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THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022	L\$152.6830/US\$1.00	L\$154.3820/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

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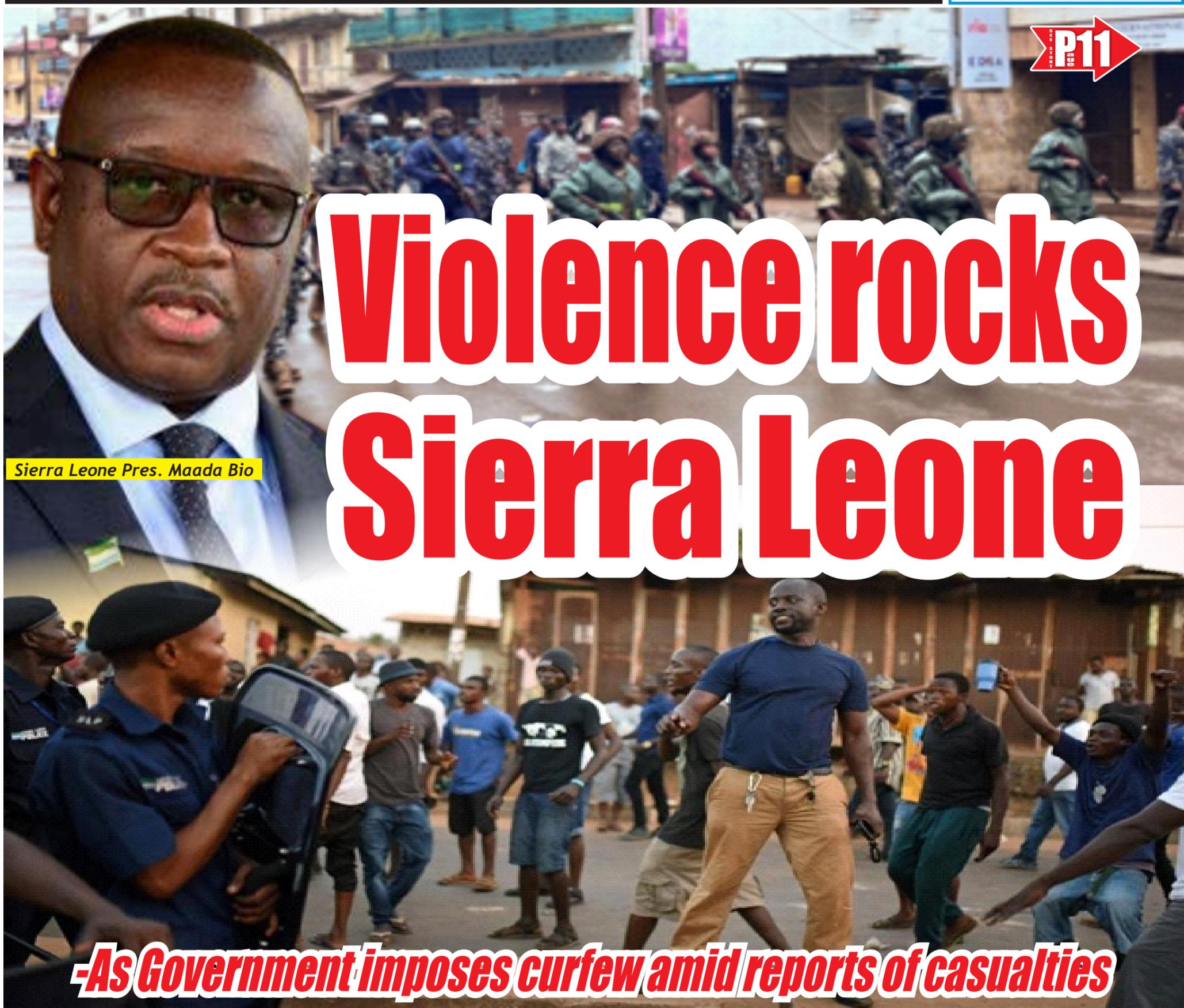
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VOL. 12 NO. 141      THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022      PRICE LD\$40.00



Sierra Leone Pres. Maada Bio

# Violence rocks Sierra Leone

**-As Government imposes curfew amid reports of casualties**

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# Continental News

## Kenya elections 2022: Raila Odinga and William Ruto in tight race for president

campaign dominated by debates about living costs, unemployment and corruption.

Turnout is estimated at around 64%, well short of the 80% in the last election five years ago.

However, electoral commission head Wafula Chebukati has said this figure

of the country.

At his latest briefing, Mr Chebukati said the commission had received 97% of presidential results sent in electronically, but official tallying would not begin until the physical results were received for verification.

He also referred to one of the incidents of violence reported on voting day involving an MP who is on the run for allegedly shooting dead his rival's bodyguard at a polling station.

"A murder case is a matter to be dealt with by the police, the law will take its course and justice will be served," he said.

The two frontrunners in the presidential race are seasoned politicians.

Mr Odinga, 77 - a long-serving opposition leader, nicknamed Baba ("father") by his supporters - is running for president for a fifth time. Mr Ruto, 55, who has tried to emphasise his connection with ordinary Kenyans by calling himself a "hustler", is taking his first stab at the presidency.

Two other candidates - David Mwaure and George Wajackoya - are also in the race.

Outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta is backing Mr Odinga, a foe turned ally, to succeed him, after a falling out with Mr Ruto.

To win the presidential race in the first round, a candidate needs:

more than half of all the votes cast across the country at least 25% of the votes cast in a minimum of 24 counties.

After counting the votes, local officials take a photo of the final tally sheet and send

the image to both the constituency and national tallying centres.

The media, political parties and civil society groups have been compiling their own tallies using these final results declared at the more than 40,000 polling stations.

But only the electoral commission can declare the winner of the presidential election after verifying the physical and digital forms sent to the national tallying centre.

It has seven days to announce the result. BBC

Provisional results suggest a tight presidential race in Kenya between Deputy President William Ruto and Raila Odinga, a former prime minister

With more than 90% of results posted from



More than 90% of polling stations across the country have reported results

thousands of individual districts, local tallies of the raw data suggest little separates the pair.

However it could be several days before the official result is known.

Tuesday's vote followed a

will go up once data comes in about voters who were verified manually, instead of via an electronic ID kit.

A largely peaceful election day was marred by logistical delays and a failure of these identification kits in some parts

## South Africa sex crime: Authorities charge seven over gang rape

South African authorities have charged seven men with 32 counts of rape after a mass assault at an abandoned mine near Johannesburg.

A group of eight women were attacked while filming a music video at the mine near the town of Krugersdorp last month.

Officials say they are illegal miners who dig for gold in disused shafts.

The men were among more than 60 suspects who appeared in court on immigration and firearms charges.

All are believed to be illegal migrants to South Africa. However, they are now expected to be tried separately because of the severity of their offences.

The suspects were identified by the women during a police line-up after the attacks.

But officers say the number of people charged could rise as DNA tests are concluded, as many of the

men involved were wearing balaclavas when they attacked the crew which concealed their identities.

One of the victims told the BBC the women were seeking "justice for all the girls that went through this...for the countless number of women who've been raped in this country".

Outside the court, protesters from civil society groups and several political parties

gathered to demand that the men are denied bail.

The assaults sparked outrage in South Africa and has seen some urge authorities to do more to tackle a spate of violence against women.

The country has one of the world's highest rate of rapes and sexual assaults, yet the conviction rate remains low.

The connection between



Women's rights protesters outside the court in Johannesburg last week

## Club in Sierra Leone being investigated for 91-1 win could be promoted



Gulf FC drew global headlines after their 91-1 win in Sierra Leone last month

A second-tier football club in Sierra Leone will be allowed to play in promotion play-offs despite still being under investigation for alleged match manipulation in a game which finished 91-1.

Gulf FC qualified for the Super 10 phase of the league after they defeated Koquima Lebanon 3-0 while closest challengers Kahunla Rangers lost 1-0 to Lumbebu United in replayed matches on Sunday.

The meetings between the respective clubs last month drew global headlines after Kono-based Gulf beat city rivals Koquima by a margin of 90 goals and Rangers, from Kenema, thrashed Lumbebu United 95-0.

Those two results were annulled because of allegations of match manipulation, forcing the

Sierra Leone Football Association (SLFA) to launch an investigation.

The four teams involved were suspended by the organisers of the games, the Eastern Region FA (ERFA), an affiliate body to the SLFA.

However, the bans were lifted by the ERFA last Thursday based on the findings of its disciplinary committee, which are yet to be made public.

"Based on the report we got from the ERFA we allowed the matches to be replayed so that we can meet our calendar," SLFA president Thomas Daddy Brima told BBC Sport Africa.

"But that does not in any way mean we have closed the case. We are sending it to Fifa and Caf (the Confederation of African Football) for them to look at it and advise accordingly.

"I can confirm that Gulf FC will be allowed to take part in the Super 10." BBC

the assaults and migration has seen angry mobs seeking to track down foreign miners and torch their homes in retaliation.

Earlier this week, three of the rape survivors told the BBC of their ordeal, which left them traumatised and in fear for their lives.

President Cyril Ramaphosa had appealed for help in bringing the attackers to justice during a national address earlier this month.

"These horrible acts of brutality are an affront to the right of women and girls to live and work in freedom and safety," Mr Ramaphosa told South Africans. BBC

# EDITORIAL

## EPA's assessment in Cape Mount desires more

**FINAL REPORT OF** environmental assessment and water quality testing released by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on spillage of cyanide into the Marvoe Creek and Mafa River in Grand Cape Mount county appears to be inexhaustive and stops short of holding anyone accountable. The report also fails to state clearly what measures have been put in place to avoid a repeat of said incident that threatens both human and aquatic lives.

**RATHER, THE EPA** says that all perimeters tested are appreciably below permissible limits it has set, and that the "water resource is safe for all intent and purpose."

**THE STATEMENT** "all perimeters tested are appreciably below permissible limits set" presupposes that the assessment was selective or restricted, in a matter that could have far reaching consequences and susceptible health problems.

**THE AGENCY HAD** earlier reported that a higher than permissible levels of free cyanide spillage from Bea Mountain Mining Company led to pollution of the Mafa River in Grand Cape Mount.

**ON MAY 24, 2022,** Bea Mountain confirmed receiving similar reports and subsequently warned residents in the surrounding areas on June 3, 2022 to avoid using the water streams for any purpose, pending detailed assessment.

**ONE WOULD HAVE** thought that said detailed assessment may have included bringing to book entities or individuals responsible, and actions to avert a reoccurrence. But as it stands, residents are being told water from the river is once again, safe for "all intent and purpose."

**HOWEVER, THE FACT** remains that both Bea Mountain and the New Liberty Gold Mine still operate in the county, and the former still uses cyanide that could spill again down stream the river and pose further environmental threats.

**IT IS IMPORTANT** that agency such as the EPA does everything in executing its responsibility in ways that leave no room for suspicion because of ambiguity. What advice did the Agency give to Bea Mountain regarding the operation of its plant that led to spillage of cyanide into river and creek used by citizens for drinking and other purposes?

**ALREADY, A LOCAL** chief from the affected area has raised concern about the assessment conducted by the EPA and findings released, contending that their lawyer is not in the know and so villagers would not fetch water from the affected river and creek until otherwise.

**SOMETHING IS NOT** adding up. The EPA should get down to villagers who are the direct victims of the pollution not only to allay their fears, but to assure them of measures put in place to avert a reoccurrence as well as to bring perpetrators to book.

**New Dawn**  
DAILY INDEPENDENT

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,  
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,  
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 /

# COMMENTARY

By Raghuram G. Rajan

## The Post-Inflation Economy That Could Be

**C**HICAGO - Economic commentaries nowadays are typically about inflation or recession, so let's instead consider the growth prospects once central banks get those challenges under control.

As matters stand, there appear to be worrisome headwinds to growth. As most advanced-economy populations age, their labor-force growth is slowing, so there will need to be greater productivity per worker to compensate. But with investment in physical capital muted, labor productivity is unlikely to grow rapidly without significant innovation, either in work processes or products. While it initially appeared that increased telecommuting during the pandemic would enhance productivity (by saving time and avoiding the duplication of capital at home and in the office), many firms are rediscovering the value of having workers in the office at least for some of the time.

Another headwind comes from poorer countries, where lower-middle-class households have suffered tremendously through the pandemic and now from food- and fuel-price inflation. Many children have missed more than two years of school and are likely to drop out, permanently impairing their earning potential and the skill-base of the labor force more broadly. Meanwhile, deglobalization - through reshoring, near-shoring, and friend-shoring - threatens to make it even more difficult for them to get good jobs. In the longer run, the weakness of demand in these countries will spill over to the developed world.

If the world does not find new sources of growth, it will fall back into the pre-pandemic malaise of secular stagnation. But this time, the situation could be worse, because most countries will have limited fiscal capacity to stimulate the economy, and because interest rates will not fall back quickly to their pre-pandemic lows.

Fortunately, there are tailwinds that could be unleashed. While trade in goods seems to have reached its limits before the pandemic, trade in services still has not. If countries can agree to remove various unnecessary barriers, new communications technologies would allow many services to be offered at a distance.

If a consultant working from home in Chicago can cater to a client in Austin, Texas, so can a consultant from Bangkok, Thailand. Yes, consultants in other countries might need to have front offices in the United States to assure quality or redress complaints. But the overall volume of work that could be undertaken by global consulting companies would grow substantially, and at a significantly lower cost, if their services could be offered across borders.

Similarly, telemedicine has become increasingly feasible not just in psychotherapy and radiology but also in routine medical diagnoses (sometimes aided by local equipment or a nurse practitioner). Again, global organizations (for example, a global Cleveland Clinic) could help reduce informational and reputational barriers, allowing for a general practitioner in India to conduct routine medical exams for patients in Detroit - referring them out to specialists in Detroit when needed.

The biggest barriers to such trade in services are not technological but artificial. Understandably, the authorities in advanced economies do not allow general practitioners in India to offer medical services without proper certification. But the problem is that most countries' certification procedures are unnecessarily cumbersome. What if the world could agree on a common certification process for the work done by general practitioners? A country with unusual ailments could tack on an addendum to the exam for those who want to practice there, but only if absolutely necessary.

A second problem is that national health-insurance schemes typically do not pay for services from outside the country. But if the certification challenge has been met, there is no good reason why they shouldn't, given the cost savings that would result.

A third barrier is data and privacy. No patient will be willing to share personal details or test results if she cannot be sure that the data will be kept confidential and safe from misuse. In an era of geopolitical tension and economic blackmail, meeting those conditions requires not just a commitment from the service provider but also assurances from the provider's government that it will not violate patient privacy. Democracies that can enact strong privacy laws (including limits on how much data their own government can see) will be better positioned to capitalize on this trade than autocracies, where there are few checks on government.

Imagine how much faster and more affordable it would be for a US citizen to reach a doctor if routine matters were outsourced. Developed countries would obviously benefit, but so would developing economies, because the incomes that their doctors generate would be used to employ more workers locally. Moreover, these doctors would be less likely to emigrate, and they could use the same telemedicine technologies to provide services in remote parts of their own countries. At the same time, specialists in advanced economies would be able to offer more of their services to patients in developing countries without them having to travel to New York or London, as they currently do.

But aren't service providers in rich countries likely to resist removing barriers that, together with the difficulty of competing at a distance, have ensured them high wages? Probably, but there will still be significant domestic demand for their non-routine services. Also, if barriers are lowered elsewhere, they will be able to serve much larger markets with specialized high value-added services. For this reason, an agreement on reducing barriers to trade in services among a broad set of countries will have a greater chance of success than bilateral agreements.

Moreover, many others in advanced economies, including manufacturing workers who have borne the brunt of global competition, will benefit from cheaper basic services. As economic inequality both within and across countries decreases, global demand should also strengthen.

Another potential tailwind for growth lies in "green" investments. Though Russia's war in Ukraine has complicated the clean-energy transition for Europe, much of the world's emissions-heavy capital still needs to be replaced, and those investments could help jump-start the global economy.

To aid the transition, each country will need to establish sensible incentives for businesses and consumers, such as investment credits, emission regulations, cap-and-trade systems, or carbon taxes. Governments also will need to agree on a system for allocating responsibility to high-emitting countries (which are typically rich and less vulnerable to climate change), so that they can help finance the energy transition in low-emitting countries (which are typically poorer and more vulnerable).

The post-pandemic, post-inflation economic outlook is not all doom and gloom. But much work needs to be done to dismantle artificial barriers and leverage existing technologies.

*Raghuram G. Rajan, former governor of the Reserve Bank of India, is Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the author, most recently, of The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind (Penguin, 2020).*

O-PED

By Raila Odinga

## Envisaging an African Green Economy

**N**AIROBI - As the global economy undergoes a fundamental transformation to decarbonize by 2050, the question for Africa is whether it can industrialize and rapidly develop without fossil fuels. The answer to that question is a resounding "yes," provided that the international community can reach a new global compact on the emerging green economy.

A new compact should include at least three core commitments. First, the international community should create a green-energy fund to promote an equitable energy transition in Africa. This would spur local entrepreneurship in the green-energy sector, including green manufacturing, supply chains, market access, and green-tech innovations.

Second, a global consensus must acknowledge that raw-materials exports are the core reason why Africa remains poor despite its vast minerals and commodities wealth. The international community should reject this status quo and, as the third pillar of the global compact, develop a framework to invest in green manufacturing in Africa.

This can take the form of global joint ventures and strategic partnerships to build manufacturing plants in Africa, with priority given to green projects. It is through manufacturing and the development of a value-added economy that Africa can achieve rapid industrialization, knowledge and technology transfers, and substantial reductions in poverty.

Kenya provides a template for reimagining the energy transition. We aspire to build a sustainable digital knowledge society that is diverse, open, inclusive, and democratic. It will be driven by research, innovation, and the prudent management of our natural resources within a well-managed, diversified economy. We intend to become a global leader in all facets of the green economy, including finance, information and communication technology (ICT), data science, research and development, and manufacturing.

Our ambition is matched by our history. When fintech was still in its infancy, Kenya emerged as a global leader in the sector with the invention of the digital-payment system M-Pesa. Then, in 2009 alone, we attracted greenfield investments in the software and IT sector from 63 countries. Today, we host global companies such as Microsoft, Alphabet (Google), Cisco, Oracle, IBM, Abbott Laboratories, and Meta (Facebook). As an emerging global ICT hub, Kenya today is considered one of the most innovative countries in Africa.

In the environmental field, Kenya's favored daughter, the late Wangari Maathai, won the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize for building the Green Belt Movement, a pioneering global campaign to protect ecosystems and address the links between poverty, clean water, food security, and climate change. And earlier, in October 1973, Kenya became the first country in the Global South to host a United Nations agency. The United Nations Environment Program has been headquartered in Kenya ever since, and 23 other UN agencies now operate here.

Kenya is also a leader in the renewable energy sector, with 75% of its electricity sourced from solar, geothermal, wind, and hydropower. With the use of decentralized smart grids and mini green grids, we can achieve 100% renewable power while also rapidly scaling up rural electrification to promote digital and financial inclusion.

But Kenya is only getting started. Our natural resources are vast. We have large deposits of rare earth elements and critical metals that are essential for electric vehicles (EVs) and other technologies needed to drive decarbonization. If used properly, these minerals can be the building blocks of sustainable green manufacturing, infrastructure, and supply chains. By promoting green manufacturing, we can create large numbers of well-paying jobs and lift millions of people out of poverty. High-quality "green products" based on modern best practices command higher prices. By promoting high-value industries, we will unleash our greatest resource: the energies and talents of our youth.

But this transition will require investing in green infrastructure and the human capital required to sustain green-business ecosystems. For this reason, I believe that Kenya, like many developing countries, must make green manufacturing a national priority. We can make rapid progress toward this goal by decarbonizing and raising productivity in agro-processing sectors such as cotton, textiles, and apparel. We also must restructure the steel industry to produce high-quality "green steel," and we must manufacture more of the high-value products that rely on the rare earth elements and critical metals that are abundant in Kenya.

The same is true across Africa. Imagine chocolate made entirely in Ghana or Côte d'Ivoire. Imagine EV batteries manufactured in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and green steel from Kenya. Imagine copper fully processed in Zambia, and diamonds exported as finished products from Botswana. Imagine Africa becoming the top global producer of green hydrogen and the leader in carbon-capture technology. Imagine a continent that can leapfrog ahead of the rest of the world in green technology, R&D, manufacturing, and finance.

It's a realistic vision. But it will require a new global compact. With the full support of the international community through appropriate financial facilities and a framework to promote green manufacturing and discourage raw-materials exports from Africa, countries like Kenya can set the pace in creating twenty-first-century sustainable economies, lift millions of people out of poverty, and secure the future of our planet.

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OPINION

By Jayati Ghosh

## Curbing Commodity-Market Speculation

**N**EW DELHI - Primary commodity prices have been on a roller-coaster ride for the past year, and especially for the past six months. In the futures markets, crude oil prices rose by 39% in the month from February 8 to March 8, 2022, from \$89 per barrel to \$124 per barrel, and then fell by 23% in the following month to \$95 per barrel. The price climbed again, to \$122 per barrel, on June 8, but had declined to \$88 per barrel on August 4 - below the level of early February.

Global prices of wheat futures have exhibited similar volatility. The price of soft red winter wheat soared from \$332 per metric ton in January to \$672 per ton in April, but by June had fallen to \$380 - still about 50% higher than a year ago, but well below this spring's crazy peaks.

These dramatic price movements were not triggered by changes in real output and demand. Blaming big commodity-price spikes on supply shortages caused by Russia's war in Ukraine does not capture the full truth. In particular, the large increases in Big Oil and agribusiness firms' profit margins indicate that they raised prices of energy and food, respectively, well beyond any level that could be justified by their own cost increases. But frantic speculative activity, mainly by financial companies like hedge funds that dominate trading, has made matters much worse, as I have noted elsewhere.

For example, a study by Kabir Agarwal, Thin Lei Win, and Margot Gibbs found that investment funds have been hyperactive in the Paris wheat market. These funds' share of long positions in wheat futures increased from 23% in May 2018 to as much as 72% in April 2022, and remained above 50% in May 2022. Another recent study found that trading volumes at the European Union natural gas market's primary gas-pricing hub, the Title Transfer Facility, increased steadily over the past decade from 14 times actual gas consumption in 2011 to more than 114 times in 2020.

The chaos that such speculation can cause was evident in March this year, when a dramatic spike in nickel prices forced the London Metal Exchange to suspend trading and cancel all deals. Over-the-counter (OTC) trades that occur outside the regulated exchange were held partly responsible, and the LME will now require all traders to report their OTC positions on all physically delivered metals each week.

But prices in other commodity derivatives markets remain highly volatile, as hedge funds and other financial firms rush out as rapidly as they piled in. This matters hugely because food, fuel, and basic metals are essential for production and for life itself. Commodity-price volatility affects living standards and the ability to produce goods and services, and is contributing to the stagflation and hunger now stalking most low- and middle-income countries. Some stabilization and regulation of these prices is therefore essential - and not only to curb inflation.

So, why are these swings allowed to occur? Policymakers obviously are aware of the implications of frenetic financial activity in markets for essential commodities. Something similar happened in 2007-09, when oil and food prices first rose sharply and then declined to earlier levels in the space of 18 months, causing economic devastation. After that experience and in the aftermath of the 2008 global financial crisis, both the United States (through the Dodd-Frank Act) and the EU sought to regulate commodity derivatives to some extent.

Ideally, the regulations should have prevented speculation by ensuring that all trading occurs on regulated exchanges, not on an OTC basis, and in a transparent manner with full information about the actual players and their bids. Furthermore, exchanges should allow only those with a direct operational interest in commodities to trade them. (For example, an airline company should be permitted to operate in the futures market for aviation fuel, but a hedge fund should not.) And market participants should adhere to limits on the positions that they can hold, depending on their real use, need, or production of that commodity.

US and EU regulations matter most, because these markets largely determine global commodity prices. But the earlier regulatory changes did not go far enough, and have since been watered down.

Existing EU rules help to prevent market abuse on official exchanges by limiting individual traders' positions, but they still allow OTC commodity trading, enabling excessive speculation to continue. The US prohibits OTC trading in most commodities, but financial agents can still enter the market through proxies. And position limits have been kept so high that they do not prevent large bids from influencing prices.

As a result, financial speculation in essential commodities can still play havoc with people's lives and livelihoods. Fortunately, there are signs that regulators are taking notice. At a recent G20 meeting in Indonesia, Klaas Knot, the chair of the Financial Stability Board (a grouping of central bankers, finance ministers, and regulators from G20 countries) called for close monitoring of speculative activity. "The centrality of key energy, metals, and food commodities to the functioning of the global economy," Knot said, "means that any disruptions to the financing of producers or traders in these markets could have an outsized impact."

But mere monitoring will not be enough. The regulatory measures needed to restrict commodity-market speculation are obvious, so the lack of prompt action is striking. It suggests that regulators and policymakers are still putting financial interests above everything else, regardless of the cost to everyone else.

*Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is a member of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism.*

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## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

**'McGill's statement undermines development partners' confidence in GOL'**

By Lewis S Teh

The Center for Accountability and Transparency in Liberia (CENTAL) says the recent statement by Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Nathaniel F. McGill

government," CENTAL Executive Director Anderson Miamen said Wednesday, 10 August 2022.

Addressing reporters at a press conference at CENTAL head office in Sinkor, Miamen said such statement coming from a high-profile

He said corruption is forbidden in Liberia and around the world, and such an act needs no justification by any officials.

Minister McGill while attending a well-organized political engagement with citizens in Bong County recently said even if he steals government money as claimed by others, at least he is building with the money in Liberia.

He claimed that the projects will benefit citizens instead of previous officials who he accused of stealing from the government and sending the money to Europe and other countries.

However, CENTAL reminded Minister McGill that his comment has grossly undermined the fight against corruption.

Miamen said Liberians and development partners will be deeply concerned and further apprehensive about the proper utilization of their resources.

He argued that taxes and financial contributions of Liberians and international partners are integral part of the public resources and assets that are being referenced by Minister McGill.

"We call on every well-

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**Freeport of Monrovia goes paperless****-LRA & APM Terminals Liberia launch port digitization project**

The Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) and port operator APM Terminals Liberia have launched the Port Automation and Digitization (PAD) project at the Freeport of Monrovia.

The launch of the project comes after months of consultations and engagements with stakeholders, a release says.

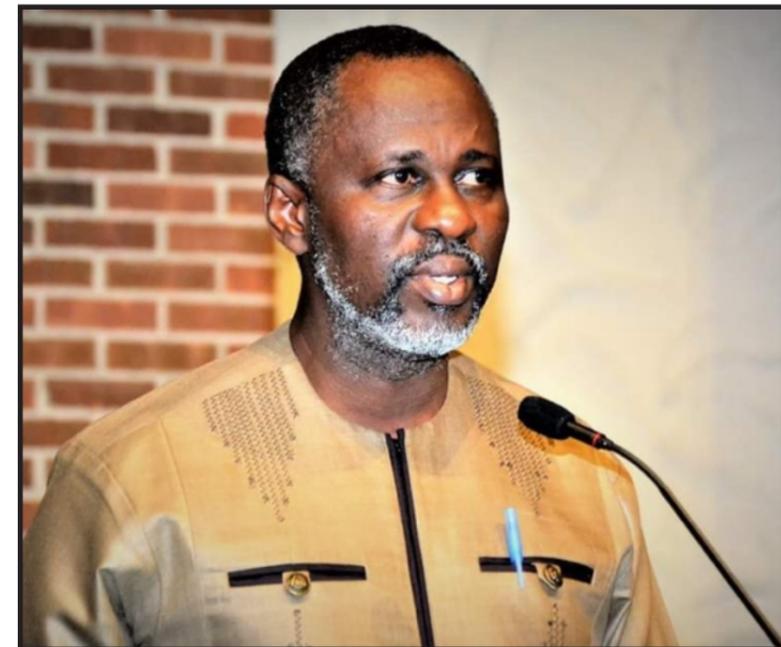
The launch heralds a new phase of computerized processes at the Freeport of Monrovia which eliminates paper and reduces human interface as much as possible.

This will significantly improve the efficiency of both custom clearance processes and terminal operations in the long

commend APM Terminals Liberia and partners for launching this initiative and for their collaboration in making sure that we achieve full success with Port Automation and Digitization" Mr. Tweah noted.

Mr. Thomas Doe Nah, Commissioner General of the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), implementing partner of the project, highlighted the importance of Port Automation and Digitization to the Authority's mandate of revenue collection.

"As a key partner to this initiative, we are convinced about its potential to help us deal with loopholes and leakages often facilitated by human interventions so that we can



has already undermined citizens and international partners' confidence in the Government of Liberia.

"The anti-accountability comments made by Minister McGill have the ability to further undermine citizens and development partners' confidence in the Liberian

government official may have implications on the country's budget and other support given by international partners.

"We like to remind Minister McGill that there should be no place for corruption in Liberia," Miamen said.

**Dr. Tenny fires at State Minister McGill****-for disunity in CDC**

Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

A stalwart of the running Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) Dr. Lester Zomatic Tenny sharply blames the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs Nathaniel F. McGill, for disunity in the ruling party. Minister McGill is a former executive of the CDC.

Dr. Tenny's harsh words are in response to Minister McGill's comments about corruption made recently in Bong county when he said nothing is wrong in taking public money to construct private property in the country because said money is invested here.

On Monday, August 8, 2022, while on a visit to Gbarnga, Bong County, North-Eastern Liberia, where he presented a cash of 20 million Liberian Dollars to a group of women, who had graduated from a skill training program, Min. McGill said he sees nothing wrong with public officials stealing government money as long as

they use the stolen money to improve the lives of citizens.

However, McGill said he spoke in context.

"There are people saying oh, the government people stealing the money, even if I were stealing the money and giving it to the Liberian people, that's not go thing I did? Because at least I am not stealing and carrying it in Europe," McGill said.

Providing further justification, he said during the administration of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, public officials amassed wealth just as current government's officials are doing, but the

difference is, unlike in the past government, officials of this administration are giving their wealth back to the people.

Although Minister McGill, as the President Chief of Staff is no nowhere near the country's financial institutions, he is often seen on many occasions dishing out huge sum of money, especially in Bong County, and other parts of Liberia, where it is believed he is building his political base for a post-Weah presidential bid.

But Dr. Tenny thinks the state minister is instigating disunity in the CDC and exposing the party to the Liberian people.



term and reaffirm the Freeport of Monrovia's position as the gateway to the economy of Liberia and the Mano River Union.

At a ceremony attended by a wide swath of government and business leaders, various speakers emphasized the importance of this new initiative to the efficiency of port processes, ease of doing business and revenue mobilization.

Minister of Finance & Development Planning and keynote speaker, Mr. Samuel Tweah, commended APM Terminals Liberia and partners for the historic and transformative initiative.

"Digitizing the Port comes with numerous benefits to the economy in terms of ease of doing business and revenue mobilization."

"This development has the full endorsement and support of His Excellency President George Weah, whose policies have been focused on strengthening our economy to boost trade and business and create opportunities for all," said Minister Tweah.

"It is in this light that I

maximize port revenue as we should," Mr. Nah remarked.

Spearheading the project is APM Terminals Liberia whose Managing Director, Jonathan Graham was full of gratitude to the various partners.

Mr. Graham stressed the need for even stronger partnerships with PAD journey, in the roll out of the project.

He added that such is the only way that the Freeport of Monrovia can be transformed into a modern port serving Liberia and the sub region.

"Today is a very significant day in the history of the Free Port of Monrovia. The strong partnership between us and the various port stakeholders has been demonstrated once again and we are immensely grateful to all the players who have worked with us from project conception to implementation," he said.

"Let me please reiterate the importance of these partnerships. They are crucial to us, and we see it as the only way we can collectively transform the Free Port of Monrovia," Mr. Graham said.

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## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Works Minister Ruth Collins in hot water

Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

Public Works Minister Ruth- Coker Collins appears to be in hot water, as Civil Law Court "A"

connection with an investigative survey on an alleyway that was conducted by the Public Works Ministry and the other party in the Township of

Sulonteh, on July 27, 2022 received a citation for a conference, but she allegedly failed to appear.

However, Judge Sammy said due to the Minister's failure, she was held in contempt charge by the court and was to appear on Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

Judge Sammy also indicated that the Public Works Minister, upon her appearance, will show cause why she should not be held in contempt.

The court termed the alleged act of Minister Ruth Coker-Collins and her legal representation as a total disrespect.

Meanwhile, Judge Sammy has instructed the sheriff to arrest Minister Coker-Collins and her two deputies, including her lawyer.

The judge also ordered the incarceration of the party at the Monrovia Central Prison for a period of one month, for their alleged defiant and disrespectful attitude exhibited to the court.



Presiding Judge, Nancy Finda Sammy issues a writ of arrest against the Minister, her lawyer and two deputies.

The judge's action is in

Caldwell, Montserrado county.

Minister Coker-Collins along with her deputies and lawyer Cllr. Dallamah

# UNDP Partners with MCC to launch Cash for Work Waste Management program

Monrovia, Liberia; August 10, 2022: UNDP in partnership with the Monrovia City Corporation (MCC) and in collaboration with the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) Program, will on 13, August 2022, launch a Cash for Work clean-up exercise covering 10 communities in Monrovia and its surroundings to help tackle the issue of poor waste management, while providing short-term income to support livelihood for disadvantaged communities with emphasis on youth.

The exercise is part of UNDP and the Government of Liberia Livelihood & Employment Creation Project that promotes access to income for vulnerable

and sanitation in their communities. They will receive a daily stipend of US\$5.00 dollars, amounting to US\$100.00 over the 20-day period.

To ensure sustainability of the intervention, UNDP is providing a consignment of tools for each of the communities. The communities will be linked with private waste entrepreneurs who will be purchasing plastics waste for recycling purposes. Communities will also be linked with community-based enterprises to support house-to-house waste collection while the leadership of the communities have committed to have the volunteers retained in the form of community volunteer corps to lead the charge on waste management in their



population including youth, women, and persons with disabilities.

The project working closely with community leaderships and the MCC Community Service and Solid Waste Management Departments, has enrolled four hundred community volunteers from the targeted 10 communities that are currently challenged due to limited coverage by existing waste collection schemes. The beneficiaries were selected following a transparent and participatory raffle process that ensured gender balance.

The community volunteers between the ages of 18-35 years were selected from Jallah Town, Slipway, Vai Town, Plumkor, West Point, PHP, Saye Town, Capitol Hill, Buzzy Quarter, God Bless You Community, Bras and People's United Community.

Over the next twenty days, the volunteers will participate in the collection of waste, cleaning of the beaches and riverbank areas to support improving waste management

communities.

The current situation of waste in Monrovia remains an environmental and health concern for members of households that may suffer waste borne diseases due to poor waste management. There is evidence that shows a linear correlation between waste management challenges and people's livelihood.

"The response will help to improve access to income and livelihoods for the population, uplift the socio-economic status of communities through cash transfers and promote volunteerism," said E. Abraham Tumbey Jr. UNDP Focal Person for the Livelihood & Employment Creation Program.

In addition to cash incomes, the communities will own and manage tools procured by the project to use for routine clean-up campaigns.

The UNV programme is supporting community mobilization and coordination, strategic oversight and supervision for monitoring and evaluation.

# EPA alarms over destruction of wetlands

By Lewis S Teh

Authorities at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) alarm over increasing waves of destruction of wetlands by unauthorized citizens across the country.

"The action on the part of our people by constructing in wetlands areas continue to undermine the integrity of this fragile ecosystem of importance", the EPA says, and adds that Liberia is a contracting party to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Addressing a news conference in Monrovia Tuesday, August 9, 2022, EPA Executive Director Prof. Wilson K. Tarpeh said, construction of houses in wetlands areas causes serious destruction of the country.

Prof. Tarpeh explains that the EPA is the arm of government that is responsible to protect and manage the environment, and to ensure that Liberia honors her international obligations in protecting and managing the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

"As you may be aware, our country is endowed with six (6) major wetlands of international importance; all of which play an important role in the ecosystem", he underscores.

The EPA boss continues that Wetlands serve as habitat for the plants (mangroves, water lilies, algae) and animal species (fishes, turtles, birds, snakes, crocodiles).

He says Wetlands serve as the sponge of the environment with absorption capacity, and they serve as a habitat for fishes to lay eggs, while also serving as nutrients of the environment.

According to Prof. Tarpeh, the deposit of soil nutrients is found in wetlands for soil fertility and serves as kidney of the environment in helping to filter unwanted materials as well as liver of the environment in helping to detoxify materials within the environment.

They also serve as a reservoir in storing waters, as a major shore stabilizer to prevent flooding.

"Wetlands are under severe threat mainly from human activities such as: cutting of the mangrove's forests; growing wave of illegal human settlement; indiscriminate dumping of waste; usage of dynamite to kill fishes and many others harmful practices."

Prof. Tarpeh recalls that for the past several years, the EPA has embarked on several actions to protect wetlands, including Developing National Wetlands Policy; creating jingles that to increase awareness about the importance of protecting and managing wetlands in a sustainable manner.



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# GOL constructs Billy bridge in River Gee

Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

The Government of Liberia (GOL) through the Ministry of Public Works (MPW) has begun construction for a bridge over River Nur in

was originally constructed back in 1974, linking Grand Kru and River Gee counties.

Grand Kru Superintendent Doris Ylatun narrated that the construction of the billy

immediate aid.

She said in finding positive solution aimed at addressing the plights of citizens, her office and that of River Gee Superintendent Philip Nyumah wrote a communication to legislative caucuses of both counties, which led government to order for the construction of the bridge.

Madam Ylatun said that the old bridge was a complete hazard and death trap in the area, thereby stalling agriculture and economic activities.

She disclosed that Public Works engineer on the ground has assured that the billy bridge will be completed in one month.

She said when completed, it will make significant impact on the lives of citizens residing in the two counties

For his part, River Gee county Superintendent Philip Nyumah said the bridge will serve as a major link to other counties and bring relief to the people of Grand Kru and River Gee, especially local farmers and commercial drivers.

bridge is in response to several appeals from locals and business people, requesting central government to come to their

Joquiken, a densely populated gold mining community in River Gee County.

Report from the county says the iron bridge which



# Lonestar Cell MTN, Official GSM Sponsor of the Liberia Marathon Register with Mobile Money and receive a discount

Monrovia, Liberia (Aug 10, 2022) Lonestar Cell MTN, Liberia's leading GSM and mobile financial services company, has become the Official GSM sponsor of the 2022 Liberia Marathon.

Lonestar Cell MTN sponsorship, valued at over \$35,000 includes cash prizes, voice and data packages for the event organizers, internet access, media coverage and other support services.

Lonestar Cell MTN's Chief Marketing Officer said Lonestar Cell MTN sponsored the Liberian Marathon because the event represents one of the company's core values: Diversity and Inclusion.

"Regardless of gender, religion, physical ability or political affiliation, everyone is encouraged to participate in the Liberia Marathon. This unifying event really brings us together," said Mr. Ajayi.

This year, the Liberia marathon is composed of three races, the full marathon, the half marathon and the 10K which is for walkers, for people in wheelchairs or on crutches.

What is also making the marathon accessible to all is

access to digital payments. Participants can register for the Marathon on Facebook Messenger and pay their registration fees safely and securely through their Lonestar Cell MTN Mobile Money wallets.

"The great thing about using Mobile Money is that when runners register for the marathon using Mobile Money, they receive a 50% discount on registration fees," said Nula Enders, Lonestar Cell MTN Brand Communications Coordinator.

Mr. Kpetermeni Siakor,

the Marathon's volunteer developer who created the feature using Lonestar Cell MTN Open API said the organizers thought that it would provide convenience for runners.

"We chose to integrate Lonestar Cell MTN Mobile Money into the Facebook Messenger registration feature because it's a secure and it's an easily accessible form of payment.," he said.

Digital payments, according to Lonestar Cell MTN, gives everyone the chance to participate.



# Housing units for Liberian returnees near completion

By Lewis S Teh

The Liberia Refugees, Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC) has assured Liberian returnees from Ghana and other African countries of government's unflinching support to providing them suitable temporary homes upon arrival back home.

Since the end of the civil war here, Liberians, who sought refuge in neighboring countries have been struggling to return home especially, those residing at the Buduburam camp in Ghana that were asked to vacate the camp by Ghanaian authorities.

During a site seeing tour of ongoing construction of temporary homes for returnees, LRRRC authorities said they are concerned about the well-being of returnees, but lack of

Liberians who are returning home after many years of seeking refuge in Ghana due to the civil war.

Karr did not disclose amount LRRRC is paying his company for the work, but noted that as a Liberian company, they have reached an agreement in the best interest of all, including the returnees expected in the country before the end of the year.

He said that his company was sub-contracted by Future Builders Incorporated, another construction company to specifically erect the prefab housing units that are constructed, using iron and a particular zinc rather than tarpaulins or blocks.

LRRRC Executive Director, Rev. Fetus Logan said, the reason for using iron zinc to construct the housing units is to ensure



sufficient funding poses threat to their activities.

The tour was thoroughly conducted recently at which time it was observed that a transit center is being constructed in Johnsonville through the supervision of LRRRC with funding from UNHCR. When completed, the facility will temporarily host returnees until they are reconnected with family members.

Prefabricated housing units are being constructed with each containing six rooms and a water tower to supply the facilities, including electricity to give former refugees a life worth living though it would be transitory.

At the Johnsonville site, contractor Madison Karr, who works for Super Incorporated, a construction company with expertise in building and managing prefab units expressed delight that he is leading a team of Liberians involved in building temporary dwelling places for fellow

durability and avoid frequent repairs.

Rev. Logan explained that his office does not have enough funding and requisite logistics, but is thankful that central government is making efforts to provide needed resources to repatriate returnees.

Logan disclosed that 1,539 former Liberian refugees have already been profiled and are willing to return home hopefully by September 2022.

He said the transit center in Johnsonville is being constructed on 3.1 acres, detailing that some returnees will go to Nimba and Grand Gedeh, counties, their respective original homes but the Commission will closely work with partners to ensure they are reintegrated properly.

"About 200 persons are undecided on where they will go next after here. Some have stayed in Ghana for 32 years and they know only Ghana. They will stay in this transit camp until they have a place each to go," he said.

# Français

## Le Libéria améliore son score sur l'indice de transparence budgétaire

Le plan solide lancé par le gouvernement pour assurer l'efficacité de la transparence budgétaire lui a permis de réaliser certains progrès sur l'indice de transparence budgétaire, en plus des progrès réalisés au fil des ans.

Le gouvernement du Libéria s'est engagé à assurer la transparence budgétaire, en mettant à disposition tous ses rapports et documents financiers dans le domaine public - discours publics, médias imprimés et électroniques.

En ce qui concerne l'indice de transparence du partenariat budgétaire international, le Libéria a amélioré son score sur l'indice de transparence budgétaire, passant de 38 % en 2019 à 45 % en 2021.

Le Libéria a souscrit aux principes de gouvernance ouverte et est devenu membre du Partenariat international pour un gouvernement ouvert (OGP) en 2012, du Partenariat budgétaire international (IBP) et, plus récemment, en 2019, a demandé la gestion

complète de l'Initiative mondiale pour la transparence budgétaire (GIFT) dont on s'attend à ce qu'il soit officiellement admis dans le réseau d'intendance GIFT à Bogota, en République islamique de Colombie en août cette année (2022).

Rappelons que depuis son ascension à l'IBP, le pays a participé à sept (7) séries d'Enquêtes sur le budget ouvert (OBS), qui sont menées périodiquement tous les deux ans par l'International Budget Partnership (IBP), une filiale du

Groupe de la Banque mondiale.

Le score actuel du Libéria est de 45% à partir du rapport OBS 2021, tandis que dans le cadre de l'accord de partenariat pour un gouvernement ouvert (OGP), le pays est tenu de produire chaque année et de rendre public, en temps opportun.

En outre, environ 10 000 exemplaires du Guide du citoyen sur le budget national

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## Le GIABA organise un séminaire national de sensibilisation

Le Groupe d'action intergouvernemental contre le blanchiment d'argent en Afrique de l'Ouest (GIABA) a organisé un séminaire national de sensibilisation du 9 au 10 août à Monrovia, au Libéria, à l'intention des chefs religieux et des institutions, sur la mise en œuvre des mesures de lutte contre le blanchiment d'argent et le financement du terrorisme (AML/CFT).

S'exprimant lors de la cérémonie d'ouverture mardi, le vice-ministre des Finances Augustus Flomo a indiqué qu'il est dans l'intérêt des Libériens de lutter contre le blanchiment d'argent sur tous les fronts.

Le ministre Flomo a demandé aux chefs religieux des communautés chrétienne et musulmane de s'informer sur l'origine de l'argent qu'ils reçoivent de leurs fidèles, étant donné que les lieux d'adoration jouent un rôle important dans

l'amélioration de la valeur morale des personnes dans la société depuis leur enfance.

Il leur a demandé de faire attention car les personnes qui se livrent au blanchiment d'argent prétendent souvent être gentilles et généreuses dans leur communauté. C'est pourquoi les chefs religieux ont le devoir moral de s'interroger sur les sources de l'argent qu'ils reçoivent afin de ne pas se faire complices du blanchiment d'argent et du financement du terrorisme (AML/CFT).

Le ministre Flomo a promis que le gouvernement travaillera avec la communauté religieuse pour lutter contre le blanchiment d'argent dans la société.

Pour sa part, l'ancien directeur général de la Cellule de renseignement financier du Libéria (FIUL), Edwin W. Harris, a affirmé que le GIABA est destiné à lutter contre le blanchiment d'argent et le financement des terroristes dans la sous-région.

Selon lui, le GIABA a mené des actions de sensibilisation

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## Éditorial

### Quand les agissements de la police laissent à désirer

LES RÉCENTS AGISSEMENTS de la Police nationale du Libéria (LNP) semblent friser la contradiction, au point de perdre progressivement la confiance du public, vu son manque de volonté politique dans la lutte contre les crimes et concernant la protection des personnes et des biens.

LA POLICE, SOUS la direction du directeur Patrick Sudue, a suspendu plusieurs officiers supérieurs pour complaisance ou pour la manière dont ils ont géré la manifestation du 26 juillet, jour de l'indépendance, au cours de laquelle plusieurs étudiants de l'Université du Libéria ont été blessés.

LES AUTORITÉS DE la LNP ont agi une semaine après les violences sanglantes et six jours après que le président George Manneh Weah s'est officiellement adressé à la nation dans un discours préenregistré diffusé sur la radio d'État et après que la communauté internationale (Grande-Bretagne, États-Unis, Nations Unies et Union européenne) a publié le lendemain une déclaration commune appelant à une enquête approfondie sur l'incident.

LA POLICE A PROCÉDÉ à quelques arrestations. Il s'agirait des leaders du Conseil des patriotes du CDC, un groupe proche du parti au pouvoir qui a brutalement attaqué des étudiants protestataires le 26 juillet.

LA VIOLENCE SANGLANTE a été diffusée en direct, mais la police avait initialement déclaré qu'elle n'avait aucune information pour procéder à des arrestations. Elle a plutôt demandé au public, y compris aux blessés, de sortir et de déposer des plaintes officielles, faisant ainsi montre d'un manque de volonté politique d'appliquer la loi.

MAINTENANT, AVEC DES condamnations à l'échelle nationale et des pressions internationales, la police a suspendu plusieurs officiers dans le but de sauver sa face.

LORSQU'UNE INSTITUTION publique clé comme la police, qui est constitutionnellement chargée de la responsabilité de servir et de protéger, ignore ou abandonne délibérément son devoir pour quelque raison que ce soit, le public est livré à soi-même et l'anarchie prend le devant de la scène, comme cela a été le cas le 26 juillet.

LA FAMILLE DE PRINCESSE Cooper, 25 ans, qui a été découverte morte le 24 mars 2022 dans une cour derrière la FAWAZ Building Construction Company à ELWA Junction, Paynesville, dans une mare de sang, pleure toujours pour la justice avec une police qui laisse à désirer. Une police qui est plus partisane que professionnelle.

# Français

## Le Libéria améliore son

(résumé du budget national) seront produits, tandis que le gouvernement devrait tenir 15 assemblées publiques, organiser 15 émissions-débats radiophoniques en direct visant à discuter de la situation du budget national et les documents budgétaires connexes, ainsi que de répondre aux questions du public sur ses rapports budgétaires, y compris le budget national.

Conformément à l'OGP, il y aura une publication dans au moins cinq (5) quotidiens locaux largement lus et sur les sites Web du gouvernement de ses rapports budgétaires et des informations clés concernant la préparation, l'adoption / l'approbation, l'exécution et la communication du budget national, y compris la réalisation à la disposition du public gratuitement, dans un format interactif, convivial et lisible par machine, huit (8) types de documents budgétaires dans les délais prévus par la loi.

## Le GIABA organise un séminaire

au Nigeria et en Côte d'Ivoire parmi les chefs religieux, et que la sensibilisation au Libéria permettra aux Libériens de mieux comprendre le phénomène du blanchiment d'argent.

Quant à Emmanuel T. Gee, officier chargé de la Cellule de renseignement financier du Libéria (FIUL) qui est actuellement en transition vers l'Agence de renseignement financier du Libéria (FIAL), a attiré l'attention des uns et des autres sur la l'énormité du danger que cause le blanchiment d'argent et le financement du terrorisme à toute l'économie sous-régionale et mondiale.

Il a averti que les blanchisseurs et les financiers des terroristes profitent des vulnérabilités des lois, des procédures et des systèmes pour commettre des crimes odieux seuls ou en association avec des facilitateurs et des gardiens.

Selon lui, le risque d'utiliser la religion pour perpétrer des crimes de blanchiment d'argent et de financement du terrorisme par le biais des organisations à but non lucratif (OBNL) est très élevé et, par conséquent, des mesures sont prises pour remédier à ces vulnérabilités dans de nombreuses juridictions, dont le Libéria.

Ainsi, la prise de conscience et la sensibilisation sont des mesures clés pour préparer et

En outre, dans le but d'améliorer et d'accroître la transparence budgétaire, le gouvernement a élaboré un plan pour améliorer son indice des trois dimensions.

À partir de la préparation du budget national de l'exercice 2023, un groupe consultatif sur la transparence budgétaire sera inauguré, composé à la fois d'organisations gouvernementales et de la société civile et la mise en œuvre de consultations publiques pour solliciter les contributions des citoyens afin de déterminer les priorités budgétaires pour le budget national de l'exercice 2023.

En outre, le gouvernement achèvera, commandera et lancera la mise en service de plusieurs plateformes numériques, notamment le portail du budget citoyen, le mécanisme de rétroaction des citoyens, etc., qui offriront des opportunités et un meilleur accès à ses données budgétaires.

amener les acteurs des secteurs vulnérables à faire preuve de prudence, à prévenir et à signaler les activités suspectes au FIUL, au ministère de la Justice et aux agences chargées de l'application des lois.

« Au cours de cet atelier de sensibilisation, nous espérons que l'objectif sera atteint et que les chefs religieux et les institutions prendront l'engagement de soutenir cette lutte, en tant que parties prenantes liées à l'efficacité du régime de LBC/FT du Libéria », a ajouté M. Gee.

Il a félicité le gouvernement du Libéria pour l'adoption de lois majeures ayant un impact positif sur le régime de LBC/FT du pays, notamment la loi sur l'Agence de renseignement financier, la nouvelle loi sur la Commission anticorruption du Libéria (LACC) et les mesures préventives de LBC/FT.

M. Gee a ensuite exprimé sa gratitude au GIABA, organisme régional similaire au FAFT, pour son soutien et sa collaboration continue avec les autorités nationales d'Afrique de l'Ouest dans la lutte contre le blanchiment d'argent, le financement du terrorisme et le financement de la prolifération des armes.

Le Groupe intergouvernemental d'action contre le blanchiment d'argent en Afrique de l'Ouest (GIABA) a été créé par la Conférence des chefs d'État et de gouvernement de la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO) en 2000.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Raghuram G. Rajan

## Quelle économie après l'inflation ?

**C**HICAGO - Les commentaires sur l'inflation et la récession vont aujourd'hui bon train ; examinons plutôt quelles pourraient être les perspectives de croissance lorsque les banques centrales auront mis bon ordre aux difficultés actuelles.

D'inquiétants vents contraires semblent actuellement souffler sur la croissance. À mesure du vieillissement de leur population, les économies avancées voient se ralentir l'expansion de leur force de travail ; il leur faudra donc parvenir, pour compenser, à une plus grande productivité par tête. Mais il est peu probable, quand s'atténue l'investissement, que la productivité du travail croisse rapidement sans innovation significative, que ce soit dans les modalités du travail ou dans les produits. Si l'on a pu penser que le recours de plus en plus fréquent au télétravail durant la pandémie améliorerait la productivité (en gagnant du temps et en évitant la duplication du capital, à domicile et au bureau), de nombreuses entreprises redécouvrent l'intérêt d'avoir, au moins une partie du temps, des employés dans leurs bureaux.

Un autre vent contraire souffle des pays pauvres, où les ménages de la classe moyenne inférieure, après avoir beaucoup souffert de la pandémie sont aujourd'hui frappés par la hausse des prix des denrées et des carburants. Nombre d'enfants, dont la scolarité a été interrompue pendant plus de deux ans, ne termineront probablement pas leurs études, ce qui réduira leurs capacités à bien gagner leur vie et, d'une façon plus générale, rétrécira la base qualifiée de la main-d'œuvre. Alors même que la démondialisation - avec ses relocalisations, totales, de proximité ou dans des pays « amis » - menace de rendre plus difficile encore l'obtention d'un emploi décent. À long terme, la faiblesse de la demande dans ces pays se répercutera sur le monde développé.

Si le monde ne parvient pas à trouver de nouvelles sources de croissance, il retombera dans l'inconfort de la stagnation séculaire qui sévissait avant la pandémie. Mais la situation pourrait cette fois s'envenimer, car non seulement la plupart des pays ne disposent que de faibles marges de manœuvre budgétaires pour stimuler l'économie, mais les taux d'intérêt ne retomberont pas de sitôt à leurs niveaux historiquement bas d'avant la pandémie.

Heureusement, des vents favorables pourraient aussi se lever. S'il semble que les échanges de biens aient atteint leurs limites avant la pandémie, ce n'est pas encore le cas des échanges de services. Si les pays parvenaient à s'entendre pour faire tomber certaines restrictions inutiles, les nouvelles technologies de la communication pourraient permettre à de nombreux services d'être fournis à distance.

Dès lors qu'un consultant travaillant de chez lui à Chicago peut répondre aux besoins d'un client à Austin, au Texas, pourquoi ne pourrait-il pas le faire aussi depuis Bangkok, en Thaïlande ? Certes, les consultants travaillant depuis d'autres pays peuvent avoir besoin de bureaux pour leurs relations avec leurs clients aux États-Unis, afin de contrôler la qualité de leurs prestations ou de gérer les contentieux, mais le volume total de travail effectué par des sociétés de conseil mondialisées augmenterait substantiellement, et pour un coût significativement moindre, si leurs services pouvaient être proposés au-delà des frontières.

De même, il est de plus en plus concevable de faire appel à la télé-médecine, non seulement pour la psychothérapie et la radiologie, mais aussi pour des diagnostics de routine (avec l'aide, éventuellement d'un équipement local ou d'un praticien infirmier). Là encore, des organisations mondialisées (on peut imaginer une Cleveland Clinic plus développée à l'échelle internationale) pourraient contribuer à réduire les fractures de notoriété et d'information, et permettre à un généraliste en Inde d'effectuer des examens de routine pour des patients de Detroit - avec orientation, si nécessaire, vers des spécialistes locaux.

Les restrictions les plus importantes à ce genre d'échanges de services ne sont pas technologiques, mais artificielles. Comme on peut le comprendre, les autorités des économies avancées ne permettent pas à un médecin généraliste en Inde d'offrir sans diplôme approprié ses services médicaux. Or les procédures de délivrance d'un tel diplôme sont dans la plupart des pays excessivement lourdes. La situation serait très différente si les pays du monde pouvaient s'entendre sur une procédure commune de validation du diplôme pour le travail qu'exige la fonction de généraliste. Un pays où séviraient des affections inhabituelles pourrait ajouter à l'examen une épreuve supplémentaire pour celles et ceux qui voudraient y exercer, mais seulement en cas de

nécessité absolue.

Les systèmes d'assurance santé, qui ne remboursent généralement pas les prestations délivrées dans un autre pays, constituent un deuxième problème. Mais dès lors qu'aura été résolue la question du diplôme, rien ne permet de penser qu'ils n'évolueront pas, étant donné les économies qu'ils peuvent réaliser.

La troisième restriction est celle des données et du respect de la vie privée. Aucun patient ne souhaitera partager des informations le concernant ou des résultats d'examen s'il n'est pas certain que ses données personnelles resteront confidentielles et seront protégées contre des usages malveillants. À une époque de tensions géopolitiques et de chantage économique, il faut plus, pour que ces conditions soient remplies, qu'un simple engagement du prestataire, il faut aussi celui que l'État où il exerce respecte la vie privée du patient. Les démocraties, qui peuvent voter des lois solides de protection de la vie privée (fixer notamment des limites à la quantité de données auxquelles leur administration publique peut avoir accès), seront en meilleure position pour capitaliser sur ce type d'échanges de services que les autocraties, où le contrôle exercé sur les pouvoirs publics est moins rigoureux.

Il ne fait guère de doute que les citoyens américains jouiraient d'un accès beaucoup plus abordable et beaucoup plus rapide à un médecin si les examens de routine étaient confiés à des prestataires délocalisés. Les économies développées en bénéficieraient, mais les économies en développement en profiteraient tout autant, car les revenus générés par leurs médecins pourraient servir à créer des emplois locaux. En outre, ces médecins seraient moins tentés d'émigrer, et ils pourraient utiliser les technologies de la télé-médecine pour proposer leurs services dans les régions reculées de leur propre pays. Parallèlement, les spécialistes, dans les économies avancées, auraient l'opportunité de proposer les leurs plus souvent et plus facilement aux patients des pays en développement, sans que ceux-ci soient contraints, comme c'est actuellement le cas, de se déplacer à New York ou à Londres.

Mais les fournisseurs de services dans les pays riches ne vont-ils pas s'opposer à la suppression des restrictions qui, jointes à l'improbabilité de voir leur activité concurrencée à distance, leur garantissent des rémunérations élevées ? Une demande domestique importante pour des services proposés hors des situations de routine subsistera pourtant. Et si les restrictions sont levées ailleurs, consultants ou médecins verront s'ouvrir des marchés beaucoup plus vastes où les prestations spécialisées jouiront d'une forte valeur ajoutée. C'est pour cette raison qu'un accord sur la limitation des restrictions aux échanges de services aurait plus de chances d'aboutir et d'enregistrer des succès que de simples accords bilatéraux s'il était conclu par un grand nombre de pays.

En outre, d'autres populations, dans les économies avancées, notamment la main-d'œuvre industrielle, qui a été le plus durement touchée par la compétition mondialisée, bénéficieraient de services de bases plus abordables. Et tandis que se combleront les inégalités, tant au sein des pays qu'entre eux, la demande mondiale se renforcera.

D'autres vents favorables à la croissance pourraient provenir des investissements « verts ». Si la guerre que mène la Russie en Ukraine complique la transition énergétique de l'Europe, les installations très émettrices doivent pour la plupart être remplacées, et ces investissements pourraient contribuer à la relance de l'économie mondiale.

Pour faciliter la transition, chaque pays devra mettre en place des incitations adaptées à l'intention des entreprises et des consommateurs - crédits d'investissement, réglementation des émissions, systèmes de quotas d'émissions cessibles, taxes sur le carbone, etc. Les États devront aussi s'accorder sur un système d'attribution de la responsabilité aux pays les plus émetteurs (généralement riches et moins vulnérables aux changements climatiques) afin de contribuer au financement de la transition énergétique dans les pays les moins émetteurs (généralement pauvres et plus vulnérables).

Les perspectives économiques d'après la pandémie et d'après l'inflation ne sont pas aussi sombres qu'elles y paraissent. Mais il reste encore beaucoup à faire pour lever des restrictions artificielles et tirer partie des technologies existantes.

Traduit de l'anglais par François Boisivon

Raghuram Rajan, ancien gouverneur de la banque centrale indienne, la Reserve Bank of India, est professeur d'économie financière à la Booth School of Business de l'université de Chicago et l'auteur, pour son ouvrage le plus récent, de *The Third Pillar: How Markets and the State Leave the Community Behind* (Penguin, 2020).

## LIBERIANS

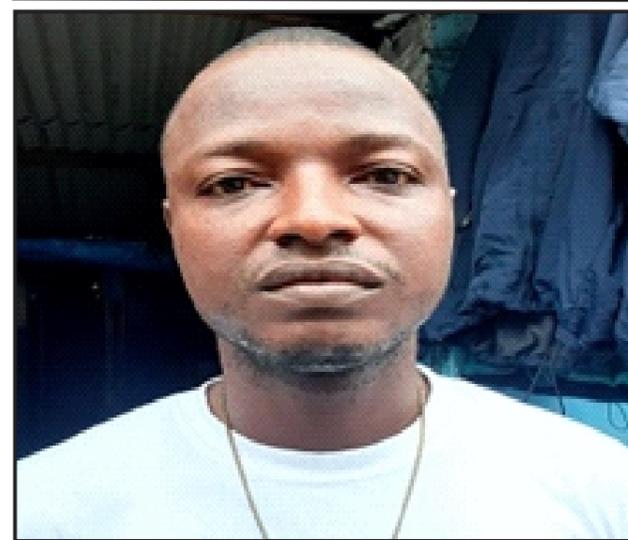
## DEBATE

By Naneka Hoffman

President George Weah's official address to the nation on Monday, August 1, 2022, six days after the July 26 violence that the group CDC-Council of Patriots does not exist in the ruling Congress for Democratic Change, now the Coalition for Democratic Change is not being accepted by many Liberians. Members of the so-called CDC-Council of Patriots attacked protesting students on July 26, Independence Day, and left several members of the Vanguard Students Unification Party (SUP) from the University of Liberia seriously wounded.

But despite President Weah's denial of the existence of the CDC-CoP, members of the militia group have said that they exist and have claimed responsibility for the violence that has been condemned by most Liberians and the International Community.

In this random interview, The New Dawn asked some residents of Monrovia what they make of President Weah's denial and the response from CDC-CoP members, some of whom have already arrested by the Police.



Abu Sherriff

"The President's speech was just to the point and very concise. You know this country is a country of rule and law; people shouldn't be involved in jungle justice and this is a democratic country, and democracy calls for protestation and assemble. People should have their right to assemble anytime they feel like assembling; under our Constitution, it is called for and so, the CDC-CoP didn't do well by countering protest against the Student Unification Party. That was very wrong on their part and no Liberian should support act of violence. But at the same time, we are calling on the Liberia National Police and the Ministry of Justice to investigate and bring the perpetrators to justice. These are Liberians it happened to. We all as Liberians should be able to live and coexist. People shouldn't be involved in violent acts. And I will like to call on the Student Unification Party; they should be seen organizing programs for the student community, but not a day you seen SUP come up to organize program for students and organize press conference to inform the public that this is what they have been doing

The President's statement on the July 26 protest was timely, and it was good that he came up with such statement, because this country is a country of law, not violence. So, coming up at this time now, at least it brings a little bit ease to the country and it eases the tension. But my thinking about it, as he said that all authorities will take cease of the matter and bring it to book. Anyone that will be caught in the wrong will be brought to justice. But my issue is whether if persecutors will bring people to book, and if they will be penalized. Many



Edwin Nah

times, the President will come up and say such statement, but at the end of the day, we see nothing happening. In my own mind, I think it's just a bluff from the Police spokesman coming up with a report that they have arrested seven CDC-Council of Patriots persons. This case is not going anywhere."

on behalf of students of this country. But every time the Student Unification Party will always be in protest, and most of the time their protestations have led to violence, which is not good. SUP is a student grouping; they are not a national political party; they are not authority on their own and shouldn't jump into the streets more especially on our Nation's Independence Day, wherein you have the President making the case on behalf of the nation. SUP went ahead and issued a press statement to the American Embassy. They know that the American Ambassador will be extending invitation to President Weah to attend the Joe Baden's [Leadership] Summit in December. You go ahead to issue a press statement, countering whatsoever the invitation will be bringing to the country. That's not good. The press statement from SUP on that day undermined the invitation that was extended to the President. So, we caution both sides to be peaceful and calm. And let the law takes its course."



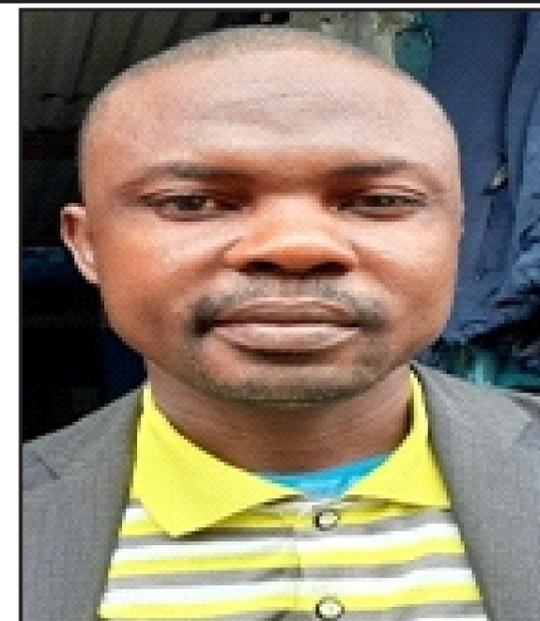
Prince Fayiah

"President Weah is fake; he lied to the Liberian people; he knows about the CDC-CoP when it was founded under CDC by Nathaniel McGill, Jefferson Kojee, Samuel Tweah and Mulbah Morlu. The protest that happened on July 26, they are the ones that did it underground. So, what the government is saying; the

"First of all, the President's statement is belated in the first place, because it was a serious emergency situation and the President took a week before coming up with statement and then looking at the President publicly saying that the group called CDC-Council of Patriots does not exist in the CDC, I feel that it is a joke to democracy and serious embarrassment for the President to made such statement. Because party chairman Morlu, we are aware that those guys received (10,000 USD) Ten Thousand United State Dollars to join CDC, calling themselves CDC-CoP and they have been using this name on Facebook and on various social media platforms. But for the President to come up and state that he doesn't know them, it's embarrassing, really. This is a lip- service thing that President Weah carried on and it's a

"The statement the President made about the protest, I reason with him, because the President has been a man of peace; even we all have our political difference, but his words are always on peace and he said if you love him, be peaceful followers, and I support him for that."

government is fake. They are lying to the public that no CDC-CoP exists. President Weah feels that he has received invitation to go to America to participate in the UN General Assembly and Democracy Summit, so he feels this is the opportunity he has to tell the international community there is no CDC-CoP. But we the Liberian people have been aware of CDC-CoP that was founded under this regime. So, what is the essence of him coming up with such a statement that CDC does not have CDC-CoP. This case is just a waste, because it will not go anywhere. They just arrested those guys to ease the tension down in the country."



Razzak Kanneh

shame. The President was only trying to do this thing to just take shame from his face. But those guys that have been arrested by the LNP officers; it's just a one-day story and my you, we will not get no good result from this case; trust me, it will just end in chey."



Adama Jah

# Violence rocks Sierra Leone

Reports say at least three persons have been confirmed dead in the Sierra Leonean capital Freetown as the Government imposes a straight curfew following violent protest.

Angry protesters shutdown the country demanding the resignation of President Julius Maada Bio who is currently on a month-long vacation with his family in London on Wednesday August 10.

The Vice President of Sierra Leone, Dr. Mohamed Jalloh declared a

transferred and processed strictly for the alleged purpose of the president's visit and is not related to the official budgetary transfers and normal allocations to diplomatic missions in respect of their official activities abroad, the African Press reported.

Reports said on Monday, the streets of Freetown, shops and markets were deserted as people heeded calls from organisers of the protests to stay at home. Schools and offices were also shut.

Wednesday protest

The violent erupted days after a group of concerned citizens planned the protest seeking to express their views over the continuous hardship in the country. Over the past couple of months, the costs of basic commodities, fuel, and other needs have skyrocketed rapidly Sierra Leone and there seems to be no change.

Condemnations There have been condemnations pouring in following the violence clashes. The Commission of the sub-regional grouping ECOWAS in condemning the violence has called on all to obey law and



nationwide curfew amid violent protests across communities in Freetown and other parts of the country.

Local Sierra Leonean daily, the Telegraph reported that the government also shut down the country's internet service to prevent the sharing of images of the protests taking place in the northern cities and towns, as well as the capital Freetown - opposition APC strongholds.

President Bio is accused of rampant corruption, human rights abuses, the killing of unarmed civilians and prisoners, abuse of State of power, poor leadership and the acute economic hardship that people in the country are experiencing.

The African Press reported days earlier that the country's finance ministry misappropriation of almost One Hundred Thousand Pounds to fund the president's holiday abroad - with the country in economic turmoil.

The said funds were

brought bloodshed, with the police accused of shooting two people dead. A security officer could also be seen in a video to be lying dead in a pool of blood.

There are calls for the President to return to Sierra Leone and deliver a public broadcast to calm the political tension.

But critics say that President Bio may well use the violent protests as an opportunity to declare a state of emergency to extend his stay in office, with presidential and general elections less than a year away, the Telegraph reported.

There were also fears that section of the military could stage a coup as the government appears to have lost control.

Reports say the protests began during the early morning hours of Wednesday across different communities in the east end of Freetown and other major towns across the northern province.

order and that perpetrators of the violence be identified and brought to justice according to law.

The United Nations Country Representative, European Union in Sierra Leone, and the U.S Embassy have condemned the act of violence and called for a swift intervention over this incident.

US Embassy Freetown (@USEmbFreetown) August 10, 2022

Receiving disturbing reports of violent acts in the context of demonstrations in some parts of Freetown. EU Delegation encouraging all sides to refrain from violence and to stay calm. Sierra Leone is known as a peaceful country.

EU in Sierra Leone (@EUinSierraLeone) August 10, 2022

The United Nations in Sierra Leone expresses serious concerns over the violent incidents that occurred today in Freetown, including reports of casualties. The UN calls for calm & dialogue and stands ready to facilitate such dialogue.

Starts from back page

## Election troublemakers

"And so the human rights commission is determined to do everything possible to bring [those who committed bad crimes] to justice by lobbying," he noted.

Cllr. Browne said he is in sympathy with the victims of the civil war including his own town he came from in River Gee where human beings' skulls were hanging all over the checkpoints.

Browne lamented that those people that did this thing are still around today.

He therefore urged victims to voice out what is in their stomach, assuring them that nobody can do anything to them.

"But we assure you in order to sustain the peace ... in this country, there must be justice," said Cllr. Browne. *-Edited by Winston W. Parley*

Starts from page 5

## Freeport of Monrovia

The Technical Team Leader of the project for APM Terminals Liberia, and Regional Customer Products & Services Lead in Africa, Middle East & Asia, Mr. Metus Freeman, spoke of the preparatory work done by the partners in the lead up to this launch.

He said the various logistics, technical know-how and training have all been provided to ensure a smooth implementation.

Mr. Freeman promised that all that is necessary will be done to bring convenience to every stakeholder in the process.

"We have had several collaborative training sessions with Custom Brokers, Importers, MTS, Banks and LRA

officials on the process."

"What we are launching today is the product of strong collaboration between all our partners and different stakeholders, and especially LRA, and we have all worked diligently to provide the knowledge and tools needed to achieve maximum efficiency." Mr. Freeman explained.

Previously, customers had to manually submit their declarations, go through assessment, raise checks and proceed to pay before the Customs Broker and obtain customs release to present to APM Terminals Liberia for terminal release for onward inspection and trucking.

Starts from page 5

## 'McGill's statement undermines

meaning Liberian including President Weah to condemn the comments made by Minister McGill," said Miamen.

"We also encourage every citizen to criticize and reject such manipulation and mind corruption," he added.

The Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia is a Liberian NGO founded in May of 2004.

The organization works to

fight corruption at all levels by building a culture of integrity among all people and institutions in the country, in order to improve responsible and accountable politics and reduce poverty.

Some of CENTAL's activities include direct mobilization of citizens to monitor politics, budgets and transactions and awareness on concepts such as nepotism, patronage.

### SURVEY NOTICE

August 8, 2022

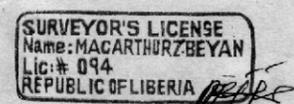
The general public is hereby informed that the undersigned land surveyor has been authorized by OBEDAH T. KING to conduct a survey of one (1) lot parcel of land situated and lying at SKD Boulevard, Swankanmore Community, Congo Town, Montserrado County.

The survey will commence on **Saturday, August 13, 2022 at 2:00 PM.**

Therefore, all adjoining property owners, and interested persons are requested to be present on the day of the re-survey with copies of their deeds, relevant documents, and technical representatives (surveyors) to substantiate their claims.

This notice should claim the immediate attention of the following persons and institution:

1. Carl Konah Slocon
2. Marie Nalbag
3. Ma Marry
4. A.K.K
5. B.Z/V.C
6. Juice Natural Mineral Water
7. Deazin Inc.



Signed:  
**MacArthur Z. Beyan**  
Registered Land Surveyor  
Cell #: 0886301241/0777985788

cc. Liberia National Police (LNP)  
cc. Community Chairman

## Election troublemakers to face the Hague

-Says Cllr. T. Dempster Browne



INCHR Boss Cllr. Browne

By Naneka Hoffman

Those that will cause killings in the 2023 elections will be taken to the Hague for prosecution, Independent National Commission On Human Rights (INCHR) Chairperson Cllr. T. Dempster Browne has warned.

At the official launch of a UNDP - sponsored Sanoyea District palaver hut hearing in Bong County, Cllr. Browne warned, "We can't continue to remain like this."

He lamented that people are killing and there is no redress to the pains of the victims.

But Cllr. Browne disclosed that the INCHR will lobby to ensure that those that will

cause killings during the 2023 presidential and legislative elections are taken to the Hague for prosecution.

He further assured participants at the palaver hut hearing that the Human Rights Commission is determined to go ahead and do its work.

He warned here that where there is no justice, there is no reconciliation. Cllr. Browne argued that victims will reconcile their differences when those who committed crimes are punished.

He explained that the Human Rights Commission is charged with the responsibility to promote

and protect the rights of the citizens.

Cllr. Browne recalled that during the 14 years of civil crisis in Liberia, crimes were committed.

But more than that, he said the massacre committed in some parts of Liberia was an international crime.

In Bong County alone, Cllr. Browne said the record indicates that 75 persons including women, children and elderly people, were massacred during the war.

He continued that there are domestic crimes that can be tried under Liberian laws, but international crimes can only be taken care of by a War Crimes Court.

The INCHR boss wondered how can the peace in Liberia be sustained and reconciliation take place when those who committed crimes are bluffing all around the environment without justice being served.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

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