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# The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

VOL. 8 NO. 216

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 04, 2018

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# Protesters clash with Police



Flashback: The protest scene in Caldwell

## ***-In demand of electricity***



Ex-President Charles Taylor and VP Jewel Howard-Taylor

# Taylor's dreams in shambles

## ***-as jittery hits NPP over estrange wife expulsion***





# Continental News

## President Buhari: I am not dead or a clone

Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari has denied rumours that he had died and had been replaced by a lookalike.

Some people thought he had been "cloned", but "it's [the] real me, I assure you," Mr Buhari said.

Rumours that he had been replaced with a body double called "Jubril" from Sudan had been widely shared online.

The 75-year-old Mr Buhari, who is seeking re-election in February next year, has been beset by ill health since taking office in 2015.

He was on "medical leave" in the UK for three months in 2017.

He revealed after his return to Nigeria that "I have never been so sick", but did not disclose what he was suffering from. He insists he is now in good health.

According to an AFP Fact Check investigation the rumours began late last year

and have appeared on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Posts promoting the rumours have been viewed more than 500,000 times.

A former aide to Mr Buhari's predecessor, Goodluck Jonathan, is among the high profile individuals who have promoted the

rumours.

'Ignorant and irreligious' Nnamdi Kanu, the leader of secessionist group Indigenous People of Biafra (Ipob), has also been fuelling the rumours, AFP found.

In one instance, Mr Kanu shared two images of Mr Buhari, one reversed, to allege that the Nigerian

leader, who is right-handed, was using his left hand - "proving" that that meant he was a body double.

Twitter Ads info and privacy

Ascene from the 1997 film "Face/Off" has also been used by those promoting the rumours to show how a dead Buhari's face could have been transplanted to a body double.

Mr Buhari, who is in Poland attending a UN climate change conference, was asked about the rumours during a meeting on Sunday with Nigerians in the country.

Mr Buhari, who will celebrate his 76th birthday on 17 December, said those spreading the rumours about his health and identity were "ignorant and irreligious." - BBC



Image copyright AFP: Mr Buhari will celebrate his 76th birthday later this month

## Egypt 'refuses to accuse police' over Italian student's murder

Egypt refuses to accuse police officers suspected by Italy of involvement in the murder of an Italian student, AFP news agency reports the authorities as saying.

The policemen are suspected by Italian prosecutors of gathering information about Giulio

"Charges should be based on evidence and not suspicions," Egypt's State Information Service said in a statement released late on Sunday.

right: Amnesty International

The 28-year-old student was researching for a doctorate at Cambridge



Regeni, a judicial source told AFP.

The Italian prosecutors asked their Egyptian counterparts "to approve the inclusion of a number of Egyptian policemen on its register of suspects in Italy", the source added.

But Egypt's authorities said there is not enough evidence to proceed.

University when he disappeared on 25 January 2016. His body was found dumped by a road near Cairo nine days later.

He was researching independent trade unions - a politically sensitive in Egypt, where the government has intensified a crackdown on unofficial protest movements in recent years. -BBC

## UK uproars as deportees not contacted

Campaigners have accused the Home Office of a lack of "decency" after it emerged dozens of people deported to Commonwealth countries have not been contacted by the Windrush task force.

Ministers said "no specific attempt" had been made to approach 49 people deported to Ghana and Nigeria in 2017.

The Home Office says it is

up to Commonwealth citizens to seek information about their status.

MPs said it showed the government had learned nothing from the scandal.

The Windrush scandal was uncovered earlier this year, after many people from Commonwealth countries who had legally lived in Britain for decades were wrongly classed as illegal immigrants and

deported.

They had been encouraged by the UK government to settle in Britain from the late 1940s until 1973.

However, although they had been granted indefinite leave to remain in the UK, some immigrants did not have formal paperwork confirming their residency status.

It meant when the Home Office embarked on its so-called "hostile environment" policy designed to make staying in the UK more difficult, some Commonwealth immigrants were wrongly deported.

Their problems were compounded by a Home Office decision, in 2010, to destroy their landing cards - often the only record of their immigration status.

Following a public outcry, the government set up a task force to help people formalise their right to remain in the UK.

Thousands of people have now contacted the task force and received documents confirming their right to stay in Britain. However, following parliamentary questions from Green Party MP Caroline Lucas, Home Office ministers now admit there are 49 people who have still not been informed by



Image copyright GETTY IMAGES: Caroline Nokes, immigration minister, said deportees can ring the Windrush helpline or visit the government website



# EDITORIAL

## The LEC against itself

**SERVICES PROVIDED BY** the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) to the public leave much to be desired despite huge investment in that entity. Current situation at that entity is characterized by managerial in-fighting at the detriment of customers. As the LEC continues to raise fist against itself, business entities, residential homes, ordinary Liberians and the general public are left alone with little or no services at all.

**NEWS THAT** ESB International, the private company contracted by the Government of Liberia to manage the LEC is alleging the existence of a rogue element within the corporation that is deliberately, and in many cases, bypassing control procedures and necessary organizational changes is a stab in the back of the corporation.

**IN CLEAR TERMS,** ESB International has reportedly written an official complaint to the Board of Director against Deputy Managing Director, Joseph Howe for thwarting initiatives aimed at bringing major breakthroughs to LEC.

**ESB INTERNATIONAL IS** a private company hired by the Government of Liberia under the Millennium Challenge Compact Agreement to manage the LEC. In accordance with the agreement, the former is to create an operationally efficient and profitable utility that is financially viable. But nine months into the management of the LEC, ESB International complains the appointment of Mr. Howe as Deputy Managing Director, poses hindrances to the efficient execution of its duties and meeting objectives planned.

**FROM THE ONSET,** the LEC has had serious problem with power distribution to communities across Montserrado County and the rest of Liberia, denying thousands of residents and businesses access to electricity. Meanwhile, elements within the corporation are often in cohort with some unscrupulous members of the public to carry on theft or steal from the entity.

**POWER THEFT HAS** robbed the corporation of badly needed funds, and denied services to the rest of the public. But few individuals at various levels continue to line their pockets with cash that could help in boosting the financial base of the entity to enable it distributes power proportionally.

**“THE FUNDAMENTAL REASON** for the delay in breakthrough is the undermining of those change initiatives that are essential to improve the culture of non-payment for electricity supplied by LEC in Liberia,” ESB International further notes in its complaint.

**WHEN A PUBLIC** corporation such as LEC cries wolf, while self-destroying or stealing from itself, it is nothing but a disservice to the State and its people. We recommend a major shakeup in that public entity to get things right.

**FORMER PRESIDENT ELLEN** Johnson Sirleaf was constrained to change the entire LEC management team in 2016 after she inaugurated the entity due to the lack of accountability.

**IT IS NOT** only a disgrace, but complete disappointment that after partners had spent several millions of their taxpayers' moneys to help restore electricity to Liberia, we Liberians are undermining ourselves. It is too bad.

**The New Dawn**  
TRULY INDEPENDENT

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

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# COMMENTARY

By Jeffrey D. Sachs

## Financing International Cooperation

*Today's world must combat climate change, manage surging migration, and confront a host of other threats to international peace and stability. Yet, because taxation and spending are overwhelmingly carried out at the national and local levels, needs that must be addressed at the global and regional levels are increasingly going unmet.*

**N**EW YORK - Today, the provision of public goods and services at the global and regional level is dangerously inadequate. The United Nations system, the European Union, and other multilateral organizations are under great stress, because their budgets are inadequate to meet their responsibilities.

While a few free-market ideologues may still argue that profit-motivated corporations should run the world without governments, experience proves otherwise. Governments are essential to provide universal access to vital services such as health and education; infrastructure such as highways, railways, and the power grid; and funding for scientific research and early-stage technology. Governments are also needed to tax the rich and transfer income to the poor. Otherwise our societies will become dangerously unequal, unjust, and unstable - as is occurring in the US today.

Governments in successful high-income countries collect at least 25% of the national income in taxes to carry out these functions. In the world's most successful economies, notably the social democracies of Northern Europe, governments tax around 50% of the national income. They use these revenues for three vital functions: public services, public investments, and transfer payments from rich to poor.

These three public functions are urgently needed beyond the national level. Groups of neighboring countries - such as the EU and the African Union (AU) - need public services, public investments, and transfer payments that cut across national borders, and that often involve dozens of countries simultaneously. Regional groups need adequate regional budgets to carry out their vital functions. In the same way, the UN as a whole needs an adequate budget to finance global efforts to fight climate change, protect the oceans, end extreme poverty, resist nuclear proliferation, and stop local conflicts through the UN Security Council before they become global disasters.

The EU, AU, and other regional groups should be building regional power grids based on renewable energy (such as wind, solar, and hydro power) instead of fossil fuels. These groups should also be transferring funds from the richest to the poorest regions to eliminate pockets of persistent poverty. And they should be protecting nature across borders and investing much more in science and technology to take advantage of the digital revolution.

Yet the budget resources available for such multilateral cooperation are a pittance. While many EU member states tax at least 25% of national income for public spending at the national and local levels, the funding available for the EU-wide budget is just 1% of the member countries' combined income. Some additional funding is available through the European Investment Bank, but this is for investment projects that can be funded on a market basis.

The reason for the underfunding is obvious. Taxes are under the jurisdiction of national and local governments, which jealously guard their tax prerogatives. The national governments agreed to

transfer only 1% of national income to Brussels for EU-wide purposes.

The result is an EU with very big aspirations and a very small operating budget. Still worse, the nationalists in Europe (such as the United Kingdom's Brexiteers) claim that the EU budget is too large, not woefully small. No country could hold itself together on just 1% of the national income. And it may happen that the EU, too, will be unable to maintain itself on such a tiny budget. EU-wide public services, investments, and transfers are a tiny fraction of what is needed to have a truly effective union.

The situation is even more dire at the global level. The UN's regular budget is a mere \$2.7 billion per year, or just 0.003% of the world's \$90 trillion total income. Its total annual revenue, including additional contributions of member states for peacekeeping and humanitarian operations, is around \$50 billion, or 0.06% of the world income - a fraction of the real need. UN member states rightly adopt bold measures such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement, yet lack the financial means to implement them.

Even though the UN budget is small, the US government routinely attacks the institution for being bloated and too expensive. The US pays around 22% of the annual \$2.7 billion regular budget, or some \$600 million each year, but this is less than \$2 per American! Adding in peacekeeping and other payments, the total annual US contribution per year comes to around \$10 billion, or roughly \$30 per capita. By being so miserly, the US does itself a disservice. The ultimate costs to the US, and the world, of chronic under-investment in global needs could run into the tens of trillions of dollars.

In addition to payments through the UN, high-income countries make direct payments to poorer countries in the form of official development assistance. Combined net ODA totals around \$150 billion each year, or just 0.31% of the income of the donor countries, compared with the long-promised 0.7% of income for ODA. Because these global transfers are so small, extreme poverty persists in a world of plenty. And long-standing pledges by rich countries to provide poor countries with at least \$100 billion per year in climate-related financing are still unfulfilled.

The world must get serious about matching multilateral money with multilateral needs. The EU should quickly double the EU budget to 2% of EU income, and more over time. Likewise, the world should devote at least 2% of world income to global public goods and services to end extreme poverty, fight climate change, protect nature, save millions of destitute people from premature deaths, ensure schooling for all children, and uphold peace through the UN.

The time has come to think about new global taxes - on corporate incomes, offshore accounts, international financial transactions, billionaires' net wealth, and pollution - to pay for an interconnected world under stress. With creativity, cooperation, and foresight, we can mobilize new revenues to turn our great global wealth into sustainable wellbeing for all.



## O-PED

By John A. Mathews  
& Mark Selden

## The Rise of the “Petroyuan”

**S**YDNEY/ITHACA - It is now just ten months since China launched its oil futures contract, denominated in yuan (renminbi), on the Shanghai International Energy Exchange. In spite of forebodings and shrill alarms, the oil markets continue to function, and China's futures contracts have established themselves and overtaken in volume terms the dollar-denominated oil futures traded in Singapore and Dubai.

Of course the volume of trades on the Shanghai INE still lags behind that of the Brent oil contracts traded in London and the West Texas Intermediate oil futures traded in New York. The Chinese oil futures contract is, however, being taken seriously by multinational commodity traders (like Glencore) and is priced in a manner that is comparable to the Brent and WTI indices. As we argue in *The Asia-Pacific Journal*, these results suggest that China's oil futures could bring the renminbi to the core of global commodity markets.

The launch of the oil futures contract can be anticipated to widen the scope for renminbi-denominated commodity trading. As more of China's oil imports come to be priced in its domestic currency, foreign suppliers will have more renminbi-denominated accounts with which they can purchase not only Chinese goods and services, but also Chinese government securities and bonds. This can be anticipated to strengthen Chinese capital markets and promote the renminbi's internationalization - or at least the progressive de-dollarization of the oil market.

For the past decade, China's strategy for internationalizing the renminbi has involved greater reliance on the International Monetary Fund's Special Drawing Rights as an alternative international reserve currency. The People's Bank of China's then-governor, Zhou Xiaochuan, spelled out the strategy in an essay in 2009. With new allocations of SDRs to emerging industrial powers like China, the SDR, based on a basket of currencies including the renminbi, could serve not only as a development tool, but also as a means of international payment to rival the US dollar. In the wake of the 2008 global financial crisis, an SDR-centered international financial system became an enticing prospect for other countries as well.

Zhou's 2009 essay galvanized these efforts, as he pointed to the evident inadequacies of the dollar-centered system (such as the impact of chronic US deficits) and outlined the SDR's advantages as an alternative means of international financial settlement.

The establishment of renminbi-based oil trading at a time when China and many other economies confront aggressive US tariffs, and possible further development of renminbi-based trade in other commodity markets, suggests that the US dollar could face an unprecedented challenge to its hegemony. It may in the near future no longer be seen as the anchor of the international monetary system, bringing to an end to what Valéry Giscard d'Estaing famously called the “exorbitant privilege” enjoyed by the US as a result of the dollar's centrality in international trade.

If China's ultimate goals include internationalizing the renminbi, its more immediate objective, prompted in part by US tariffs or sanctions on China and other countries, is de-dollarization of the international system. This is reflected in the shift to promoting an oil futures contract traded in Shanghai, which represents a decisive break with China's SDR-focused strategy.

It is also a way for China to capitalize on the US trade sanctions imposed against it - exposing liabilities in these sanctions. Both Russia and Iran, for example, are selling oil to China and accepting payment in renminbi, in response to actual or potential sanctions imposed on them by the US. They also have extensive imports from China, as well as other reasons for seeking strengthened ties.

China no doubt views the emergence of renminbi-denominated oil contracts as a means for Chinese companies to buy oil and gas in their own currency, thereby avoiding exposure to foreign currency fluctuations and firing a shot across the bow of US dollar supremacy. The fact that China is now the world's largest oil importer, as well as its leading trading and manufacturing economy, lends weight to its “petroyuan” and other initiatives to internationalize the renminbi. If China can withstand US counterattacks, its efforts will lay the financial groundwork for the emergence of a multipolar world.

## OPINION

By Joseph E. Stiglitz

## Beyond GDP

**I**NCHON - Just under ten years ago, the International Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress issued its report, *Mismeasuring Our Lives: Why GDP Doesn't Add Up*. The title summed it up: GDP is not a good measure of wellbeing. What we measure affects what we do, and if we measure the wrong thing, we will do the wrong thing. If we focus only on material wellbeing - on, say, the production of goods, rather than on health, education, and the environment - we become distorted in the same way that these measures are distorted; we become more materialistic.

We were more than pleased with the reception of our report, which spurred an international movement of academics, civil society, and governments to construct and employ metrics that reflected a broader conception of wellbeing. The OECD has constructed a Better Life Index, containing a range of metrics that better reflect what constitutes and leads to wellbeing. It also supported a successor to the Commission, the High Level Expert Group on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress. Last week, at the OECD's sixth World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge, and Policy in Incheon, South Korea, the Group issued its report, *Beyond GDP: Measuring What Counts for Economic and Social Performance*.

The new report highlights several topics, like trust and insecurity, which had been only briefly addressed by *Mismeasuring Our Lives*, and explores several others, like inequality and sustainability, more deeply. And it explains how inadequate metrics have led to deficient policies in many areas. Better indicators would have revealed the highly negative and possibly long-lasting effects of the deep post-2008 downturn on productivity and wellbeing, in which case policymakers might not have been so enamored of austerity, which lowered fiscal deficits, but reduced national wealth, properly measured, even more.

Political outcomes in the United States and many other countries in recent years have reflected the state of insecurity in which many ordinary citizens live, and to which GDP pays scant attention. A range of policies focused narrowly on GDP and fiscal prudence has fueled this insecurity. Consider the effects of pension “reforms” that force individuals to bear more risk, or of labor-market “reforms” that, in the name of boosting “flexibility,” weaken workers' bargaining position by giving employers more freedom to fire them, leading in turn to lower wages and more insecurity. Better metrics would, at the minimum, weigh these costs against the benefits, possibly compelling policymakers to accompany such changes with others that enhance security and equality.

Spurred on by Scotland, a small group of countries has now formed the Wellbeing Economy Alliance. The hope is that governments putting wellbeing at the center of their agenda will redirect their budgets accordingly. For example, a New Zealand government focused on wellbeing would direct more of its attention and resources to childhood poverty.

Better metrics would also become an important diagnostic tool, helping countries both identify problems before matters spiral out of control and select the right tools to address them. Had the US, for example, focused more on health, rather than just on GDP, the decline in life expectancy among those without a college education, and especially among those in America's deindustrialized regions, would have been apparent years ago.

Likewise, metrics of equality of opportunity have only recently exposed the hypocrisy of America's claim to be a land of opportunity: Yes, anyone can get ahead, so long as they are born of rich, white parents. The data reveal that the US is riddled with so-called inequality traps: Those born at the bottom are likely to remain there. If we are to eliminate these inequality traps, we first have to know that they exist, and then ascertain what creates and sustains them.

A little more than a quarter-century ago, US President Bill Clinton ran on a platform of “putting people first.” It is remarkable how difficult it is to do that, even in a democracy. Corporate and other special interests always seek to ensure that their interests come first. The massive US tax cut enacted by the Trump administration at this time last year is an example, par excellence. Ordinary people - the dwindling but still vast middle class - must bear a tax increase, and millions will lose health insurance, in order to finance a tax cut for billionaires and corporations.

If we want to put people first, we have to know what matters to them, what improves their wellbeing, and how we can supply more of whatever that is. The Beyond GDP measurement agenda will continue to play a critical role in helping us achieve these crucial goals.



# LIBERIANS DEBATE

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



**A**mid various reports of strained relationship between President George Manneh Weah and Vice President Jewel-Howard Taylor, a faction of Mrs. Taylor's National Patriotic Party (NPP) has expelled her and calls on President Weah to remove her from the Presidency.

In this spot-check, The New Dawn inquires from citizens whether it is time President Weah asks Vice President Jewel Taylor to leave.



**Mary Jallah**

"The decision taken by the executive committee of the National Patriotic Party to expel Vice President Jewel Howard-Taylor from the party is undemocratic and unconstitutional. Their action has the propensity of undermining our growing democracy. They need to do away with personal interest and greed and focus on

implementing the Pro-poor Agenda that will transform the lives of the downtrodden masses."



**Evis Brooks**

"Let the NPP faction that wants the VP removed from her position go read Article 61 of the Constitution. In the NPP controversial decision, the party communicated with President Weah to remove the VP and one Mr. Gray from his government. I wonder they are thinking that we Liberians will just look and let them run over the Constitution? No, the President

himself will not waste his time on this topic because those who are expelling people have [themselves already] been expelled. Mr. Biney, who himself was slapped in his face with an expulsion from the party as chairman, led the campaign to dethrone Madam Taylor."

**Abraham Fayiah**

"She's NPP, but ousted by CDC collation of NPP is not VP of a party but a country and cannot be removed based on her party affiliation; even if it was the case otherwise, she can be removed only my out thumbs. The reference to Sa Leone is a flimsy example that he didn't even expatiate well; but any way, the removal of SL VP came to be decorated illegal later at ECOWAS court. He won his case. Finally, anyone dreaming of this kind of thing doesn't mean well for our shaky democracy. Let's find something that will help gander our strength and image on the international scene, instead."



**Bridget Allison**

"There's been speculation that President Weah and VP Taylor are having some issues. Therefore, I hope the President isn't politically using expelled Chairman Biney's faction to penetrate into the camp of the NPP to have VP Taylor expelled from the party so she can lose political relevance to soften the ground so as to easily get rid of her from the Vice Presidency. Because this is Africa and we know what can happen."



**Lawrence Gaye**

"These are opposition's weak plans to crack, split and create confusion in the CDC for easy ride comes 2020 midterm senatorial elections and eventually 2023 presidential and representative elections but it will not work. I said this because the Vice President was elected to serve Liberians for six years and not party. If the party has problem with her, the country gets nothing to do with that and

President Weah can't do what they say because he knows the law and right thing."



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# MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Liberia recommits to HIV and AIDS fight

The impacts of the AIDS epidemic in Liberia are becoming ever glaring, accompanied by health, social and economic threats to the growth and development of the country, with an estimated 40,000 persons currently infected across the nation.

A data from the National AIDS Commission shows that out of this number, 13, 110 (30%) of persons living with HIV are on treatment, 1,800 pregnant women need treatment yearly and 1,553 (86%) receive treatment.

The data also shows that more new HIV infections occur every year, while annual deaths stand at 2,500.

Liberia's First Lady Clar M. Weah alarms the virus poses serious threat to the population, especially young people, who because of their reproductive growth, are considered most at risk.

However, speaking through a proxy from her Office, she assures that as First Lady of Liberia, it is her duty to advocate in helping to make the country safe from HIV.

"My goal is to advocate for an urgent attention and immediate collective action to

address the HIV and AIDS pandemics we are faced with today," she assured.

Liberia commemorated World AIDS Day over the weekend with renewed calls for collaborative efforts in mitigating the impacts of HIV and AIDS on the country. December 1st each year is observed globally as World AIDS Day.

The First Lady said while ensuring collaborative effort,

it is also important that Liberians demonstrate solidarity and love to persons infected with the virus.

"On this day, fellow Liberians, we must appreciate our health workers, local and international partners working to end this scourge. My message to you is 'Get tested and know your Status,' which is also the theme for this year's world AIDS Day celebration. Doing your test now and as

often as possible is the first step towards the prevention and control of HIV and AIDS", she urges.

"Don't be afraid of what the result may be. Be courageous and get tested. If you are tested positive of HIV, it is not the end of your life. You can access treatment to help you live a long and healthy life. If you are tested negative, you can also move on with your life but more carefully and cautiously".

First Lady Weah warns Liberians to stop stigma and discrimination against persons living with the virus because it does not discriminate, saying "AIDS is everyone's business. It is your responsibility. Do not rely on the government only to eradicate the pandemic. We as a society must take charge".

The Chairperson of the National AIDS Commission, Theodosia S. Kolee, reminds Liberians that the rate limiting step in achieving UN 90-90-90 target is testing and diagnosing individuals living with HIV in the country.

Madam Kolee stresses that unless people know their status by getting tested, there is absolutely no chance of achieving these targets, if Liberians do not take the bold step to test and know their HIV status.

"Testing is a win-win scenario for all of us. If you test negative (98% of Liberians are negative), you can live positively and prolong your life. If on the other hand, you

test positive (like 2% of Liberian), you can go on medication and live a healthy and normal life, having children that are free from the virus and reducing the chances of infecting your sexual contacts," the National AIDS Commission said.

Stephen McGill, an HIV champion who has been living with HIV for years said although a cure for HIV is not yet available, current treatment options significantly extend life expectancy.

Mr. McGill is Executive Director of Atop AIDS in Liberia or SAIL. "In fact, most HIV positive individuals who are adherent to treatment live as long as their HIV negative counterparts. I urge all of you to get tested today, know your status, and take action to protect your future and that of your loved ones", he encourages fellow Liberians.

World AIDS Day is dedicated to raising awareness about the HIV and AIDS pandemic; providing a platform to reflect on the achievements made in the national HIV response and to embrace with optimistic solidarity, people living with HIV.

The campaign aims at ensuring quality treatment and support for persons living with HIV and advocating for the reduction of stigma and discrimination in society against families infected and affected by the virus.



## German donates 15 million Euros to health sector

The Governments of Liberia and the Federal Republic of Germany are to shortly sign a 15,000,000 million Euros grant to strengthen Liberia's health sector.

The Project under the title "Health System Strengthening Project" will be implemented by Deutsche Welthungerhilfe in the Southeastern Region of the country.

According to briefings from a recently held meeting at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning under

the framework of the German-Liberian Development Cooperation, the Germans through KfW will provide a grant (financial contributions) to Liberia for the project when the Grant Agreement is finally signed between the two Governments.

KfW is the German government-owned development bank, based in Frankfurt. It finances and supports programmes and projects that mainly involve public sector players in developing countries and

emerging economies.

The German government has through previous financial support completed nine (9) health facilities in South-eastern Liberia.

The objective of the recently held meeting was to enhance the mutual understanding of all processes and structures governing the development cooperation between the two countries.

According to briefing from the meeting, the two countries believe that such meeting will help to enhance efficiency and speed up planning and implementation processes of Germany's development assistance to Liberia thereby leading to a better coordination mechanism between the GOL and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Germany is one of the lead donors in the Liberia's Energy and Environment sectors, and has provided support to the Mount Coffee Hydro project as well as a six million Euro biodiversity conservation project in the Southeast of the country.

It can be recalled that the Federal Republic of Germany has projected a total of US\$105.5 for the current Medium Term Expenditure Framework as support to



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Liberians, enforce  
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Liberia. Out of that amount, US\$33.5 million was projected for FY2016/2017, US\$39.8 million for FY2017/2018 and US\$32.2 million for FY2018/2019. The total disbursements for FY2016/2017 amounted to US\$46.5 million and the last fiscal year FY2017/2018 disbursement amounted to US\$18.3 million.

The 15,000,000 million Euros grant will be an additional support provided by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and underscores a significant commitment by the Germans to support the development aspirations of the current government particularly in the area of improved health care delivery. -Press release



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## Wolokolie discusses Liberia's Domestic Resources Mobilization Strategy

The Deputy Minister for Fiscal Affairs at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Samora P.Z. Wolokolie, highlights several areas of policy reforms including, addressing revenue losses with emphasis on reducing tax holidays from Concession Agreements, Executive Orders and Tax Credits and reviewing Section 16 of the Revenue Code of Liberia, among others.

According to him, revenue loss averaged more than US\$100m annually, and as part of policy reforms anticipated under the 4-year Domestic

Resource Mobilization Strategy, government intends to move from Goods and Service Tax (GST) to Value Added Tax (VAT) at 10 percent, simplifying the Revenue Code for wider understanding and citizens' participation, conducting a comprehensive review of non-tax revenue by the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning to streamline the effective tax rate and burden on taxpayers, providing adequate support of the mandate of the LRA, as well as enacting appropriate legislation mandating receipt for every transaction involving exchange of value to curb corruption.

Making a presentation on Liberia's Domestic Resource Mobilization Strategy for the period 2018 to 2022 at the Addis Tax Initiative Meeting recently in Paris, France, he said with respect to Tax

Administration Reforms, the Strategy is looking at introducing electronic & mobile tax system to reduce compliance costs and increase efficiency, expanding access to LRA services through major infrastructure development, introducing excise stamp and increasing excise tax rate as well as strengthening LRA's capacities in major areas of

for capacity building in the field of domestic revenue mobilization /taxation as well as more ownership and commitment for the establishment of transparent, fair and efficient tax systems.

Other reform proposals discussed by the Deputy Minister were in

the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Mining and

Domestic Resource Mobilization Strategy will consider establishing Precious Mineral Marketing Corporation (PMMC) to add value such as polishing diamonds, develop precious metal sub-sector, facilitate marketing and withhold taxes from buyers and sellers and organizing artisanal miners into cooperatives for tax purpose.

Moreover, as part of the anticipated Reforms in the Financial Sector, he discussed the proposal to move away from a dual currency regime to the usage of Liberian Dollars only to reduce loss of seigniorage to the US Treasury and combat capital flight, averaging about US\$ 1 billion

yearly.

He continued that the Financial Sector Reforms will include introduction of various financial instruments, including Treasury Certificates and Diaspora Bonds as well the establishment of Liberia Stock Exchange, Venture Capital and Investment Trusts.

However he stressed that the Domestic Mobilization Reform Strategy which embodies the various reform proposals will firstly have to be approved by Cabinet before implementation. **-Press Release**



international tax audit, large tax enforcement and natural resources management, respectively.

According to a press release, the Initiative is a multi-stakeholder platform launched in the course of the 3rd Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa in 2015. It intends to generate substantially more resources

Financial Sectors such as focusing on market-led agriculture for food security with particular reference to rice production, high value horticulture and other cash crop, introduction of Agro-pole and incentivizing youth with training and start-up capital as "agri-preneurs".

Wolokolie explained that government's four-year

## Lack of vehicle undermines Bong School System

By Joseph Titus Yekeryan in Bong

Bong County Education Officer Armah N'debah Varfee is appealing to government, the Bong Legislative Caucus and well-meaning citizens to help the County School System with vehicle.

In a recent interview with our correspondent, Mr. Varfee says he usually ride commercial bikes whenever he is going to other parts of the County for inspection.

Since his assignment as Bong County Education Officer (CEO), he says there has been no vehicle given him for the County operation.

He complains that the situation is seriously causing setback to the County educational system.

Earlier in 2015, the Liberian Government through the Ministry of Education purchased a brand new pick-up for the county educational office during the administration of Edward Kpulum.

The pick-up was later turned over to Samuel Koenig who succeeded Mr. Kpulum.

When the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government took over this year, former CEO Samuel Koenig was reportedly transferred and then replaced by James Zuannah who is also said to have used the vehicle.

But when Mr. Zuannah was transferred to Lofa as CEO, he reportedly took the vehicle along with him to Lofa and he is believed to be using it there currently.

Mr. Zuannah is alleged to have said he was instructed by the Ministry of Education to take the Bong County vehicle to Lofa on grounds that the one in Lofa was broken down.

Meanwhile, the new Bong County CEO Mr. Varfee wants the government to quickly help the County School System with vehicle in to enhance the Ministry of Education's activities.

In a related development, Mr. Armah Varfee has also debunked speculation that he has been accusing Mr. James Zuannah of looting the office before his departure to Lofa County.

Meanwhile, Bong County Superintendent Esther Yamah Walker has promised to engage the Ministry of Education on behalf of Mr. Varfee.

"Well we have listened to the appeal of the County Education Officer and let me openly say that we will join him to appeal to the Ministry of Education so that it can provide a vehicle for his operation," Madam Walker concludes. **---Edited by Winston W. Parley**

## Man held for son's murder

By Winston W. Parley

Police here are looking into claims that suspect Marfee G. Musa allegedly murdered his 16 year - old son Marfee G. Musa, Jr., and subsequently

buried the deceased without informing the police.

The incident allegedly occurred on 20 November in the 72nd Community of Paynesville at the suspect's residence.

In an interview with the suspect at the Liberia National Police (LNP) headquarters Monday, 3 December, he told journalists that he buried his son before reporting himself to the police.

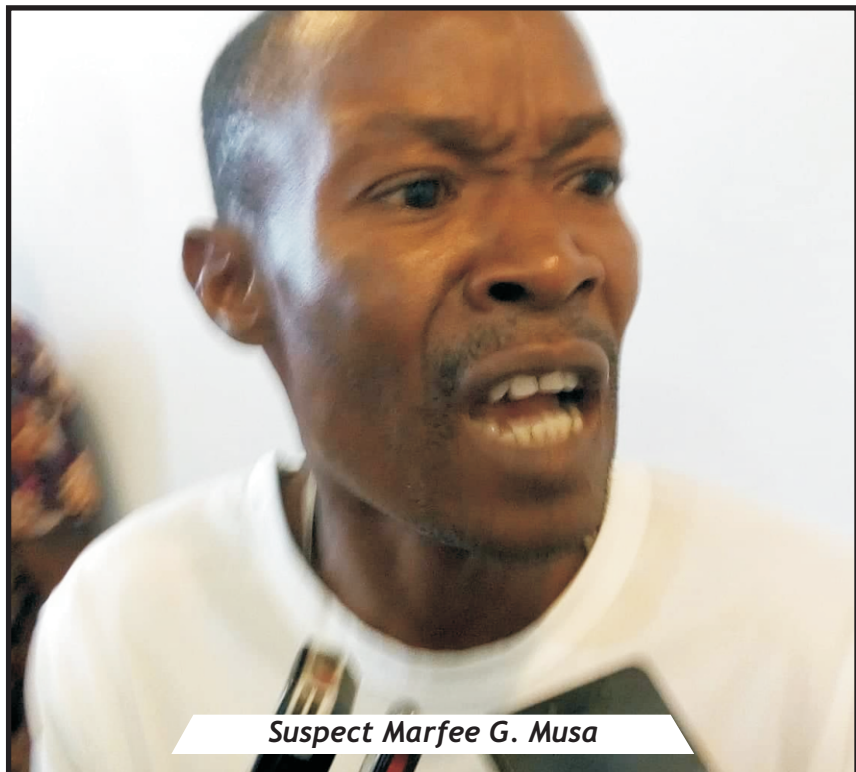
But he denies killing his son, narrating that he did not also beat on the boy.

Suspect Musa on 20 November, he left Marfee at the house with children and gave the deceased a phone for communication because of the.

"So I came back I never saw him. He locked the children up, he went," Mr. Musa explains.

According to him, it did not take long when Marfee returned home. Upon Marfee's return, Mr. Musa says he asked the victim where he came from.

In response, he says the victim replied that he was beaten by a criminal gang known as "spirit" with whom



Suspect Marfee G. Musa

**#Revoke rock and sand mining licenses from Chinese and Lebanese#**



# Français

## Procédure de destitution : La cour suprême lâche le juge Ja'neh

La Cour suprême du Libéria a rejeté la requête du juge associé Kabineh M. Ja'neh qui avait tenté de faire interrompre le processus de destitution entrepris par la Chambre des représentants contre lui.

La décision du tribunal rendue le vendredi 30 novembre a été signée par trois juges sur cinq, parmi lesquels le juge en chef Francis S. Korkpor, le juge adjoint Joseph Nagbe et le juge ad hoc Boima Kontoe, récemment nommé par le président George Manneh Weah.

Le juge Philip A.Z. qui a récemment pris sa retraite s'est dit « déçu » de la décision rendue vendredi, indiquant qu'il aurait décidé autrement s'il était toujours juge de la cour suprême. Il a promis de publier un avis d'expert cette semaine.

Le juge Ja'neh est accusé par les députés Moses Acarus Grey et Thomas Fallah, tous deux membres de la Coalition au pouvoir, de méconduite, fraude, abus de pouvoir et corruption, entre autres.

Avec la décision de ses collègues, le juge Ja'neh doit maintenant se présenter devant le Sénat libérien pour son procès en destitution, qui sera présidé également par son collègue, le

juge en chef Korkpor.

Le juge Ja'neh avait déposé un recours à la Cour suprême pour que celle-ci interrompît le processus de destitution par lequel il est visé, sous le prétexte que les membres de la chambre des représentants ont enfreint l'article 43 de la Constitution, qui obligeait le législateur à définir la procédure de destitution. Il contestait également le fait que la chambre des représentants ait fait

recours à un comité ad hoc pour examiner la procédure de destitution en lieu et place du comité parlementaire sur les affaires judiciaires.

Mais selon l'opinion majoritaire de la Cour suprême, la Chambre des représentants est bien dans son droit et n'a violé aucune procédure régulière, d'où l'impossibilité d'accorder la requête du juge Ja'neh. « Nous ne voyons aucun acte

repréhensible de la part de la Chambre des représentants pour justifier la délivrance du bref d'interdiction », a déclaré le président de la cour suprême, Francis S. Korkpor.

Pour lui, le juge Ja'neh s'est trop précipité car au moment où il déposait le recours à la cour suprême, les communications des députés Gray et Fallah étaient toujours examinées par un comité ad hoc de la Chambre et que la question n'était qu'à l'état d'une simple proposition, d'autant plus que le juge mis en cause n'avait pas été officiellement notifié pour un quelconque procès en destitution dont il ferait l'objet. Au juge en chef Korkpor de conclure que « dans les circonstances, nous concluons que l'interdiction a été déposée prématurément et que le bref n'aurait pas dû être ordonné ».

En outre, il n'a pas souscrit à l'argument du juge Ja'neh selon lequel la Chambre aurait commis une erreur en soumettant la requête en destitution à un comité spécial alors qu'il existait un comité parlementaire sur les affaires judiciaires, car « il s'agissait d'un acte administratif interne qui ne pouvait être sanctionné par le pouvoir judiciaire ».

Il a cependant fustigé la chambre basse pour manque de respect à l'égard de la Cour suprême par son refus de comparaître devant celle-ci. La Chambre, selon lui, était tenue d'obéir lorsque la juge Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh avait ordonné la publication d'un mandat alternatif d'interdiction dans l'affaire et lui avait enjoint de suspendre certaines actions spécifiées en attendant l'audience et la décision sur la requête du juge Ja'neh.

Il a rappelé que la Cour suprême a exercé sa compétence sur la Chambre des représentants dans plusieurs affaires et ajouté que le respect de l'état de droit équilibre et renforce la démocratie au pays, crée un environnement propice à la coexistence pacifique et apporte un réconfort et une assurance aux investissements locaux et étrangers.

S'exprimant sur la question de savoir si oui ou non le ministère de la Justice a le droit de défendre la Chambre des représentants dans cette affaire, le président de la cour suprême Korkpor a répondu par l'affirmative. « Le ministère de la Justice a le droit de représenter la Chambre des représentants dans cette affaire et qu'il n'avait pas besoin de l'approbation ou du consentement explicite de la Chambre », a-t-il dit, avant de rappeler l'avis unanime que la Cour suprême rendu le 5 février 2016 dans l'affaire Grace Kpan contre la Chambre des représentants.

Mais les juges associés Jamesetta Howard - Woloko et

Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh ont exprimé leur désaccord avec l'opinion de la majorité.

Lisant leur opinion dissidente, la juge associée Yuoh a rappelé qu'au mois d'août, la Chambre des représentants, par l'intermédiaire du greffier en chef Mildred Siryon, avait insollement indiqué qu'un « prétendu acte » délivré par le juge en chambre avait violé les articles 42 et 43 de la Constitution, et avait indiqué que, dans l'intérêt de la démocratie constitutionnelle et la séparation des pouvoirs, la justice avait l'intérêt de se soustraire sinon la Cour suprême se retrouverait dans un embarras.

Elle a indiqué que cette communication " est toujours devant la Cour suprême car elle n'a jamais été retirée" par la Chambre.

En ce qui concerne la défense de la Chambre basse par le ministère de la Justice, elle a indiqué que la seule raison pour laquelle le ministère a déposé un mémoire dans cette affaire était parce que la Cour suprême lui avait demandé de le faire, comme le prévoyait la loi.

« Nous devons en outre ajouter que ce tribunal, en permettant au ministère de la Justice de défendre la Chambre des représentants dans cette affaire crée des précédents préoccupants dans notre jurisprudence », a-t-elle averti.

« On peut invariablement se poser la question de savoir si le ministère de la Justice défendrait la Chambre des représentants dans une action similaire qui a à voir avec la destitution d'un président et qui comparait devant cette Cour pour contester ladite destitution », a-t-elle poursuivi.

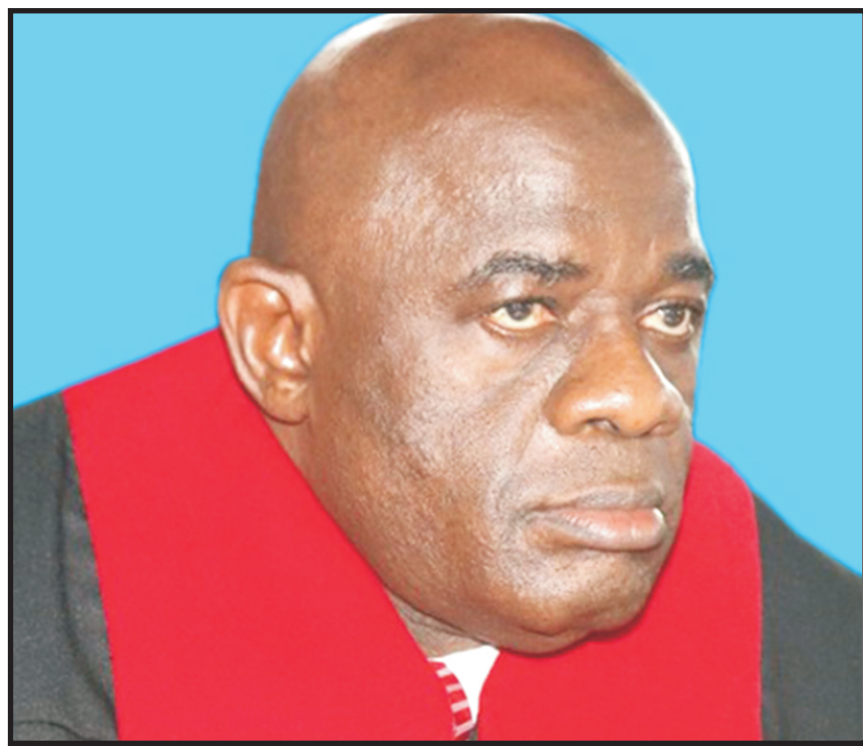
Les dissidents se posent la question de savoir si dans un tel cas le ministère de la Justice défendrait la Chambre des représentants ou le président.

Selon eux, le ministère de la Justice n'a pas été désigné partie dans ce procès, car il s'agit d'une institution relevant du pouvoir exécutif et qui est investie de la responsabilité de donner un avis juridique à celui-ci.

Les juges dissidents soutiennent que, dans la juridiction en l'espèce, le ministère de la Justice sert traditionnellement de conseiller juridique uniquement au pouvoir exécutif et non aux deux autres pouvoirs.

Les dissidents estiment que l'opinion majoritaire de la Cour suprême selon laquelle le ministère de la Justice a l'obligation de défendre la Chambre des représentants est une opinion erronée et juridiquement défectueuse.

Selon la juge associée Yuoh, « lorsqu'un responsable de la République est poursuivi dans un procès par un autre responsable de la République.



## Réunis au Sénégal, des chefs d'Etat africains apportent un précieux soutien à Dalein Diallo

En prenant l'engagement solennel d'appeler l'ONU et l'UA à faire stopper le recul des droits humains, les violences et les assassinats ciblés d'opposants en Guinée, les grandes figures du libéralisme apportent un précieux soutien au combat que mène Cellou Dalein Diallo contre le régime Alpha Condé.

Ce vendredi 30 novembre

2018 à Dakar le président Macky Sall du Sénégal, ses homologues George Weah du Liberia, Adama Barrow de Gambie et Alassane Ouattara de Côte d'Ivoire, ainsi que le président de l'Internationale Libérale, Juli Minoves Triquell et le président du Réseau libéral africain Stevens Mokgalapa, ont rehaussé de leur présence le 62e Congrès de l'Internationale

libérale sous le thème : « Libéralisme 4.0 : réponses locales aux défis mondiaux ».

A tour de rôle, le président hôte, ses homologues et les grandes figures du libéralisme ont pris l'engagement de porter plus haut le modèle libéral, facteur de paix, de progrès social et de création de richesses pour tous.

Situation en Guinée

Un manifeste marquant la célébration des 70 ans de la Déclaration universelle des Droits de l'Homme, et une résolution sur la Guinée ont été adoptés.

Le chef de file de l'opposition guinéenne Cellou Dalein Diallo était au rang des invités de marque à cette rencontre qui s'est vite muée en une tribune de renouvellement de reconnaissance à la grande famille libérale qui impulse la croissance économique, ouvre des espaces de liberté et consolide la bonne gouvernance dans le monde actuel menacé par la montée des régimes autoritaires, les effets dévastateurs du réchauffement climatique et des migrations.





# Français

## Éditorial

### Il faut une restructuration au sein de la société d'électricité

Les prestations de services de la société d'électricité du Liberia (LEC) laissent beaucoup à désirer, malgré les investissements colossaux injectés dans cette compagnie.

Pire, il y règne actuellement des conflits internes au détriment des clients. Pendant que la LEC continue de se battre contre elle-même, les entreprises commerciales privées et les populations libériennes ordinaires sont privées d'un service minimum.

ESB International, la société privée engagée par le gouvernement du Libéria pour gérer la société d'électricité, a fait état de l'existence d'un « élément indésirable » au sein de la société, qui, dans de nombreux cas, a délibérément contourné les procédures de contrôle et les changements organisationnels nécessaires.

En termes clairs, ESB International aurait adressé une plainte officielle au conseil d'administration contre le directeur général adjoint, Joseph Howe, qui est soupçonné de saper les initiatives visant à apporter des avancées majeures dans la société.

ESB International est une société privée recrutée par le gouvernement du Libéria en vertu de l'accord du Millenium Challenge Compact pour gérer la LEC. Conformément à l'accord, la société est chargée de créer un service public financièrement viable et performant sur le plan opérationnel. Mais après neuf mois de gestion, ESB International se plaint que la nomination de M. Howe au poste de directeur général adjoint entrave le bon fonctionnement de l'entreprise et la réalisation des objectifs fixés.

Depuis le début, la LEC avait de graves problèmes de distribution du courant électrique dans le comté de Monterrado et dans le reste du Libéria, empêchant des milliers de foyers et d'entreprises d'avoir accès à l'électricité. Au même moment, des éléments de la société complotent avec des personnes sans scrupules pour voler la société.

Le vol de courant électrique a privé la société des fonds dont elle avait cruellement besoin et empêché le reste de la population d'avoir accès au courant, pendant qu'un certain nombre d'individus qui occupent des postes de responsabilité continuent de se remplir les poches avec l'argent qui aurait pu contribuer à renforcer le pouvoir financier de la société et lui permettre de distribuer du courant.

Selon ESB International, le retard est dû à la tentative de la part de certains cadres de miner les initiatives qui visent à encourager les usagers à payer l'électricité qu'ils consomment.

Lorsqu'une société publique comme la LEC crie au loup et s'autodétruit, c'est l'État et les citoyens qui en pâtissent. Nous recommandons donc qu'il ait un remaniement majeur au sein de cette entreprise publique pour que les choses se passent bien. L'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a été contrainte de changer toute la direction de la LEC en 2016.

C'est non seulement une honte, mais aussi une déception totale, car après que nos partenaires ont dépensé plusieurs millions de l'argent de leurs contribuables pour aider à rétablir l'électricité au Libéria, nous, Libériens, minons ces efforts. C'est dommage.

## COMMENTAIRE

Par Jeffrey D. Sachs

### Financer la coopération internationale

NEW YORK - Aujourd'hui, la fourniture de biens et services publics aux niveaux mondial et régional est dangereusement insuffisante. Le système des Nations Unies, l'Union européenne et d'autres organisations multilatérales sont en péril, parce que leurs budgets sont insuffisants pour répondre à leurs responsabilités.

Bien que quelques idéologues du libre marché puissent encore expliquer que les entreprises motivées par le profit devraient diriger le monde en l'absence de gouvernement, l'expérience prouve le contraire. Les gouvernements sont essentiels pour assurer un accès universel aux services essentiels tels que la santé et l'éducation; construire des infrastructures telles que les routes, les voies ferrées et le réseau électrique; et financer la recherche scientifique et les technologies à un stade précoce. Les gouvernements sont également nécessaires pour taxer les riches et transférer du revenu aux pauvres. Sinon, nos sociétés deviendront dangereusement inégales, injustes et instables - comme cela est en train de se produire aujourd'hui aux États-Unis.

Les gouvernements des pays à revenu élevé prospères collectent au moins 25% du revenu national au moyen d'impôts afin de mener à bien ces fonctions. Dans les économies les plus prospères du monde, notamment les démocraties sociales de l'Europe du Nord, les gouvernements taxent environ 50% du revenu national. Ils utilisent ces revenus pour trois fonctions vitales: les services publics, les investissements publics et des paiements de transfert des riches vers les pauvres.

Ces trois fonctions publiques sont nécessaires de manière urgente au-delà du niveau national. Des groupes de pays voisins - comme l'UE et l'Union africaine (UA) - ont besoin de services publics, d'investissements publics et de paiements de transfert qui traversent les frontières nationales et qui impliquent souvent des dizaines de pays en même temps. Les groupes régionaux ont besoin de budgets régionaux adéquats pour mener à bien leurs fonctions vitales. De la même manière, l'ONU dans son ensemble a besoin d'un budget suffisant pour financer les efforts mondiaux pour lutter contre le changement climatique, protéger les océans, mettre fin à l'extrême pauvreté, résister à la prolifération nucléaire et mettre fin aux conflits locaux au travers du Conseil de sécurité avant qu'ils ne deviennent des catastrophes mondiales.

L'UE, l'UA et d'autres groupes régionaux devraient construire des réseaux électriques régionaux basés sur les énergies renouvelables (comme l'énergie éolienne, solaire et hydraulique) au lieu de combustibles fossiles. Ces groupes devraient également transférer des fonds des régions les plus riches vers les régions les plus pauvres afin d'éliminer les poches de pauvreté persistante. De plus, ils devraient protéger la nature sans s'arrêter aux frontières et investir beaucoup plus dans la science et la technologie pour tirer profit de la révolution numérique.

Pourtant, les ressources budgétaires disponibles pour cette coopération multilatérale sont une bouchée de pain. Alors que de nombreux États membres de l'UE taxent au moins 25% du revenu national en vue de financer des dépenses publiques aux niveaux national et local, les fonds disponibles pour le budget de l'UE dans son ensemble équivalent seulement à 1% du revenu combiné des pays membres. Des fonds supplémentaires sont disponibles par le biais de la Banque européenne d'investissement, mais ceux-ci sont réservés aux projets d'investissement qui peuvent être financés sur une base de marché.

La raison du sous-financement est évidente. Les taxes sont de la compétence des gouvernements nationaux et locaux, qui gardent jalousement leurs prérogatives fiscales. Les gouvernements nationaux ont convenu

de transférer seulement 1% du revenu national à Bruxelles pour financer des projets à l'échelle européenne.

Le résultat est une UE avec des aspirations très grandes et un très petit budget de fonctionnement. Pire encore, les nationalistes en Europe (comme les Brexiteers du Royaume-Uni) affirment que le budget de l'UE est trop grand, et non pas lamentablement petit. Aucun pays ne peut survivre avec seulement 1% du revenu national. Et il se pourrait que l'UE, elle aussi, ne parvienne pas à se maintenir sur un aussi petit budget. Les services publics, les investissements et les transferts à l'échelle européenne sont une infime partie de ce qui est nécessaire pour avoir une union vraiment efficace.

La situation est encore plus grave au niveau mondial. Le budget ordinaire de l'ONU ne s'élève qu'à 2,7 milliards de dollars par an, soit seulement 0,003% du revenu total mondial de 90 billions de dollars. Son budget annuel total, y compris les contributions supplémentaires des Etats membres pour les opérations humanitaires et de maintien, est d'environ 50 milliards de dollars, soit 0,06% du revenu mondial - une fraction des besoins réels. Les états membres de l'ONU adoptent à juste titre des mesures audacieuses telles que les objectifs de développement durable et l'Accord de Paris sur le climat, mais n'ont pas les moyens financiers pour les mettre en œuvre.

Même si le budget de l'ONU est faible, le gouvernement américain attaque régulièrement l'institution pour être démesurée et trop chère. Les États-Unis paient environ 22% du budget ordinaire annuel de 2,7 de milliards de dollars, soit environ 600 millions de dollars par an. Néanmoins, cela représente moins de 2 dollars par Américain! Si on ajoute les paiements au titre du maintien de la paix et les autres dépenses, la contribution annuelle totale des États-Unis est d'environ 10 milliards de dollars, soit environ 30 dollars par habitant. En étant si avares, les Etats-Unis ne se rendent pas service. Les coûts finaux pour les États-Unis, et le monde, liés au sous-investissement chronique dans les besoins mondiaux pourraient atteindre des dizaines de billions de dollars.

En plus des paiements au-travers de l'ONU, les pays à revenu élevé font des paiements directs à destination des pays les plus pauvres sous forme d'aide publique au développement. L'APD nette combinée totalise environ 150 milliards de dollars par an, soit 0,31% du revenu des pays donateurs, à comparer au niveau de 0,7% du revenu longtemps promis pour l'APD. Étant donné la faiblesse de ces transferts globaux, l'extrême pauvreté persiste dans un monde d'abondance. De plus, les promesses de longue date des pays riches de fournir aux pays pauvres au moins 100 milliards de dollars par an pour financer des dépenses liées au changement climatique sont restées lettre morte jusqu'à ce jour.

Le monde doit réfléchir sérieusement à la manière de faire correspondre le financement multilatéral aux besoins multilatéraux. L'UE devrait rapidement doubler le budget de l'UE à 2% des revenus de l'UE, et plus au fil du temps. De même, le monde devrait consacrer au moins 2% du revenu mondial aux biens et services publics mondiaux pour mettre fin à l'extrême pauvreté, lutter contre le changement climatique, protéger la nature, sauver des millions de personnes démunies de décès prématurés, assurer la scolarisation de tous les enfants et maintenir la paix par l'ONU.

Le temps est venu de penser à de nouvelles taxes mondiales - sur les revenus des multinationales, les comptes offshore, les transactions financières internationales, la richesse nette des milliardaires, la pollution - de manière à financer un monde interconnecté en péril. Avec de la créativité, de la coopération et de la prévoyance, nous pouvons mobiliser de nouveaux revenus pour transformer notre grande richesse mondiale en bien-être durable pour tous.



## ARTICLE

## In tribute: George H.W. Bush, 41st president

By Lauren Monsen

**G**eorge Herbert Walker Bush, who served as the 41st president of the United States, died November 30 at the age of 94.

He was the longest-lived president in U.S. history and a statesman whose service to his country spanned his entire adult life. Before becoming president, he served in posts ranging from Navy pilot to Central Intelligence Agency director to vice president of the United States.

As president, from 1989 to 1993, Bush helped usher in a spread of freedom and free markets. The West prevailed in the Cold War, and the Berlin Wall was dismantled, resulting in a unified Germany. Bush

Cross and other decorations.

After the war, Bush married Barbara Pierce and enrolled at Yale University. He graduated from Yale in 1948 and moved to Texas with his wife and their young son to make his way in the oil business.

Bush's dedication to public service continued in his adopted state of Texas, spurred in part by family tragedy. Bush and his wife started a foundation to support cancer research following the death of their 3-year-old daughter, Robin, from leukemia.

By the 1960s, Bush was well established in the oil business but turned his attention to politics. He

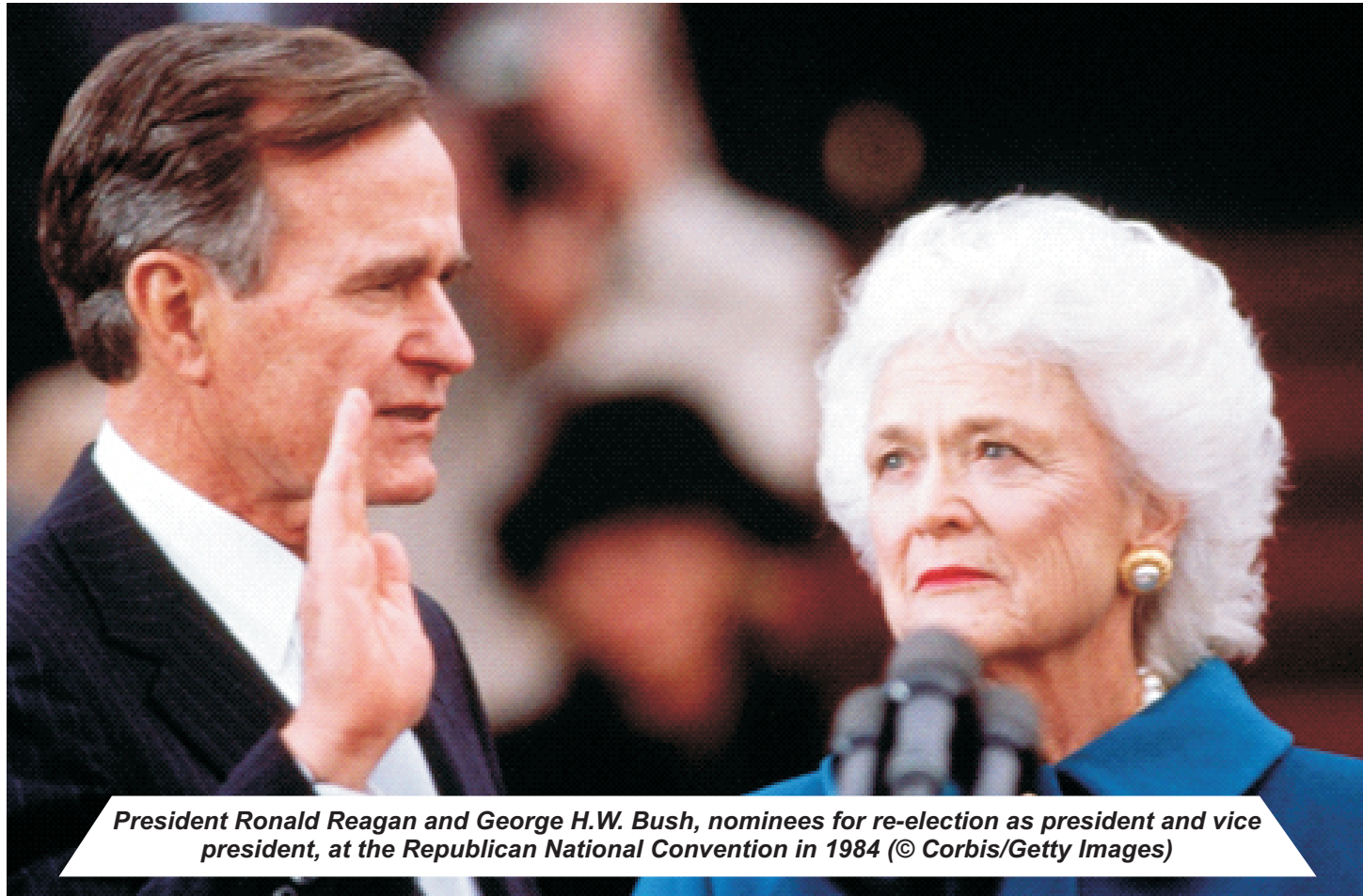


(© George Bush Presidential Library/MCT/Getty Images)

wife returned to Houston. At the request of his son President George W. Bush, the elder Bush worked with former President Bill Clinton to raise funds for relief efforts following the catastrophic tsunami in Southeast Asia in December 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in the U.S. Gulf Coast states in August 2005.

In October 2017, Bush joined the four other living former U.S. presidents — Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama — to form the One America Appeal, raising funds for victims of hurricanes that struck Texas, Louisiana, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The five appeared onstage at a concert in Texas, urging Americans to set aside political differences to help.

The elder Bush — known informally as “41” to distinguish him from his son George (the 43rd president, or “43”) — survived his wife, Barbara, who died April 17. He will be laid to rest beside her and their daughter Robin on the grounds of the George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station, Texas.



*President Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, nominees for re-election as president and vice president, at the Republican National Convention in 1984 (© Corbis/Getty Images)*

also signed two treaties to drastically reduce the threat of nuclear war.

Bush's deft handling of foreign affairs was a hallmark of his presidency. After Kuwait was invaded by the forces of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein in 1990, Bush forged an effective coalition of nations to preserve international law. When the Gulf War ended in early 1991, as the coalition overpowered the Iraqi aggressors, Bush enjoyed high public approval ratings. Later in 1991, Bush convened the Madrid Peace Conference to revive the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and throughout his term in office, he worked closely with international counterparts to advance peace and prosperity.

On the domestic front, Bush worked with Congress to pass the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Clean Air Act — landmark civil rights and environmental laws.

He promoted volunteerism across America, saying that “there could be no definition of a successful life that does not include service to others.”

#### A life of service

The principle of serving others was ingrained in Bush from an early age. He credited his parents — especially his mother — with emphasizing a duty to one's country and community.

Born in Milton, Massachusetts, on June 12, 1924, Bush postponed his university education to enlist for military duty during World War II. As a wartime naval pilot, Bush flew torpedo bombers in 58 combat missions and was awarded the Distinguished Flying

served in the U.S. Congress from 1966 to 1970 and was appointed U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, where he remained for two years. From 1974 to 1975 he served as U.S. envoy to China under President Gerald Ford. Ronald Reagan selected him as his running mate, and thus Bush served as vice president from 1981 to 1989.

After his presidency ended in 1993, Bush and his



*President Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, nominees for re-election as president and vice president, at the Republican National Convention in 1984 (© Corbis/Getty Images)*



# Protesters clash with Police

By Lewis S. Teh

They live just few meters away from where the country's electric power is generated with transmission lines passing over their homes, yet they have no access to the national energy grid.

This situation prompted for the second time in less than a year, residents of Caldwell Township, Montserrado County to have protested here in demand of electricity, erecting roadblocks.

A chaotic scene erupted in Caldwell on Monday, December 3rd, when protesting residents under the banner, "Concern Citizens of Caldwell" as early as 4:00 in the morning erected roadblocks in the streets, leaving motorists stranded, as they chanted solidarity songs in unison and created traffic gridlock that lasted all daylong in the area.

The protest came nearly a year since the Liberia Electricity Corporation planted street light poles in the township in preparation for power distribution.

Police sprayed tear gas to disperse hundreds of angry protesters, who had gone to



demand electricity from the Management of the Liberia Electricity Corporation.

A resident of Chea Chepoo community in the township, Smith Peters, narrates that it all started early Monday around 4:00 when angry protesters set up roadblocks in the township.

Peters says when police received information about the protest, they immediately arrived and chased angry

protesters away, using tear gas, which affected some residents in his community.

Police Spokesman Moses Carter confirms the use of tear gas because he says the protesters were violent.

Moses discloses that as a result of roadblocks erected by the protesters, a pregnant woman in labor pain on her way to hospital gave birth in the vehicle that was transporting her, but the baby

did not survive.

Another angry resident, Arthur F. T. Teah claims they have made several engagements with the LEC Management over the lack of power supply, but to no avail.

Teah accuses the entity of being insensitive to their plights, noting that lack of power in his community has negatively affected commercial activities there to the extent that many businesses are closed down.

"We have been in total darkness for over two years now, and that the LEC has not responded to our plights."

"Residents of other communities including those in some parts of Johnsonville, New Kru Town, and as far as St. Paul Bridge are enjoying electricity, but for us in Caldwell, the story is totally different, and so we are

pleading with the LEC to connect us," he says.

The route thru the township is one of the growing economic hubs of the government, because it connects the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation (LWSC) and the Mount Coffee Hydro in Louisiana with the Capital, Monrovia.

Another resident laments that though Caldwell provides access to these key services that generate revenue for government, they cannot access electricity.

A female resident, Martha Kollie says if government failed to quickly address their demand, they will regroup to stage a peaceful demonstration, this time at the Office of President Weah upon his return to the country.

-Editing by Jonathan Browne

## Taylor's dreams in shambles

By Emmanuel Mondaye

There appears to be some jittery among some National Patriotic Party (NPP) faction members that are backing NPP's Standard Bearer and Liberia's Vice President Jewel Howard - Taylor's expulsion from the party, as a key faction member reverts to recognize Madam Taylor as standard bearer.

At NPP's recent convention in Bantol, Montserrado County where Madam Taylor was expelled, former Bong County Rep. George Mulbah and

member of the Biney NPP faction told reporters that he recognizes Madam Taylor as standard bearer just as he recognizes Biney as party chairman.

Mulbah believes that the survival of the NPP lies in the resolution of internal wrangling within the party, saying those that are infusing confusion in the party are the problem of the NPP.

Further speaking against Biney's earlier expulsion from the party, Mr. Mulbah argues that Biney was elected by NPP partisans just as Madam

Howard-Taylor, thus, he does not recognize the illegitimate removal of Mr. Biney from the Chairmanship by Madam Taylor.

Mulbah says even though he was equally suspended by Biney at a time he was contesting a representative post for Bong County in 2011, he since forgiven Biney, noting that those who infuse confusion in the party are wicked wizards.

Mr. Mulbah recalls that he was removed from the NPP one week to election when he was contesting for representative seat in 2011 in Bong County.

He claims that the party Standard Bearer and Liberia's Vice President Madam Taylor ensured that chairman Biney removed him (Mulbah) from the position of NPP Bong County chair and replaced him by rival candidate Mr. Marvin Cole.

He continues that in that case, the party's constitution was never respected.

According to him, he was informed by Chairman Biney that his suspension from the party was done on the orders of Standard Bearer Taylor because she didn't want him in the party.

But Mulbah notes that the embattled NPP Chairman Biney who wrote his suspension letter went to Bong County and apologized for the action.--

Edited by Winston W. Parley



## UL 99th commencement

Starts from back page

Liberia College Commencement guest speaker, Mrs. Lucia M. Yallah, an Archivist at the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Presidential Center for Women and Development, challenged the graduates to be critical thinkers and develop a sense of honesty for the good of Liberia by shunning corruption and divisiveness and that impede the development of the country.

"Brighten your light on corruption, mismanagement of public assets, the spirit of division and acts against women. Brighten your light on the Legislature, the Judiciary so that they will see the truth and make good decisions," she said.

Mrs. Yallah, an alumnae of the University of Liberia, noted that the University of Liberia was established on the basis of developing minds that will hold to the doctrine of honesty and the principles of being bold and standing for the truth.

"The University of Liberia was established to teach honesty, critical thinking, and love for humanity and others," the guest speaker said.

Mrs. Yallah admonished the graduates to find their voices and put their words into action to inspire positive changes to Liberia, encouraging all female graduates to not limit themselves to whatever roles society will assign them and keep in mind their responsibility to the development of Liberia.

"Every Liberian has a collective responsibility to ensure the country is on the right path, and graduates of Universities are no exception,"

she said.

Also speaking at the occasion was student Iris Kou Marto, the valedictorian of Liberia College, and urged her peers "to practically apply the knowledge they acquired from the university over the years wisely to help in the development of Liberia."

Student Marto said she recognized that knowledge without application is meaningless and told her colleagues that their biggest fulfillment in life will remain in tin air if they fail to apply their education wisely.

"The aptitude and capability to perform in whatever sector you will join depends on the education you gained and how their knowledge is applied," she said. "Knowledge is a prerequisite for success but without the application of knowledge, success is impossible."

The commencement convocation today also witnessed the awarding of awards to professors for dedicated services to the University and students who volunteered their time to the university during their studies.

Professors Geetor S. Saydee, Thomas Collins and J. Wil Mannie honored for their dedicated services to the University.

Liberia College commencement is the beginning of a two-week college-based commencement convocation that will witness more than 3,300 students graduating from the University of Liberia.



## UL 99th commencement begins

### ...Graduates urged to stand for the truth



Guest Speaker  
Mrs. Lucia M. Yallah

The University of Liberia or UL has commenced its 99th Commencement Convocation exercises at its Fendall campus outside Monrovia with Liberia College graduating 611 students earning degrees in various disciplines of the social sciences and humanities.

The Dean of Liberia College Associate Professor Sekou W. Konneh, praised the graduates

for their achievements and urged them to acknowledge those who supported them throughout their academic sojourn.

In special remarks, the President of the University, Dr. Ophelia Inez Weeks, thanked the 99th Convocation Committee for the build-up that led to the successful hosting of the auspicious occasion and thanked everyone for taking up the time to join the University in celebration.

"Liberia College was founded in 1862 to provide leaders of a new Republic and a developing Republic and today it's a milestone to put out 611 graduates," Dr. Weeks said. "In 1866 it was just one graduate, James Evans."

Dr. Weeks encouraged the graduates to come back to the University to support it as it grows in the future, reminding them of the uniqueness of their college as the oldest in the country and the prestige

that goes with coming out of the nation's premier University.

She disclosed plans to add an Institute of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Culture to the University as efforts to award degrees in Philosophy and Religious Studies are nearing completion, and added that a proposal for the establishment of the institute would be sent to the UL Board of Trustees for consideration.

Further noting, the UL President said she is reviewing a proposal sent by religious leaders of Liberia to establish a graduate program in honor of Bishop Michael Francis, adding that upon review, the proposal would be sent to the UL Board of Trustees for consideration.

Dr. Weeks then concluded by encouraging the graduates to be honest in all they do as they join the larger society.

At the same, the

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## Public Service Announcement

The New Dawn will take its usual annual break beginning **December 24, 2018** to return on the newsstand immediately **January 4, 2019**. We thank our many loyal readers and subscribers for standing by us in 2018 despite a rather tough business climate. We look forward to a very peaceful and prosperous New Year. Merry Christmas.

The Management

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