselves from the regime and start turning over evidence.

A decision on a special international tribunal has been requested by Ukraine, and we need European governments to support that call. But we could already

establish an interim office to investigate all incidents that may constitute the crime of aggression. An interim prosecutor could be appointed to compile the evidence and consider the basic questions - the nature of prosecution, the issue of immunity, and the rules of procedure. This operation would preferably be based in The Hague, and it need not involve more than ten staff members. With financial support from one or two governments, it could work closely with the ICC in their respective but complementary investigations.

The crime of aggression is a relatively straightforward offense to investigate and prosecute. It applies to all those who plan, initiate, influence, or shape an overall policy of aggression. A group of American lawyers has already done impressive work documenting what they consider to be acts of aggression committed by Putin, starting with his 2014 decisions to seize Crimea and to deploy troops in Ukraine's Donbas region.

Putin's crime of aggression against Ukraine does not end with the invasion that began on February 24. It has continued with each deliberate attack on Ukrainian cities and towns, with his targeting of innocent civilians, with his refusal to honor humanitarian corridors and ceasefires, and with his use of nuclear power stations to extort the Ukrainian government.

When war crimes committed in Yugoslavia and Rwanda were on the agenda 30 years ago, US President Bill Clinton led a bold initiative to create special tribunals that were eventually endorsed by the UN Security Council. The justifications given then are no less relevant today. The Americans saw a need for moral leadership. A tribunal was not there to favor any one race, religion, or ethnic group, Clinton explained. But it would, as he said then, draw a line between those who had decided to wield a clenched fist and those who were willing to extend an open hand. That, he said, is ultimately the one dividing line that really matters.

Our task today is the same. We must draw a line between those who see the world as a never-ending struggle between "us" and "them," and those who would embrace our common humanity. By beginning the process of investigating, documenting, and prosecuting Russia's international crimes, we can give the people of Ukraine - and the world - a realistic hope that justice will be done and our common humanity acknowledged.

Gordon Brown, a former prime minister of the United Kingdom, is United Nations Special Envoy for Global Education and Chair of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity.



I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-000012
- ISSUANCE DATE:** July 27, 2022
- CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** August 25, 2022, 11:59 pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia
- POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov
- POSITION TITLE:** PMS (HIV) Technical Specialist
- MARKET VALUE:** USD \$35,104 – \$56,160 FSN- 10
In accordance with AIDAR Appendix J and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.
- PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; 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.
- ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.
- SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access

11. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION

The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) represents the US government response to the global HIV/AIDS epidemic and is the largest commitment by any nation to address a single disease in history. Thanks to American leadership and generosity, alongside the work of many partners, PEPFAR has saved millions of lives, averted millions of infections, and changed the course of the epidemic. As countries progress towards HIV/AIDS epidemic control, the point at which new HIV infections have decreased and fall below the total number of deaths among HIV-infected individuals, PEPFAR is now undertaking the challenge of controlling the pandemic.

The Project Management Specialist (HIV) will support planning, implementation, and monitoring of projects. S/He will provide programmatic and technical guidance and assist in the development and management of HIV-related programs. The jobholder will work collaboratively with other staff in the Health Office, other offices in the Mission, the Ministry of Health, and other development partners to support a coordinated, strategic approach to various HIV-related programming. S/he will serve as a Contract Officer's Representative/Agreement Officer's Representative (COR/AOR) or Activity Manager. The jobholder will support the implementation of the planning of new activities design; help Project Design Teams in drafting acquisition and assistance-related documents; develop project financial documents, revisions, and/or amendments; and generate reports on the status of project activities and finances including projection of expenditures, quarterly accrual of expenditures, and status reports. S/He will also Review project expense vouchers for completeness and accuracy.

The position is located in the USAID Office of Health. The jobholder reports to the HIV/AIDS Team Lead and has no supervisory responsibility.

MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Technical Guidance and Program Planning

- Provide technical guidance on a broad range of HIV/AIDS-related interventions, including providing guidance in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluations of HIV/AIDS programs.
- Provide technical guidance in quality and performance improvement, working with key stakeholders to improve the quality of HIV/AIDS-related interventions, by applying evidence-based guidelines, approaches, and tools.
- Through literature review, research and regular communication with local and international stakeholders, stay abreast of emerging developments in the national and global HIV/AIDS landscape, and advise accordingly on how policies, strategies, and technical guidelines can most effectively be incorporated to enable the Mission to maintain fidelity and relevance in its HIV/AIDS programs.
- Provide technical guidance to other PEPFAR agencies, technical counterparts in Ministry of Health, and to other national stakeholders to advance USAID, USG and PEPFAR strategic objectives related to key HIV/AIDS interventions.
- Provide on-going technical assistance to USAID local partners to ensure that activities are evidence-based and that services are transparent, equitable, of high quality and responsive to client needs; that partners practice sound management and robust accounting; and that local partners are prepared to assume and sustain leadership. Work closely with other staff in the
- Health Office and across the Mission to optimize opportunities for cross-sectoral integration and leverage resources across the different program components.
- Effectively communicate and demonstrate technical leadership in interagency PEPFAR technical working groups to ensure USAID strategic priorities are represented, including participation in routine interagency technical discussions, presenting relevant sections of the quarterly PEPFAR country performance reviews, and annual PEPFAR COP strategic planning meetings.
- Ensure that the required audits, reports and evaluations and close-out actions are completed.
- Participate in technical evaluation committees, analyzing applications and evaluating offeror's proposals to develop recommendations on the selection of applicants or institutions based on their suitability and responsiveness of their proposed technical intervention, and their ability to successfully implement a particular project. S/he will facilitate site visits, public meetings, and discussions with officials as needed and will track overall team budget progress and funding priorities.
- Support in drafting technical documentation such as performance reports, scopes of work, briefing papers, concept papers and conduct analyses to develop strategies, monitor ongoing programs, and report on project achievements and interventions.

Project Management

- Serve as an AOR/COR or Activity Manager on designated HIV/AIDS programs.
- Work with IPs to develop strategic work plans with realistic and measurable targets to support effective implementation of the Mission's and PEPFAR HIV/AIDS programs.
- Review and approve annual work plans, monitoring and evaluation plans, quarterly reports and other key documents of assigned projects. Monitor program resources allocated for HIV/AIDS activities to ensure that they are being used rationally and that there are no cost overruns.
- Ensure quality of HIV/AIDS programs by monitoring compliance to national and international guidelines, approaches and tools and provision of supportive supervisions to IPs.
- Provide technical and organizational development guidance to local organizations entailing transfer of knowledge and skills in HIV/AIDS programming, implementation, monitoring and reporting, and quality improvement.
- Participate in project design for new activities, including drafting and obtaining approval for concept papers, writing scopes of work, evaluating applications/proposals, and starting up new projects.

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

- In collaboration with Strategic Information staff, regularly analyze and interpret HIV/AIDS data to generate key results and trends to assist the Mission maintain a highly nimble program with proven achievement across PEPFAR indicators.
- Contribute to data quality assessments to ensure the quality and reliability of program data.
- Participate in site visits to USAID supported programs to assess the quality of services, provide guidance to implementing partners on newly emerging and highly efficacious approaches to HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment interventions.

- Monitor project activities and make recommendations to resolve implementation obstacles to ensure judicious use of USG funds and effective implementation of HIV/AIDS interventions.

- Contribute to and participate in HIV/AIDS-related program evaluations to document and scale up proven best practices.

REPRESENTATION AND REPORTING:

- Contribute to key annual and mid-term planning and reporting documents including the Country Operational Plan, Operational Plan, Congressional Budget Justifications, Technical Notifications, Quarterly, Semi-Annual and Annual Progress Reports, among others.
- Prepare reports and responses to a wide range of requirements including responding to requests for information from USAID/Washington, Congress and OGAC.
- Ensure that USAID successes, best practices and approaches are shared widely with partner country officials, private sector, civil society and other donors.
- Represent USAID and PEPFAR as needed at designated national, regional and international meetings that relate to HIV/AIDS.
- Prepare briefing papers, presentations and assist with site preparations for visits by delegations of high-level USG officials.

Supervision controls: This position has no supervisory responsibilities.

Supervisory Relationship: Works under the general supervision of the HIV/AIDS Team Lead. Assignments are made orally and in writing, with a discussion of overall objectives and expected results to be achieved. The supervisor assigns specific tasks, provides suggested approaches to consider and reviews completed reports and assignments. Achievements are regularly reviewed, and feedback provided.

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Education:** Bachelor's Degree in Medicine, Public Health, Health, Social Work, International Development, Social or Behavioral Sciences, Epidemiology, Biology, Infectious Disease, Organizational Development, Political Science or Business Administration.
- Prior Work Experience:** At least three (3) years of progressively responsible, professional experience in international development or global health. Of that experience, at least one (1) year with the USG, other multilateral or bi-lateral organizations, and/or NGOs is required. Increasingly responsible experience in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of health-related initiatives in developing countries. Experience in analyzing epidemiological data and translating data into practice.
- Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
- Language Proficiency:** Fluent (Level IV). Excellent English writing, editing and speaking skills, as well as an excellent ability to process information from a wide variety of sources into cohesive, polished documents are required.

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

The Evaluation Factor listed below will be the basis for evaluating and ranking applicants for the position. Applicants will be scored based on the documentation submitted within the application. Applicants must submit a supplemental document outlining their responses to the evaluation factor(s) in order to be considered.

1. Selection Process

After the closing date for receipt of applications, a committee will convene to review applications that meet the minimum requirements and evaluate them in accordance with the evaluation criteria. As part of the selection process, the most qualified candidates will be interviewed. Reference checks will be made only for applicants considered as finalists. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities.

2. Evaluation Factors

Those applicants who meet the minimum education and experience qualifications will be evaluated based on the content of their application as well as on the applicant's writing, presentation, and communication skills. Applicants should include their name and the announcement number at the top of each additional page. Failure to specifically address the Evaluation Factors will result in the applicant not receiving full credit for pertinent experience.

FACTOR #1:

In 300 words or less, describe how you have demonstrated your knowledge and skills in HIV testing, care, and treatment services, as well as in efforts to reach the UNAIDS 95-95-95 global targets. Provide examples by describing your experience in providing, managing or overseeing approaches toward HIV case finding and index testing, linkage to care, treatment retention, preventing treatment interruption, and achieving virological suppression among HIV positive individuals.

3. Basis of Rating

Applicants determined to be competitively ranked will also be evaluated on their interview performance and satisfactory professional reference checks. The Applicant Rating System is as follows:

Evaluation Factors	20 points
Factor #1	20 points

Timed writing sample exercise: 30 points

The writing sample will demonstrate the candidate's understanding of technical HIV-related issues, as well as ability to manage and communicate, in writing, information about HIV-related activities to the appropriate audience.

Interview Performance 50 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's ability to:

- Management abilities
- Teamwork and interpersonal skills
- Technical knowledge

Total Possible Points 100 points

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line VA-669-22-000012- PMS (HIV) Technical Specialist LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

Applicants may submit an application prior to the closing date and time specified in Section I, item 3 mentioned above unless revised.

Qualified applicants must submit the following documents or their applications will not be considered for this position:

- A current curriculum vitae (CV) or resume, not to exceed 3 pages.
- A minimum of three (3) professional references, who are not family members or relatives, with working telephone and email contacts. The applicant's references must be able to provide substantive information about his/her past performance and abilities. At least one reference provided should be a current or former supervisor.
- A supplemental document with a written response to the Evaluation Factors.

Candidates who are applying for this position must fully meet the education requirement (graduated and degree and/or diploma already received) as specified. Candidates must also meet the full work experience requirement and demonstrate in their application that they are an eligible offeror as required in I.9 above. There is no exception to these requirements.

Short-listed candidates may be requested to provide educational documents such as transcripts for degrees, diplomas, certificates, and other pertinent documents as needed.

Any attachments provided via email must be compatible with Microsoft Word or PDF and not zipped. Note that attachments to email must not exceed 25 MB. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The Agency retains the right to cancel or amend the solicitation and associated actions at any stage of the recruitment process.

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.



Republic of Liberia NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

TUBMAN BOULEVARD, 9th & 10th STREETS, SINKOR – P.O. BOX 2044
MONROVIA, LIBERIA
Email: info@necliberia.org



The National Elections Commission (NEC), through its Gender Section conducted two separate gender trainings in Monrovia, Montserrado County and in Buchanan City, Grand Bassa County respectively, for members of the Board of Commissioners BOC, Senior Technicians, Senior Elections Magistrates and Assistant Magistrates and Logistics Officers of the Commission. Funds for the gender training came from the United Nations Development Program, UNDP and Partners, Ireland and Sweden with support from UN Women and Peace Building Fund. Time, July

NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

**TWO-DAYS GENDER TRAINING FOR NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION
ELECTIONS MAGISTRATES AND LOGISTICS OFFICERS ON UNDERSTANDING THE
SPECIFICS OF GENDER CONCEPT AND MECHANISM**

THEME: "UNPACKING GENDER IN ELECTIONS"

VENUE: TEEPRO LODGE, BUCHANAN CITY, GRAND BASSA COUNTY
DATES: JULY 21-22, 2022

PROMOTING GENDER PARITY IN ELECTONS!!!

Irish Aid
Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Sweden
Sverige

UN WOMEN
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

UNDP



NEC Boss, Madam Browne Lansanah opens the Monrovia gender training at a local hotel.



A group photo after the grand opening of the NEC/UNDP and partners training in Grand Bassa County.



NEC Commissioner with oversight for Gender, Hon. Josephine Kou Gaye speaks in Buchanan.



BOC members, partners, UNDP, and UN Women post for the Monrovia Photo at a local hotel.



A Facilitator, Senior Gender Office, Manakabay Donzo deliberates at the Buchanan forum.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

LACC Chairperson threatens lawsuit

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) Executive Chairperson Cllr. Edwin Klar Martin has vowed to challenge the Legislature through the courts to protest the recent amendment of the Act creating the LACC.

The Legislature recently passed into law a new amendment to the LACC Act and inserted a clause that calls for the dismissal of the current LACC Commissioners.

The new law calls for applications which will be

committee comprising the General Auditing Commission (GAC), Press Union of Liberia (PUL), Liberia Institute of Certified Public Accountants (LICPA), and the Governance Commission (GC) will vet the applicants.

The committee will then submit 14 names to the President who will make a choice of 7 of the vetted candidates and submit their names to the Liberian Senate for confirmation.

But in interviews with some radio stations here this

will be applied consistent with due process to make sure that those things that were not corrected ... will be corrected by the higher court," said Cllr. Martin.

He claimed that the act of the Legislature is purely intended to make sure that the current commission does not exist.

"The current law was established to ensure that they prosecute corrupt officials consistent with law in a certain time frame if the Ministry of justice failed," Martin explained.

"However, the new Act passed by the ... Legislature does not have the ... authority," he said.

He said by law, the Government of Liberia through the Legislature cannot amend, create and dissolve tenure positions at the same time.

To do what the Legislature did through the Executive branch, Martin argued, it's a clearer attempt to witch-hunt the present administration of the LACC which he heads.

He contended that the only reason for this act is because his administration stands up for the truth.

"Mind you, history will judge us. Our integrity is on the line that today we have been persecuted because we stood up for the truth," said Cllr. Martin.

"And come what may, nothing will deter us to ensure that those corrupt officials of government who are currently lashing and parading in government will be brought to justice," Cllr. Martin vowed. --
Edited by Winston W. Parley

Amb. McCarthy outlines US/Liberia commonalities

United States Ambassador to Liberia, Michael McCarthy catalogues US-Liberia bonds here, noting that like America, Liberia was conceived in liberty, and like America, Liberia struggled to make equality of all men a reality.

He says from its inception on the African continent, Liberia represented something new and hopeful, just as America, from which it sprang, represented something new and hopeful on the American continent.

Speaking at the celebrations of Liberia 175th Independence on Tuesday, July 26, in Monrovia, he noted that this reality was captured in former U.S. President Abraham Lincoln's most famous speech, the Gettysburg Address, delivered in November 1863, which begins with those now famous words "Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in

democracy is more than just a well-written constitution or norms and traditions, but it requires care and constant renewal, and leaders who understand that their actions and words matter in maintaining a democratic society."

He also observes that Liberia commemorates 175th independence at a time when democratic norms are eroding around the world, but quickly adds such challenges also represent opportunities.

"Just as America continues to fight back in response to challenges to our democracy, Liberia continues to set an evolving example of democracy in Africa."

Amb. McCarthy concurs with this year's Independence Day Orator, Commerce Minister Diggs on Liberians denigrating their country on social media, acknowledging "what you say DOES matter and what you do DOES make a difference."

He continues that a deep



vetted by a committee established by the same law.

The amended Act calls for the re-establishment of the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, which means the tenure of all the five commissioners currently serving the institution will be immediately terminated.

However, they will have the opportunity to apply under the new law. Following the application, a vetting

week, Cllr. Martin expressed unhappiness about this new arrangement.

The LACC boss believes that the passage of the new LACC Act is a clever attempt to abolish the fight against corruption in Liberia.

He threatened to file a lawsuit before the Supreme Court of Liberia against the government.

"We will ensure that every remedy within the law

supporters did not ask the state to provide them security during their gatherings.

"A formal request for any such action is a cardinal requirement by law, which can be conveyed through a written petition to the Ministry of Justice for a

permit," Carter explained.

The Minister of Information Ledgerhood J. Rennie also argued that the Liberia National Police (LNP) Act of 2015 Section III Article 22.86 which deals with Public Order mandates any persons wanting to hold such a march or protest

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Government condemns July 26 violence

The Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Justice has condemned the clash between its supporters and protesting students from the University of Liberia (UL).

Government supporters calling themselves Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) - Council of Patriots clashed with members of the campus-based Student Unification Party (SUP) and left several wounded.

A video of one of the students beaten and stripped naked by the CDC - COP went viral on social media following the attack on Independence Day, 26 July 2022.

A statement issued late Wednesday evening, 27 July by Police Spokesman Moses Carter said the protesting students and the government



liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

He says throughout the decades, we've seen both our countries progress in their struggle to embody these words and to become safe havens for all people.

He says throughout the decades, both countries have progressed in their struggle to embody these words spoken by President Lincoln and to become safe havens for all people.

"President Lincoln's words serve as a reminder that democracy is a constant struggle toward a more perfect union", he notes.

However, the U.S. Envoy notes that democracy is never a given, and it can never be taken for granted, adding "We have to remind ourselves that

understanding of those ideals in the foundation of Liberia have inspired Liberia's courageous stand against Russia's unprovoked and unjustified barbaric attack on Ukraine, the country's 14-year civil war experience left an unshakable appreciation for human rights, which feeds Liberia's consistent stands against oppression around the globe.

Mr. McCarthy recalls that 175 years ago, in 1847, Liberia declared itself an independent republic, no longer part of the American Colonization Society, and that fifteen years later, at President Lincoln's request, the United States Congress established diplomatic relations with Liberia.

"In that sense", he explains, "Our two countries are

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

NEC trains Gender in Elections Coordination Group

The National Elections Commission, through its Gender Section has commenced a two-day intensive working session in Tubmanburg, Bomi County, on the revitalization of the group, "Gender in Elections Coordination Group" (GECG) in Liberia.

providing the funds for the NEC Gender training in Tubmanburg city.

NEC Gender Director, Leisel Talery, said the intent of the revitalization and training of the GECG group is in anticipation of the pending 2023 General and Presidential elections, that members of the group will

Director Talery said the Section's main focus is on Women groups and persons living with disabilities throughout the country.

A statement from NEC issued Wednesday, 27 July 2022, said Director Talery promised that at the end of the two-day training session, participants will have a broader understanding of gender issues and concept that they will be able to dispel rumors that gender is only about women, rather than the both men and women.

According to the NEC, the UN Women and Peace Building Fund are providing support for the gender training.

Nearly 75 key stakeholders and representatives in Bomi county, including Persons Living with Disabilities, Women Civil Society groups, to include, Women Community based organizations, the National Union on Disabilities (NUOD), County Gender Coordinators as well as Assistant Elections Magistrates of the Commission are attending the program. **Press Release**



Tubmanburg City participants post for a photo after the grand opening.

According to a press release, the United Nations Development Program UNDP, Electoral Support Office and partners, the governments of Sweden and Ireland are

be able to create messages, and to decentralize these awareness messages within their various organizations within their different counties.

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homes and stole their properties.

"My brother we are here to provide security and protection for the government. We are not here to entertain any violence and unrealistic protest in this country," he said.

Mr. Togba accused the militants of SUP of moving into the homes of peaceful citizens and making away with their belongings.

SUP accuses Monrovia City Mayor Jefferson Koijee

In a conversation with SUP chairman on Propaganda, Mohammed Shabazz Jalloh, he accused Monrovia City Mayor Jeffreson Tamba Koijee of being the mastermind of disrupting SUP's protest.

"Mayor Koijee sent thugs with guns to kill peaceful students exercising their constitutional rights at the U.S. Embassy near Monrovia," Jalloh alleged.

"To our people, this is what the regime you elected [is] doing to your children. A dark cloud has covered Liberia under President George M. Weah," he added.

He claimed that Liberia is going back to the days of terror. Condemnation pours in

Probe order or mere bluff?

Several condemnations are pouring in with many blaming the pro-government group for the attack on the student.

The former ruling Unity Party condemns what it terms barbaric and inhumane rebel-like treatment of peaceful student of the University of Liberia's Vanguard Student Unification Party (SUP) for protesting against the celebration of Independence Day-reports Kruah Thompson.

A press release issued UP Assistant Secretary-General for Press, Publicity, and Outreach Cornelia Kruah-Togba says the SUP members had joined thousands of other students of the University of Liberia to protest the unbearable and unprecedented economic hardship and degradation of the country.

The UP laments that the draconian regime of President George Weah unleashed thugs under the banner CDC-CoP, armed to attack peaceful students that had only gathered to bring the plight of the Liberian people to the world.

"We call on the government to investigate and bring to justice those she unleashed on the students of the University of Liberia.

Jeety urges businesses to pursue heavenly reward

By Winston W. Parley

Renowned Indian businessman and philanthropist Mr. Upjit Singh Sachdeva (Mr. Jeety) has urged all business people in Liberia and across the globe to do more charity work for a heavenly reward.

During his regular food distribution exercise with inmates on Liberia's 175th Independence Day celebration, Mr. Jeety urged his counterparts to consider touching the lives of the needy to get a reward which is with God.

He observed that whenever somebody's business is flourishing, most of the other business people would want to follow the path of that successful person so that they too can make profit.

But he reminded his counterparts that the reward for that business is on earth, but the reward of the work of God is in heaven.

"So, I urge all my business people in Liberia and across the globe to do more such work for which the reward is waiting for you in heaven," he said on 26 July at the Monrovia Central Prison.

"Because reward for that business is on earth. But whatever charity we do, whatever God's work we do, the reward for that work is in

heaven," said Mr. Jeety.

On Independence Day, Mr. Jeety and his team provided hot - cooked meals including rice and beans, cake, soft drink and water for the inmates at the Monrovia Central Prison.

He later extended the food distribution to hundreds of disadvantaged youths on Center Street, Monrovia, ahead of his planned meeting with kids in Weala, Margibi County to share holiday gifts with them.

Mr. Jeety said when inmates are being held in custody, they should rejoice and have a happy Independence Day.

He thanked Col. Varney Lake, Superintendent,

Monrovia Central Prison and his deputies for all the support given him.

Mr. Jeety said it was the prison authorities who had encouraged him to continue food distribution at the Kakata Central Prison, Margibi County.

Earlier on Saturday, 23 July, Mr. Jeety provided hot - cooked meals for all 177 inmates held at the Kakata Central Prison compound, Margibi County.

On his way there, he was accompanied by Engineers to do an estimate for the electricity project.

Mr. Jeety assured the authorities at the prison compound during his visit in Kakata that before his next return, the place will be electrified.



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to contact the Minister of Justice.

The government insisted that had such a request been made, it would have acted to ensure public safety and order by scheduling the rival groups at different times.

The government encourages all individuals who witnessed the Tuesday, 26 July violence to assist the police with its investigation.

The Attorney General, Cllr. Frank Musah Dean Jr. has accordingly called on the police to ensure that perpetrators are brought to book in keeping with the laws of Liberia.

"The Government wants to make it clear that while it encourages all citizens to express their views on national issues their methods must be in conformity with law," the statement said.

"Articles 13 and 15 of the Liberian Constitution guarantee

Government condemns

such rights."

The Ministry of Justice said it has accordingly directed the Inspector General of Police to launch an immediate and full-scale investigation into the incident.

The statement disclosed that images of the violence being posted on social media show unwarranted use of force and maltreatment of some participating youths which has no place in the newfound democracy.

Meanwhile, The Liberia National Police says it has with immediate effect launched an investigation into the clashes that took place in front of the United States Embassy near Monrovia on Independence Day.

The Police also expressed concern about a viral video on social media in which a person was seen being mobbed and humiliated. --**Press release**

Starts from page 6

commemorating three anniversaries this year: the 200th anniversary of the arrival of the first Black Americans to Liberia, the 175th anniversary of Liberia's establishment as an independent republic, AND the 160th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries."

He says in honor of these

Amb. McCarthy outlines

three occasions, the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, has dedicated 2022 to acknowledging and celebrating these historic milestones with Liberia which began with the official Bicentennial Celebrations in January on Providence Island followed by other festivities that were graced by U.S. Government official delegations from Washington, DC.

Français

GT Bank sommée de verser 3,6 millions de dollars US à Me George Kailondo

Le tribunal de droit civil "B" de Monrovia a ordonné à la Guaranty Trust Bank Liberia Limited (GT Bank) de verser plus de 3,6 millions de dollars à Me George Kailondo, homme d'affaires libérien.

L'ordonnance du tribunal est intervenue le 20 juillet 2022 après avoir entendu une action en dommages-intérêts déposée contre la banque commerciale par Me Kailondo devant le juge Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay.

Le juge a tenu la banque responsable et a ordonné le paiement de 3 250 000 \$ US à titre de dommages-intérêts généraux pour tous les inconvénients, pertes et embarras qu'elle a causés à Me Kailondo.

Il a également ordonné le paiement de 420 000 USD plus 6 % d'intérêts légaux par an calculés de 2015 jusqu'à la date du jugement définitif du 20 juillet 2022.

« La décision et le jugement définitif de cette Cour est que la requête du plaignant est par la présente soutenue et que la demande reconventionnelle de la

défense est annulée et rejetée », a affirmé le juge Gbeisay.

Le 28 septembre 2021, Me Kailondo a déposé une plainte contre GT Bank, l'accusant d'avoir débité illégalement ses comptes sans aucune autorisation de sa part.

Il a demandé au tribunal d'accorder des dommages-intérêts généraux d'un montant d'au moins 2,5 millions de dollars américains pour la blessure et la torture dont il a été victime de la part de la banque.

Selon lui, la banque lui a

causé des préjudices sérieux en adressant une lettre de non-conformité le 12 août 2020 à toutes les banques commerciales, le faisant apparaître comme un risque en affaires.

Le plaignant a également réclamé des dommages-intérêts spéciaux d'un montant de 420 000 USD (quatre cent vingt mille dollars américains) représentant le solde de l'argent illégalement débité

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Le Liberia légalise la double nationalité

Le Liberia a officiellement légalisé la double nationalité, mettant fin à une interdiction de longue date que certains jugeaient hypocrite car contournée secrètement par des élites détenant la nationalité américaine.

Le projet de loi, promulgué vendredi par le président George Weah et confirmé dimanche par l'AFP, a été adopté mardi à la

Chambre des représentants et au Sénat.

Le Libéria, plus ancienne république d'Afrique subsaharienne fondée au XIXe siècle sous l'impulsion des Etats-Unis pour des esclaves noirs affranchis, compte une importante diaspora vivant en Amérique.

Quelque 100.000 personnes nées au Liberia ont vécu aux Etats-Unis de 2008 à 2012, selon les services américains de recensement.

Selon la nouvelle loi, les citoyens ayant la double nationalité ne pourront pas exercer les fonctions de président, de ministre des Finances ou de gouverneur de la Banque centrale, ni occuper des postes de haut niveau dans la sécurité nationale ou l'application des lois.

"Si une personne souhaite participer (aux élections), elle doit renoncer à la citoyenneté de l'autre pays au moins un an avant de présenter sa candidature à la Commission électorale nationale", stipule la nouvelle loi.

Le président George Weah avait déjà demandé la levée de cette interdiction lors d'un référendum en décembre 2020, mais seuls 51,5% des électeurs s'étaient prononcé en faveur, alors qu'une majorité des deux tiers était requise.

L'année dernière, une décision de la Cour suprême avait assoupli l'interdiction stricte du pays sur la double nationalité, qui remontait à 1973. Elle disait que les Libériens de nationalité étrangère ne seraient

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Éditorial

Le juge Cornelius F. Wennah mérite une reconnaissance nationale

Ce serait un euphémisme de dire que le juge résident du comté de Bong, qui a été honoré le mardi 19 juillet par le secrétaire d'État américain Antony Blinken comme l'un des six (6) héros du rapport 2022 sur la traite des êtres humains, mérite une reconnaissance nationale, car il a élevé le Libéria, l'un des pays qui s'efforcent à réduire la traite des êtres humains, sur la scène mondiale.

Le juge Cornelius Flomo Wennah, préside le tribunal pénal « E » du comté de Bong. Il a été honoré par le Département d'État américain pour sa contribution positive à la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains au Libéria, ce qui a conduit à l'élévation de ce pays au niveau deux, en hausse par rapport à la liste de surveillance du niveau de 2021. Il s'agit d'un progrès remarquable dans la réduction de la traite des êtres humains dans le monde.

Le secrétaire d'État Blinken a affirmé lors de la publication du rapport 2022 sur la traite des êtres humains dans la salle Benjamin Franklin du département d'État à Washington DC qu'actuellement, environ 25 millions d'êtres humains sont victimes de la traite dans le monde. Il a fait observer que la traite déstabilise les sociétés, sape les économies, nuit aux travailleurs, enrichit ceux qui les exploitent, sape les entreprises légitimes et, plus fondamentalement, c'est un mal profond.

A en croire M. Blinken, le juge Wennah a été appelé pour ses efforts résolus visant à renforcer les capacités du secteur de la justice pénale du Libéria afin de poursuivre avec succès les trafiquants d'êtres humains, ainsi que pour son solide plaidoyer en faveur de l'inclusion active des chefs traditionnels et des organisations de la société civile dans la lutte nationale contre la traite.

Le juge Wennah n'opère pas seul ou de manière isolée, nous savons cela, mais son engagement résilient et sans compromis dans cette lutte se démarque ainsi, attirant l'attention internationale.

Il est important que nous célébrions toujours notre meilleur pour motiver les autres qui font des efforts similaires ailleurs dans notre structure de gouvernance et même en dehors du secteur public. Des milliers d'autres "Cornelius Wennahs" sont à travers ce pays et s'efforcent honnêtement de faire avancer la Patrie, mais leurs activités ne sont pas mises en lumière.

Ce serait malheureux si le Gouvernement libérien traite la réussite du juge Wennah comme quelque chose d'ordinaire, car il mérite non seulement un accueil enthousiaste, mais aussi une reconnaissance nationale parce qu'il a laissé des empruntes pour, non seulement lui-même et sa famille, mais aussi tout le pays qui est entré dans l'histoire.

Dans le même temps, nous félicitons le Gouvernement du Libéria sous la présidence de George Weah d'avoir fait preuve d'engagement et d'avoir soutenu la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains. Nous sommes parfaitement conscients des efforts déployés par le gouvernement pour ramener nos filles et nos sœurs d'Oman, où elles ont été victimes de la traite et soumises à des conditions déshumanisantes, y compris des abus sexuels.

Le gouvernement devrait également être salué pour avoir mis des suspects en examen. Nous soulignons également la nécessité de renforcer les lois pour rendre la traite des êtres humains très difficile et presque impossible pour les trafiquants potentiels.

Nous ne doutons pas que le juge Cornelius Flomo Wennah mérite d'être inclus dans le prix national de l'image et également reconnu par l'État pour avoir fait la fierté des Libériens tant au pays qu'à l'étranger avec un service de distinction qui ne doit pas être ignoré.

Français

GT Bank sommée de verser 3,6 millions de ses comptes.

Selon le document judiciaire, le 22 septembre 2021, la défense a déposé sa réponse contenant 51 chefs d'accusation et, a également déposé une requête en rejet de l'affaire.

Dans sa requête, la banque a demandé au tribunal de rejeter l'intégralité de l'action de Kailondo parce qu'avant d'intenter cette action, il avait, en tant que procureur privé, intenté une action pénale contre la banque par et à travers la République.

La banque a soutenu que Kailondo avait exigé la restitution du montant qu'il alléguait avoir été débité à tort par la banque.

« Le 15 octobre 2021 », a poursuivi le tribunal, «

Kailondo a déposé sa réponse composée de dix-huit chefs d'accusation à la réponse de la défense ainsi que sa résistance à la requête en rejet de la banque ». Mais la Cour, ayant entendu les deux parties, a rejeté la requête de la banque et jugé l'affaire sur le fond.

La Cour, dans sa décision sur la requête, a conclu que la loi invoquée par la défense était inapplicable parce que les causes d'action, ainsi que les parties, et les réparations demandées n'étaient pas une seule et même chose.

« Une affaire est pénale (préjudice public) où la partie plaignante est la République du Libéria et l'autre affaire est civile (préjudice privé) où la partie plaignante est Kailondo Petroleum Inc », a déclaré le juge.

Le Libéria légalise la double nationalité

contraints de renoncer à leur passeport qu'après "une procédure légale". Auparavant, la citoyenneté était automatiquement retirée aux titulaires d'un autre passeport.

Selon la loi sur la naturalisation, seules les

personnes de couleur noire peuvent être citoyens libériens. Dans la nouvelle législation, toute personne de couleur noire peut désormais acquérir la citoyenneté libérienne par mariage, adoption ou si elle est née dans le pays ou de parents libériens.

Libéria : Attaqués ou condamnés, les journalistes pris pour cible

Une journaliste d'investigation condamnée à un mois de prison, trois journalistes agressés en deux jours... Reporters sans frontières (RSF) condamne la montée des exactions envers les journalistes, depuis fin juin, au Libéria et appelle les autorités à les protéger, surtout en cette année pré-électorale.

Après sa condamnation, le 5 juillet, à un mois de prison par un tribunal de Paynesville, banlieue à l'est de Monrovia, capitale du Libéria, pour "trouble à l'ordre public" dans une affaire l'opposant à un homme politique, Marvin Cole, la journaliste d'investigation Bettie K. Johnson Mbayo est formelle : "Ces accusations portées contre moi ont pour but de me faire taire."

Dans le pays, outre cette condamnation de Bettie K. Johnson Mbayo, des agressions de la part des forces de sécurité ou de responsables politiques ont visé trois journalistes depuis fin juin.

"Qu'il s'agisse d'attaques

physiques, d'arrestations arbitraires ou de condamnations sur la base de prétextes fallacieux, les violations commises contre les journalistes se multiplient ces derniers jours au Libéria, déclare Sadibou Marong, directeur du bureau Afrique de l'Ouest à RSF. La condamnation de Bettie K. Johnson Mbayo est disproportionnée et elle doit être annulée en appel. Cette décision envoie un signal désastreux pour la liberté de la presse dans le pays, déjà mise à mal depuis plusieurs semaines. Les autorités doivent tout faire pour mettre un terme aux attaques, menaces et intimidations envers les journalistes, alors que le pays s'achemine vers des échéances électorales décisives l'année prochaine."

"Tentative d'intimidation"

Journaliste d'investigation réputée et primée dans son pays, dont le travail a permis de révéler des scandales majeurs impliquant de grandes institutions de sécurité au Libéria, Bettie Mbayo est convaincue que cette affaire est un prétexte pour l'empêcher de faire son travail. Elle déclare à RSF : "C'est une tentative d'intimidation.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Gordon Brown

Le procès de Poutine commence dès aujourd'hui

ÉDIMBOURG - Le monde a répondu à l'invasion russe de l'Ukraine par des sanctions, interdictions de voyage, et fournitures d'aide humanitaire et militaire, autant de démarches intensifiées à mesure que les crimes de guerre commis par le président russe Vladimir Poutine fauchent toujours plus de vies chaque jour. Aujourd'hui, le courage et la solidarité du peuple ukrainien éveillant la conscience collective de l'Europe et d'une grande partie du monde, la pression s'accroît en faveur d'une approche consistant à accompagner ces mesures de poursuites criminelles à l'encontre de Poutine et ses plus proches collaborateurs.

Cette dynamique est planétaire. Pas moins de 140 éminents juristes et anciens dirigeants politiques ont publié ensemble une déclaration en faveur de la création d'un « tribunal spécial pour la poursuite du crime d'agression commis contre l'Ukraine » - une idée proposée pour la première fois par Philippe Sands, de l'University College de Londres. La procureure générale de l'Ukraine a d'ores et déjà annoncé qu'elle réunissait les preuves des crimes de guerre commis par Poutine et ses troupes, les autorités judiciaires d'Allemagne et de Pologne débutant également leurs propres enquêtes. En Espagne, un magistrat constitue actuellement un dossier pour l'émission de mandats d'arrêts internationaux à l'encontre de l'entourage de Poutine, comme le firent les juges il y a 20 ans pour traduire en justice Augusto Pinochet, ancien dictateur du Chili.

De même, suite à la demande d'au moins 39 États, le procureur de la Cour pénale internationale ouvre une enquête pour crimes de guerre et crimes contre l'humanité en Ukraine (la CPI n'étant pas en mesure de poursuivre la Russie pour le crime spécifique d'agression). La Haute-Commissaire des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme, Michelle Bachelet, a annoncé que la commission d'enquête du Conseil des droits de l'homme de l'ONU constituerait un dossier documentant ces crimes contre l'humanité, ces crimes de guerre, et cette agression.

Dans le même temps, le propre bras droit juridique de la Russie devant la Cour internationale de justice a démissionné, déclarant « Trop c'est trop. Il devient pour moi impossible de représenter un pays qui méprise le droit avec autant de cynisme ».

Les crimes de Poutine sont si graves que toutes les enquêtes possibles s'avèrent à la fois essentielles et bienvenues. La priorité consiste néanmoins aujourd'hui à procéder rapidement. Il est nécessaire que le monde adresse à la population ukrainienne un message selon lequel il entend agir, et aux dirigeants russes actuels un message selon lequel quiconque aidera Poutine à poursuivre sa guerre d'agression n'en sortira pas impuni, et ferait bien de prendre ses distances avec le régime, ainsi que de commencer à livrer des preuves.

L'Ukraine demande que soit prise une décision sur la création d'un tribunal international spécial, et nous autres gouvernements européens devons répondre à cet appel. Nous

pourrions toutefois mettre en place dès aujourd'hui un bureau provisoire d'enquête autour de tous les incidents susceptibles de qualifier le crime d'agression. Un procureur intérimaire pourrait être nommé et chargé de réunir les preuves ainsi que de réfléchir aux interrogations préalables - nature du procès, question de l'immunité, et règles de procédure. Il serait préférable que cette démarche soit menée depuis La Haye, et qu'elle ne fasse intervenir qu'une équipe de dix personnes tout au plus. Avec le soutien financier d'un ou deux gouvernements, cette équipe pourrait travailler en étroite collaboration avec la CPI, dans le cadre de leurs enquêtes respectives mais complémentaires.

Le crime d'agression est un acte relativement simple à poursuivre et sur lequel enquêter. Il concerne tous ceux qui planifient, entreprennent, influencent ou élaborent une politique globale d'agression. Un groupe de juristes américains a d'ores et déjà fourni un impressionnant travail de documentation de ce qu'il considère comme des actes d'agression commis par Poutine, à commencer par ses décisions de 2014 ayant consisté à annexer la Crimée ainsi qu'à déployer des troupes dans la région ukrainienne du Donbass.

Le crime d'agression commis par Poutine contre l'Ukraine ne s'arrête pas à l'invasion ordonnée le 24 février. Ce crime se poursuit à travers chaque attaque délibérée contre des villes et villages ukrainiens, chaque tir contre des civils innocents, à travers le refus d'honorer les cessez-le-feu et les couloirs humanitaires, et via l'emploi des centrales nucléaires comme moyen de pression contre le gouvernement ukrainien.

Face aux crimes de guerre commis il y a 30 ans en Yougoslavie et au Rwanda, le président américain Bill Clinton avait mené une initiative audacieuse pour la création de tribunaux spéciaux, qui avaient été en fin de compte approuvés par le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU. Les faits l'avaient justifié à l'époque, et le justifient tout autant aujourd'hui. Les Américains avaient éprouvé la nécessité d'un leadership moral. Il ne s'agissait pas pour le tribunal de favoriser quelque appartenance raciale, religieuse ou ethnique, avait expliqué Clinton, précisant que l'enjeu consistait davantage à tracer une ligne entre ceux qui avaient décidé d'user de la brutalité, et ceux qui préféreraient tendre la main. Telle était en fin de compte la ligne de démarcation la plus importante, avait-il déclaré.

Notre tâche est aujourd'hui la même. Nous devons tracer une ligne entre d'un côté ceux qui voient le monde comme un éternel champ de bataille entre « eux » et « les autres », et de l'autre ceux qui aspirent à une humanité commune. En débutant sans tarder le processus d'enquête, de documentation et de poursuite en justice des crimes internationaux perpétrés par la Russie, nous pouvons offrir au peuple d'Ukraine - et au monde - l'espoir réaliste que justice sera rendue, et notre humanité commune reconnue.

Traduit de l'anglais par Martin Morel

Gordon Brown, ancien Premier ministre du Royaume-Uni, est envoyé spécial des Nations Unies pour l'éducation mondiale, et président de la Commission internationale sur le financement des opportunités d'éducation à travers le monde.

LIBERIANS

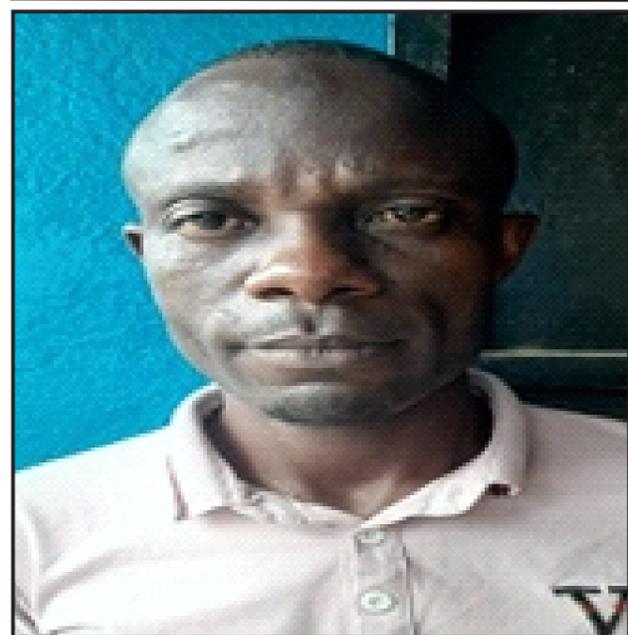
DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

The 54th Legislature has amended the Act creating the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission with recommendations to the Executive to replace the current leadership headed by Cllr. Edwin Klah Martin after a recent audit of three public institutions, including the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services and the Ministry of Agriculture, reporting several millions unaccounted for.

Cllr. Martin this week told the Voice of America that he needs security because his life is not safe.

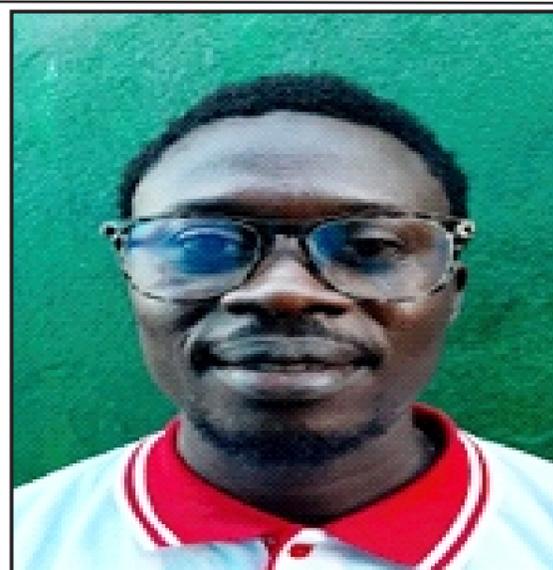
In this random sampling, The New Dawn asked some residents of Monrovia whether the LACC should be reconstituted, as being pushed by the Legislature just following the audit of few government institutions, as compiled below.



Victor Balo

“First of all, I think there is no need for the establishment of a new LACC. The Act is already there that gives power to LACC. What needs to be done is to give LACC the authority, the prosecuting power to be able to prosecute people, who are involved in the act of corruption. But if you take away the power that gives the LACC the sole authority to investigate and prosecute people, then you make it a toothless bull dog. I think that is absolutely wrong, and

those who are involved in such act especially, senators like Senator Varney Sherman, because he is the chair on Judiciary, every delegation on legal process or framework that is taking place in the Senate, he normally sits over it to make sure that it is actually in the interest of the State or against the interest of the State. So, this one that is being done is totally against the interest of the State. I want to join all of the civil society organizations in condemning the attempt to remove the current LACC leadership.”



Mike G. Doeco

“No, there should be no new Liberia Anti-Corruption

Commission act (LACC) because the present LACC Boss is up to the task of auditing government officials that are always found in the act of corruption. So, all the legislature needs to do is to support the LACC Boss to fight corruption in the country, and forget about establishing a new Anti- Corruption Commission.”

“No, there should be no new Liberia Anti-Commission Act (LACC). What we have been asking from the legislature and government is for the (LACC) to have that prosecutorial power, that has been our request. But for the legislature to remove the present LACC and get a new LACC, we say no to that because we have Liberia Anti-C o r r u p t i o n Commission Act already. What is the intent of Liberians getting a new LACC? In my mind, I think this is just a witch-



Life T. Wazerd

hunt against the LACC Boss, who has stood strong in fighting corruption in the country. This is an easy way of removing him from his position. There is no need of us to form a new LACC; let us continue with the LACC that we have already and give them the power to prosecute.”

“I say no to establishing a new Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission because the LACC Boss that is currently in charge is standing strong on his feet in fighting corruption in the country. So, the legislature should embrace this man for his effort towards prosecuting corrupt institutions and bringing government officials to book than to be intimidating him. If the legislature and the government can’t support this LACC Boss then the government is clearly



Abel King

trying to tell us that they are not ready to fight corruption in the country. So, everyone should just steal and go with impunity.”

“Yes, there should be a new Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission Act because the present Boss that is in power people didn’t vote for him. He was appointed. So, if the legislature wants to establish a new Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission, why should he worry if he knows very well that he is doing the right thing?”



Vincent Dadzie

Weah to meet Joe Biden

By Kruah Thompson

President George M. Weah is expected to officially meet United States President Joe Biden for the first time in Washington DC, nearly 5 years since his government came to power.

Liberia is considered one of US strongest allies and a visit to the White House by a sitting Liberian President reflects that relationship,

from December 13-15, 2022, aimed at promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth and development across the continent, expanding capital flows, and promoting the vibrant spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation that is so prevalent across Africa.

Analysts say the invitation has brought an end to the opposition's claim

the years, adding "We have now moved in the direction of overcoming the perils of the war, and the destruction it left in its track. I am sure some of us still remember the ethnic and political cleavages of the polarized nation we once had; one that valued identity over patriotism; and engaged in systemic exclusion and malfeasance."

She however called on leadership in every sector,



but that is yet to be seen with the Weah administration.

Therefore, President Weah's acceptance of the U.S. Government's invitation to attend the Special African Leaders' Summit in Washington, DC, this December has been viewed a beginning of progress.

"My good friend, Ambassador Michael McCarthy, please tell President Biden that I have officially accepted his invitation and in good faith, will be in the USA to represent my country, Liberia in December.", President Weah assured the US Ambassador McCarthy, in response to the invite from President Biden.

President Weah responded Tuesday, July 26, 2022, during ceremony marking Liberia's 175th independence celebrations, shortly after the US Ambassador to Liberia invited him via an official invite from President Joe Biden to attend a special African Summit in Washington, DC.

When he told the U.S. Ambassador to tell President Biden that he has officially accepted his request, the audience, who attended the Indoor ceremony at the Centennial Memorial Pavilion in central Monrovia stood up in their numbers and applauded President Weah for his decision.

According to a report, the African leaders' summit will be held in Washington, DC,

that the Liberian leader cannot go to the United States for various reasons.

Meanwhile, Liberia's 175th National Orator Mawine G. Diggs, has thanked President Weah for continually ensuring that women are seated at the table of leadership with a voice to transform the nation.

Madam Diggs announced on behalf of women in the country that President Weah has created a safe space for women in various sectors of the country.

"Today, as I stand in the shoes of great people, who came before me, I am also reminded that I am standing in place of all the women and girls across Liberia, who aspire to achieve greatness in the interest of Mama Liberia. "Women o-o-oh Women; Women o-o-oh Women; Our time is now". She noted.

The Independence Orator continued that President George Manneh Weah is often heard saying that "Without Peace, Our World Would Be Difficult", noting that for her, the statement always serves as a strong reminder of the importance of protecting peace as a nation, considering that twenty plus years after the end of the civil war, "We are still experiencing the after-effects in terms of lingering social and infrastructural deficits."

She showcased and reinforced that Liberia has made enormous strides over

particularly colleagues in government to desist from romanticizing the genuine challenges the country faces.

"It is a known fact that these are inherited challenges but by assuming the roles we have today, we have each made a conscious choice to commit to alleviating these challenges in support of the President's Pro-Poor Agenda for Prosperity and Development (PAPD)."

"Let us, therefore, desist from the desired attempts to show off our literary brilliance and instead act. Let us work for the people of Liberia", Madam Diggs pleaded with her fellow compatriots.

According to her, such actions manifest in every sector, including respect for the rights of women. She further noted that Liberia is currently acclaimed for breaking the glass ceiling therefore, Liberians must continue to forge ahead and not pay lip-service or relegate. "That my fellow Liberians, would be a true travesty."

Making a special statement at Liberia's 175th Independence Day celebration, President George Weah urged all citizens

to remove the illusion of disagreement and division, and to embrace unity, love, reconciliation, peace, stability, and nationalism.

President Weah: "Whether the Love of Liberty Brought us here or met us here, let the love of Liberty unite us here," President Weah urged Liberians. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Probe order or mere bluff?

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Attorney General has ordered an immediate probe into the Independence Day violence that left dozens of students from the state-run University wounded on Tuesday, 26 July 2022 when they clashed with pro government supporters.

In a statement issued Wednesday July 27, a day after the violent clash, Minister Musa Dean directed the Inspector General of Police to launch an immediate and full-scale investigation into the incident.

The statement stated that images of the violence being posted on social media show unwarranted use of force and maltreatment of some participating youths which has no place in the newfound democracy.

What happened?

On Tuesday July 26, students of the vanguard Student Unification Party (SUP) staged a protest against the George Weah government calling upon the latter to fix the system.

Their protest was met with brute force from supporters of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) calling themselves CDC Council of Patriots (CDC-COP).

The counter protest left several students wounded outside the United States Embassy near Monrovia. Social media was flooded with terrible images of wounded students and a video of one student who was stripped naked for protesting against the government. Some students narrowly escaped death at the hands of the CDC supporters.

The Government, as well as

Why were they protesting?

According to the protesting students, their peaceful gathering was intended to call the attention of national and international communities to societal problems.

They cited alleged increase in corruption, bad governance, mysterious deaths and disappearances, Sexual and Gender - Based Violence and economic hardship.

The students noted that these conditions have left the masses in extreme poverty and suffering.

The students' initial plan was to gather on the University of Liberia's Capitol Hill Campus before the protest.

But they suddenly avoided meeting on the campus after allegedly receiving intelligence that members of the ruling CDC - Council of Patriots had besieged the campus as early as 6:50A.M. on 26 July.

Their decision to meet outside the U.S. Embassy to avoid a counter - protest did not help, as government supporters moved on the students and inflicted wounds.

Two militants of SUP who went on the Capitol Hill campus without prior notice that it had been besieged by government supporters were beaten.

The fight continued throughout Central Monrovia with CDC - COP chasing SUP militants in the local communities.

What happened after the fight?

After the fight, members of some of the affected communities accused the CDC - Council of Patriots of allegedly damaging their properties and food with stones.



opposition and civil society groups on Wednesday condemned the clash violent clash which has now dubbed the country's 175th Independence Day as bloody July 26.

The two opposing groups clashed outside the United States Embassy where the students had gone to stage the protest while the official Independence Day program was ongoing at the Centennial Pavilion on Ashmum Street.

Some residents said their phones got missing when members of the CDC - COP entered their homes.

In interview with the head of the CDC - COP Ben Togba, he said they were out to protect and provide security for the government and its officials from every protest that does not have any basis and foundation.

He denied claims by residents of the Robert Street Community that the CDC - COP entered their

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