

WWW **Advertize Here!**
Subscribe to our website
get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2022	L\$152.7870/US\$1.00	L\$154.6446/US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

ANDROID APP ON Google Play

QPR CODE: 797005

Down Load NewDawn Android App

VOL. 12 NO. 179 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2022 PRICE LD\$40.00

P11 **Cummings sends strong message**

Cummings poses with 2023 Campaign Team members

-Announces 44-man Campaign Team *Mr. Cummings*

P11 **Beyond the biggest drug catch:**

Who owns SONIT Liberia Inc.?

MTN MoMo

MoMo WAYSAY-WASA! BIGGER & BETTER!!

Dial *156#

Lonestar Cell | **MTN**



Continental News

DRC Refugees to Uganda Expected to Double as Conflict Rages

KAMPALA — The government of Uganda and the U.N. Refugee Agency say a surge of refugees fleeing conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo is tearing apart families and stretching aid resources. The UNHCR says officials were prepared to help some 68,000 Congolese refugees expected in Uganda, but now 150,000 are

forced to flee when gunfire woke them in the middle of the night. He was separated from family members as they fled, but recently has been reunited with them. Other refugees weren't so lucky. Amani Gidide lost contact with three of her children, and is now moving from a transit center to a refugee settlement. With God's love, she says, her children will be found.

new needs, given the planning figure which has been reviewed, it's only about 11 percent or so which has been received, which is woefully inadequate to cover the growing needs of these refugees," Crentsil said. Ugandan officials say a holding center for refugees has been opened to support the overflowing transit center, which already hosts some 14,000 refugees. "We are operating two centers at a go," said Daniel Kisamo, Nyakabande Refugee Transit and Holding Center refugee commandant. "The transit center being for those ones who are ready to move to the settlement. Then the holding center was designated for those ones who still need to make up their mind. Or in case to wait for their family members, because we know what war does." The M23 rebels launched attacks on DRC forces in 2012, saying they were fighting for good governance. After being quiet for nearly a decade, the group resumed fighting in late 2021, seizing territory and causing refugees to flee the violence.

Congo has repeatedly accused its smaller central African neighbor Rwanda of backing the M23, a charge Kigali denies. Meanwhile, Congolese refugees like Gidide wait, hoping to be reunited with family and return home soon. VOA

President's son loses army post after Twitter spree



The Ugandan president's son, Muhoozi Kainerugaba, has been dropped from his position as the commander of the country's land forces. He was however promoted to the rank of a full general, the highest rank in the army. He remains as presidential advisor on special operations. It is not clear if this decision has anything to do with his controversial tweets over the last two days.

Gen Kainerugaba had previously been commander of the special forces which are in charge of guarding President Yoweri Museveni.

Gen Kayanja Muhanga, who has led Ugandan army missions in Somalia and is

currently leading the contingent fighting the Allied Democratic Front (ADF) rebels in the Democratic Republic of Congo, will take over as the commander of land forces.

On Monday, Gen Kainerugaba tweeted that it would take him and his army just two weeks to take over Kenya's capital Nairobi.

But on Tuesday morning, he said that he had spoken to his father, President Museveni, and acknowledged that his tweets had caused a stir in Kenya. He added that the president would "announce changes", although he did not make this clear if he was referring to a reshuffle in the army.

The Ugandan government has distanced itself from the social media debate sparked by the series of tweets from the president's son. BBC



Pasika Bagerimana stands outside a temporary shelter she shares with others who fled fighting

predicted to arrive by year's end. Congolese refugees stream across Uganda's western border with the DRC to escape nearly a year of fighting between M23 rebels and DRC government troops.

Senjiwuva Gasigwa Phillipe, one of many refugees crossing into Uganda, says people were

The UNHCR says 71,000 refugees have crossed into Uganda from the DRC since January, and that number is expected to more than double by the end of the year. UNHCR's Uganda representative Matthew Crentsil says as a result, resources are overstretched.

"If you look at the funding received now compared to the

Cameroon's Biya Orders Enforcement of Bilingualism Law

YAOUNDE — Cameroon's president has ordered officials to enforce a 2019 law on bilingualism and make life easier for English speakers in the French-speaking majority country. Complaints of discrimination against English speakers sparked a separatist conflict that, since 2017, has left more than 3,500 people dead. Civilians assembled at Yaounde's city council this week to complain about difficulties they encounter in Cameroon's public offices because they speak only one of the central African state's two official languages.

Emmanuel Ngong, a 26-year-old engineer, said he was denied service in a public office because he spoke English. "Many government workers

behave as if French should be the only language that should be spoken in Cameroon," Ngong said. "I was irritated when I went to an office and I spoke in English and one man said "je ne connais pas votre Anglais la."

The French sentence means "I do not know your English." Civilians who fled the fighting in western Cameroon between troops and separatists say they often face discrimination in public offices when speaking English. A December 2019 law states that English and French



A man walks past the entrance of a bilingual school in Buea

*Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!*

have the same value and should be used equally in public offices, and says Cameroonians should be able to express themselves in either language.

Jean Marie Bodo, one of the officials dispatched to enforce the bilingualism law, said people abuse public office by refusing to attend to civilians who speak either in English or French.

Bodo said Cameroon President Paul Biya will no longer tolerate French-speaking workers imposing the French language on English-speaking citizens, and English-speaking workers should also be patient when they receive French speakers in public offices. Bodo said all official documents should be translated into both English and French languages and

English and French speakers should be given equal access to jobs to stop marginalization that is causing tensions and threatening Cameroon's unity.

Bodo said messages on all signboards should be in the two official languages, printed in the same character to stop giving the impression that one language is superior because characters are larger. The government says after educating citizens on the importance of the two languages co-existing peacefully, it is now ordering people who do not speak the two languages to register in language schools. Signboards written in one language are being pulled down and replaced. Among the 10 towns the delegation is visiting this week are Yaounde, Garoua, Maroua and Cameroon's economic capital, Douala.

VOA

EDITORIAL

Subsidizing rice price is unsustainable

For selfish political reason the Government of Liberia believes that subsidizing the price of rice, the nation's staple, is the best strategy in keeping the commodity available on the market. This is not only highly deceptive, but it is subjecting the population to complete illusion.

Previous administrations had played this game of deception to gain political favor at the expense of a well-defined sustainable policy on agriculture, particularly rice production. The Weah administration believes it can thread the same path safely amid the current global food crisis, exacerbated by the Ukraine-Russia war in Europe. But this is not working, as indicated by the present scarcity in the country that has led to hike in price.

Truth of the matter is government has played lip-service for too long on self-sufficiency in food, mainly rice despite the fact that Liberia is endowed with a very rich soil to grow rice and other crops.

We can record vividly how the late Senator Kerkura Beyan Kpoto of Lofa county, cultivated a very huge rice farm during the Doe regime of so many acres that he was unable to harvest completely up to the outbreak of the civil war in 1989. We're talking about the farm of an individual; in this case, a single official!

Sad to say, but this administration has been unable to drive an aggressive food production campaign that would take citizens along, and do so in dignity. Rather, it focuses on quick fix by spending millions of dollars annually on subsidizing rice importation that it absolutely has no control over.

The government shot itself in the leg by reaching an agreement with importers, who thrive on profit, to import the commodity and keep price low, howbeit unforeseen shocks in the global market.

It is time that Liberians face the reality: We must grow rice that is our staple. If we keep depending on other countries to grow rice for us to buy and eat as a country, we should get prepared for the kind of externalities now confronting us.

Notwithstanding, in the short run, returning to the soil will not remove or address current challenges immediately. There will be sacrifices to pay by working hard and honestly so that we all will enjoy in the future.

Using rice as a political stick is a serious disservice, not only to this present generation, but generations of Liberians to come. Nothing should be difficult in standing up to the fact that we need to grow what we eat than always paying others with scarce cash to feed us when we can feed ourselves if we really mean it.

Unless we decide to do things differently, no amount of dialogue between government and importers will solve the current rice crisis in the country. Subsidy or financial inducement will always be temporary, as it is now. A hint to the wise...

The New Dawn
TRULY 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 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief:

COMMENTARY

By Mariana Mazzucato, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala,
Johan Rockström, and Tharman
Shanmugaratnam

Transforming the Economics and Governance of Water

LONDON - The floods, droughts, heatwaves, and fires that are devastating many parts of the world underscore two fundamental facts. First, damage to freshwater supplies is increasingly straining human societies, especially the poor, with far-reaching implications for economic, social, and political stability. Second, the combined impact of today's extreme conditions are unprecedented in human history, and are overwhelming policymakers' ability to respond.

In East Africa, a devastating four-year drought has destroyed millions of livelihoods and left more than 20 million people at risk of starvation. In Pakistan, recent flooding has submerged one-third of the country, killing at least 1,500 people so far and wiping out 45% of this year's crops. In China, an unprecedented heatwave has caused acute water shortages in regions that account for one-third of the country's rice production.

Moreover, droughts and fires in the United States and Europe, and severe floods and droughts across India, have reduced global grain yields and food exports, highlighting the extent to which our food production depends on large, stable volumes of water. Add to this the impact of the war in Ukraine on grain and fertilizer supplies, and there is a substantial risk that today's global food crisis will persist.

For the first time in our history, human activities are jeopardizing water at its very source. Climate change and deforestation are reshaping the monsoon season, causing ice on the Tibetan plateau to melt, and affecting freshwater supplies to more than one billion people. Rising global temperatures are changing evaporation patterns and reducing moisture feedback from forests, disrupting downwind rainfall. And a destabilized global water cycle is itself aggravating climate change. For example, the depletion of water in the soil and forests is reducing their ability to sequester carbon.

Water-use restrictions, power cuts, and other stopgap measures can no longer paper over the fact that our water governance and management systems are not suited for a world of radical environmental change. All our current arrangements rest on the assumption, now invalidated, that the water supply is relatively stable (within the bounds of natural variability), predictable, and manageable in localized ways. But the water crisis is global, and it can be solved only with transformational thinking and new governance.

We must recognize that all our key environmental challenges are connected to water - whether there is too much or too little, or whether it is too polluted for human use. The task now is to understand the links between water, climate change, and biodiversity loss, and to properly define, value, and govern water as a global common good. Thinking about water in this way will allow us to mobilize collective action and design new rules that put equity and justice at the center of our response.

For too long, most governments have either ignored market failures or responded to them with quick fixes, rather than mobilizing the public and private sectors around common ambitions. The public sector must see itself as a market shaper that works with all stakeholders in the water economy to create pathways for innovation and investment, ensure universal access to clean water and sanitation, and provide enough water for food, energy, and natural systems.

A key lesson from past challenges that demanded systemic innovation is that a clearly defined mission is needed to organize our efforts. Mission-oriented policies allow governments to steer innovation and

knowhow directly toward meeting critical goals. When guided by an inclusive "common-good" approach, they are uniquely capable of delivering solutions to challenges that require tremendous levels of coordination and financing across many years. Climate change, biodiversity loss, and water crises are precisely such challenges.

Mission-based strategies can help governments innovate with purpose, direction, and urgency. But to be effective, policymakers must heed the experience and wisdom of the ordinary citizens, communities, and innovators who know how to prosper in a world of water scarcity, higher temperatures, and altered coastline and river systems.

We must now recognize threats to the global freshwater system and translate our awareness into collective action. Because water scarcity will jeopardize all the other Sustainable Development Goals, it should solidify our collective determination to limit temperature increases to 1.5° Celsius above pre-industrial levels (as specified in the Paris climate agreement), and to preserve the natural systems that ensure stable rainfall and runoff patterns.

In tackling these global challenges, we must hardwire the principles of equity and justice into whatever new arrangements we devise. No community can thrive without a reliable supply of clean water. But safeguarding this global common good requires new policies and systems.

Law and economics must both be reoriented to ensure universal access to clean drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene, and to build more resilient and sustainable food systems. Incentives must change so that the private sector can do its part to provide access to technology and innovation to poor and rich countries alike. This will require long-term finance and novel mechanisms to regulate how the public and private sectors work together.

The UN 2023 Water Conference - the first in almost 50 years - will be a pivotal moment for the international community to start mapping out a future that works for everyone. In preparing for it, we can take inspiration from Nicholas Stern, who rewrote the economics of climate change, and Partha Dasgupta, who rewrote the economics of biodiversity. As the four co-chairs of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water, our goal is to transform the world's understanding of the economics and governance of water, placing a much stronger emphasis on equity, justice, effectiveness, and democracy.

We can still redefine our relationship with water and redesign our economies to value water as a global common good. But the window of opportunity is closing. To have a chance of avoiding climate catastrophe and adapting to unavoidable change, we must ensure a resilient water future for poor and rich societies alike.

Quentin Grafton, Joyeeta Gupta, and Aromar Revi, Lead Experts of the Global Commission on the Economics of Water, contributed to this commentary.

Mariana Mazzucato, Founding Director of the UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, is Chair of the World Health Organization's Council on the Economics of Health for All. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organization, is a former finance minister and foreign minister of Nigeria and a former managing director of the World Bank. Johan Rockström is Director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Senior Minister in Singapore's cabinet, is Chair of the Group of Thirty.

O-PED

By Antara Haldar

Amazon's Satanic Mills

HANOI - With Britain suffering through its worst cost-of-living crisis in decades - owing to high inflation and soaring energy prices - hundreds of workers at an Amazon warehouse in Coventry this month demanded a wage hike. If the demand is not met, they say they will go on strike in November, just ahead of Black Friday and the holiday shopping season. As with other recent labor actions by US rail workers and British Royal Mail employees, the Amazon workers' move has kicked off a debate about who is to blame for the threatened disruption: the elves in the workshop or Father Christmas?

Amazon owes its success to a variety of factors, including a sophisticated data-driven approach. But its real genius lies in its logistics breakthroughs - including route optimization, fleet planning, and metadata management - that allow it to minimize "click-to-ship" time and provide customers with unprecedentedly fast and reliable on-time deliveries. Amazon Prime-branded planes and trucks shuttle packages around the world, operating like clockwork even through a pandemic that grounded much of the rest of the economy.

The mastermind behind the operation is a man named Jeff Wilke, who combined Taylorism (dividing production into narrow, closely monitored and measured repetitive tasks) and Fordism (assembly-line techniques) to create a warehouse model capable of processing more than a million units per day. With the help of robots and close surveillance, human "pickers" and "stowers" now process several times as much merchandise per hour as they once did.

But the system has become notorious for testing human employees' limits. Recent investigations have shown that much of the convenience that Amazon customers enjoy comes at the expense of Amazon's lowest-paid workers.

For example, last year the New York Times found working conditions at Amazon's New York "fulfillment center" to be utterly Dickensian. After passing through airport-style security gates, workers say they are subjected to hard physical labor, long shifts (10.5-12 hours), and a high incidence of injuries and accidents (double the rate of non-Amazon warehouses). Compounding the indignity, all are closely monitored by a dystopian surveillance system that punishes infractions like talking to co-workers or missing productivity targets (which are often as high as processing 30 packages per minute or requiring a minute in total to unshelve, box, and ship an item).

The threat of being fired - or what the company calls being "released" - looms large, and workers who seek recourse through human resources run into a Kafkaesque systems that specializes in stonewalling, especially when it comes to requesting disability leave or pay. Horror stories include Amazon drivers having to urinate into plastic bottles or defecate into plastic bags to stay on schedule. There have been reports of workers selling their wedding rings or relying on food stamps to make ends meet. In response to these accounts, the company has offered ham-handed corporate responses like "meditation rooms" that resemble large coffins.

No wonder unionization efforts at Amazon facilities have been growing. Despite the company's systematic efforts to suppress organizing, a union drive at an Amazon warehouse in Staten Island succeeded earlier this year, following a narrow loss for a similar effort in Alabama. In 2018, US Senator Bernie Sanders introduced the Stop Bad Employers by Zeroing Out Subsidies ("Stop BEZOS") Act, which would tax companies for 100% of the public government benefits they receive. And now, the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration has opened investigations into working conditions at Amazon.

These skirmishes have fatally undermined the narrative that Big Tech tells about itself. Amazon may be a logistics pioneer, but it is no less reliant on worker exploitation as the "satanic mills" of the First Industrial Revolution. According to Amazon's origin story, it all started with Jeff Bezos selling books from his garage and ringing a bell every time an order came in. Yet even in the early days, there was an incipient culture of overwork (employees were expected to put in at least 60 hours per week), rule-bending, hazardous workplace conditions (unpacked knives falling off conveyer belts), and Orwellian performance monitoring.

Amazon is now one of the world's biggest companies. But, as I've argued elsewhere, bigger is not always better. While some of its practices could be framed as innovative and adaptive when it was much smaller, today it systematically reduces employees to data points. Before stepping down as CEO last year, Bezos viewed employee churn as more of a feature than a bug of Amazon's model. To have an entrenched workforce, he reportedly said, was to "march to mediocrity." Hence, the company reports an employee turnover of roughly 150% per year - twice the industry average - meaning that its entire workforce is replaced every eight months.

This model is not only unethical and inhumane; it is also probably unsustainable. Studies show that happy workers are more productive. And, as an internal company memo warned earlier this year, "If we continue business as usual, Amazon will deplete the available labor supply in the US network by 2024."

With an estimated net worth of around \$140 billion, Bezos was the world's richest man from 2017 to 2021. He has clearly become as disconnected from the ordinary Amazon employee as the scale of his wealth would suggest. As one worker put it in 2020, "I'm sure Mr. Bezos couldn't do a full shift at [the New York City warehouse] as an undercover boss."

The Coventry workers who are demanding a cost-of-living adjustment would doubtless concur. Amazon's executives need to think hard about the human costs of their business model. If they need a quiet place to consider the issue, they can always try one of the meditation coffins.

Antara Haldar is Associate Professor of Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge.

OPINION

By Daron Acemoglu

Why Businesses Misbehave

BOSTON - Are successful businesspeople more like heroes or villains? In fictional accounts, one can find plenty of examples of each, from Charles Dickens's miserly Ebenezer Scrooge to Ayn Rand's rugged individualist entrepreneur John Galt. In F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Tom Buchanan represents privileged old money, with its ruthlessness and incapacity for empathy, whereas Jay Gatsby is a self-made millionaire with no shortage of sentimentality and idealism.

One finds the same distinctions in social-science depictions of entrepreneurs. Joseph Schumpeter and his followers viewed entrepreneurs as the engines of growth, the heroic figures who delivered "gales of creative destruction." By contrast, Frederick Engels's *The Condition of the Working Class in England* heaped scorn on British industrialists who pushed their workers not just into poverty but into inhumane working and living conditions. But later, he and Karl Marx made the two roles an essential part of their theory of capitalism: ruthless businesspeople exploit workers but also unleash innovation and growth, ultimately transforming society.

These conflicting depictions reflect society's complex views of business. Obviously, it would be naive to expect all businesspeople to be either heroes or villains. Like most of us, they are often both.

Many names that we now associate with philanthropy or higher education originally belonged to the robber barons of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Industrial magnates like John D. Rockefeller, Andrew Carnegie, and Cornelius Vanderbilt showed no compunction about intimidating and acquiring rivals in order to monopolize their respective markets and increase prices. They were also downright brutal - and sometimes murderous - toward any workers who had the temerity to ask for higher pay or better conditions.

Leland Stanford, the founder of Stanford University, was probably even worse. Not only did he and his associates corner the railway construction industry on the Pacific coast; they also concocted a scheme to get American taxpayers to pay for it. Stanford also savagely exploited migrant workers, especially Chinese, who labored under conditions so harsh, and for pay so low, that very few Americans would work for him.

Stanford then jumped into politics to solidify his gains and benefit further at taxpayers' expense. He strong-armed California's state legislature and municipal governments into issuing bonds that provided more public money for his railroads. And as governor of the state, he organized murderous raids against Native Americans and whipped up hatred against the very Chinese who had been so crucial to his success.

Nowadays, the myth of heroic business no longer has much purchase. Johnson & Johnson, once praised for its proactive product recalls to protect customers, is using a dubious legal maneuver (the "Texas two-step" or "divisional merger") to avoid paying damages for its marketing and sales of contaminated talcum powder. The big oil companies, after decades of denying and sowing disinformation about climate change, are now pretending to be committed to environmental activism. But no one is buying the ruse.

And then, of course, there is the tech industry, where many entrepreneurs started as idealistic outsiders promising to make the world a better place. Google's motto was "Don't be evil." But now "Big Tech" is synonymous with market domination, consumer manipulation, tax avoidance, and other abuses. (In 2018, Google removed its motto from the preface of its Code of Conduct.)

For years, the sector's biggest players have been acquiring or simply copying new entrants' products to reinforce their own dominance. A telltale example is Facebook's purchase of Instagram, in 2012, and WhatsApp, in 2014. Internal documents have since shown that these acquisitions were motivated by top executives' desire to neutralize potential competitors.

Even more questionable are "killer acquisitions": a company purchases a new technology under the pretense of integrating it into its own ecosystem, only to decommission it entirely. These monopolistic methods come on top of other tried-and-true tactics, such as bundling products to stop users from switching to rival services, as Microsoft did to kill off Netscape, and as Apple has done with its iOS ecosystem.

Last but not least, Big Tech has benefited massively from unbridled data collection, which allows a dominant player to know much more about consumers than potential rivals do, and to mount formidable barriers to market entry. The result is not just market concentration but also the mass manipulation of users, sometimes through misleading product offerings and even more often through digital ads.

Fortunately, businesses do not have some incorrigible tendency to misbehave. From the fin de siècle industrialists to corporate bad actors today, the common denominator has been a system that lacks proper checks against abuse. If we want better behavior and better innovation from companies, we need to provide the right institutional environment and the right type of regulation.

James A. Robinson and I tried to emphasize this point in *Why Nations Fail*, when we compared Bill Gates and the Mexican telecommunications tycoon Carlos Slim. Both men, we argued, had an interest in making as much money with whatever means they could; but Slim could get away with much worse behavior than Gates, owing to the differences between the Mexican and US legal and regulatory regimes.

Looking back, I now think we were too generous to the United States. Though US businesses had a stronger incentive than their Mexican counterparts to innovate, there were plenty of ways that they, too, could get away with misbehavior. Opportunities for exploiting the system were already multiplying by the time Microsoft had become a leading company, and they have since become much more endemic, with colossal costs for the US economy.

The tragedy of villainous business behavior is that it is largely preventable. To create the proper balance of guardrails and incentives, we must both disabuse ourselves of the myth of the heroic entrepreneur and recognize that the gales of creative destruction do not blow automatically. Only with better regulations and stronger institutions can we achieve prosperity and hold the most powerful people in society accountable for their behavior.

Daron Acemoglu, Professor of Economics at MIT, is co-author (with James A. Robinson) of *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty* (Profile, 2019) and *The Narrow Corridor: States, Societies, and the Fate of Liberty* (Penguin, 2020).

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Wounded TIPME Liberia agents alarm abandonment

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Two field agents of TipMe Liberia, a mobile electronic payment service provider have claimed abandonment by the company after they were electrocuted, while providing

launched, early in February to improve remittance when the incident occurred. While carrying out installation of the BnB Mobile Cash App Billboard in Police Academy, Paynesville, they were accidentally electrocuted

John F. Kennedy Medical Hospital.

However, five months later, they are no longer hailing the company for taking care of them; rather, they now feel abandoned with no further insurance. Speaking from their hospital beds on Sunday, October 2, 2022, the two victims lamented that TipMe Liberia is no longer keeping its promises to take care of them. They said TipMe Liberia has left them alone in the hospital, struggling with feedings and well-being.

"They've left us here since July of this year, no one has ever visited us at the hospital; only our family members, who now take responsibility for feedings and well-being. No official of TipMe has ever visited the hospital since that time. The last time you came here was in June and everything was going on fine. Our regular feedings and allowance of \$100USD every month, but they have stopped completely", said Artemus Mambus, who is now left with one leg and an arm as a result of the incident. He further explained that at the time of the incident, TipMe Liberia had promised them to ensure they go for further medication abroad and get permanent employment with the company afterward. "TipMe Liberia said they were going to make sure I leave the country for advanced treatment abroad and also to further up my education and come back, and work with the company; I shouldn't worry; they will be there for me, but all now seems to be going the



services, leaving one of them amputated.

Artemus Mambus, now handicapped after the casualty and David Nenger, two of the three TipMe Liberia field agents that got electrocuted while carrying out operations for the Digital Mobile Banking payment service provider, are beginning to feel abandonment nearly five months after the incident that left them paralyzed.

On May 13, 2022, the trio and other field agents were tasked to carry out advertisements for a two-week marketing promotion about the launch of BnB Mobile Cash App, a new digital banking service that TipMe

when the TipMe Liberia Billboard mistakenly hit a high-tensioned wire of the Liberia Electricity Corporation, leaving Frederick Ferjay Freeman dead instantly, as a result of shocks.

But David Nenger and Artemus Mambus have been hospitalized since. Artemus lost his both legs and an arm amputated. Frederick Ferjay Freeman, who succumbed to death, as a result of the high-voltage, was subsequently buried few days later, with his memorial service funded by TipMe Liberia, while survivors David Nenger and Artemus Mambus were hospitalized and closely monitored by the company, including payment of their medical bills at the

Liberia's future is green

-says LBDI President Delaney

By Naneka A. Hoffman

The President of the Liberia Bank for Development and Investment (LBDI) Mr. Deo Delaney says a recent Climate Week in New York City confirmed Liberia's future is green.

Speaking during the two weeks Climate Week events in New York City, Mr. Delaney said he is more confident than ever in his plan to build a climate finance program at Liberia's only development finance institution, the LBDI.

The two weeks' events were held on the margins of the United Nations 77th General Assembly, which included speeches, panel discussions, roundtable meetings and several receptions.

Mr. Delaney notes that whether the topic was as focused as carbon capture or as broad as the state of the global economy, global food security crisis or global health, one topic was a consistent sidebar to all of

those conversations, adding that climate resilience, extension, climate and finance.

He explained that this is significant for Liberia, stressing "We own the largest share of West Africa's Upper Guinean rainforest; this is an unprecedented opportunity for us."

The Upper Guinean rainforest stretches from Guinea

through Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and ends in Benin.

Last month, Mr. Delaney was named co-chair for Creative Financing & Bonds Issuance for Liberia's Carbon Consultative Group of the National Climate Change Steering Committee.

In this role, the Government of Liberia (GOL) has charged him with developing a



Starts from page 10

Protest loom over

mass action with the government paying little or no heedfulness to the situation" Chairman Kanneh noted.

Meanwhile, speaking in an exclusive interview with this paper Tuesday, October 4, 2022, the Commander in-chief of the Economic Freedom Fighter of Liberia Emmanuel Gonquoi termed the Ministry of information statement defending availability of rice in the country as shameful, disgusting, ridiculous and unrealistic.

He said that no government plays with the day-to-day economic survivability of its citizens mostly for Liberia that have record of war, conflict about its staple food which is a serious political commodity.

"When you play with the economic survivability of the people, you embrace crisis, conflict. You cannot say we have food and then you put taskforce

on the street. (But) the EFFL has always been in the vanguard for advocating for Liberian and we stand with SUP in their quest to end this situation through protest. We support the protest 100% and we will make sure that our people need are met" he noted.

Commenting on the peace and stability of Liberia, he disclosed that once the government take food from the people mouth that means they don't appreciate the peace because they have failed to address food security, and stability. Therefore, the citizens don't respect it also.

"We don't have peace in Liberia. What we have in Liberia is a moment of silence. The government should stop and desist from playing politick with the survival of the state. The survivability and peace of the country surely depend on the availability of food on the market, mostly the country staple" Gonquoi concluded.

Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!

framework for issuance of bonds against Liberia's forest assets that meets international governance policy, environmental and social standards.

In partnership with the Forestry Development Authority, Mr. Delaney will also take stock of the blue carbon sources and lead on developing partnerships with local and international partners to lay the groundwork for carbon markets in Liberia.

The LBDI President notes that this provides the bank an opportunity to drive economic development in Liberia at scale in a way that is innovative, imaginative and technical yet practical and feasible.

He says LBDI can raise capital from investors outside of the country, while shoring up support from the government in the form of grants and loans.

Mr. Delaney says he has begun to seek the expertise of consultants to advise LBDI, as the bank plans to build its capacity.

He notes that it will be a step-by-step project, but it is important to build a foundation that is sturdy and sustainable.

For his part, the Board Chair of Liberia's Forestry Development Authority Mr. Harrison S. Karnwea, Sr., described climate finance as critical to Liberia's economic future.

He emphasized that the country has one of the largest areas per capita of protected tropical rain forests in the West African sub-region, "But how is the country and the average Liberian benefitting from these restrictions we have placed on deforestation, hunting and other activities that harm the precious biodiversity."

Mr. Karnwea: "I'm calling on

world leaders to prioritize Liberia and recognize how we are contributing climate resilience in a way that benefits Liberia for generations."

Mr. Delaney revealed that he has begun conversations with other Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) as well as Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and aid agencies based in Liberia and around the world to secure support for the project.

The LBDI President says he has established connections with a range of people that he engaged to facilitate his work with the National Climate Steering Committee.

"I'm particularly excited about partnerships that will involve our young people in climate resilience efforts and exploring ways our climate finance programs can help spur economic inclusion that targets unbanked young entrepreneurs like keh keh and pen pen drivers." He added that there is an international project that he is engaging called the Climate Youth Negotiators Programme that trains youth in decision making and around climate and equips them to participate in global conversations and negotiations on climate.

The conference was graced in New York City by Mr. Deo Delaney and Mrs. Marie Claire Graf, Co-Founder of the Switzerland-based Youth Negotiators programme.

The Liberian Bank for Development & Investment (LBDI) is Liberia's largest and only development finance institution created by an Act of the National Legislature in 1961. Since 1988, it has also acted as a commercial bank. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**



**Ad-hoc Committee for the Recruitment of
Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission
(LACC) Commissioners**



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT:

Friday, September 30, 2022

- POSITIONS:**
1. Executive Chairperson/Chief Executive (1 person)
 2. Executive Vice Chairperson (1 person)
 3. Commissioners (5 persons)

This Vacancy Announcement is for all the above positions at the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC).

A. Introduction:

The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) is the agency of government that is leading the fight against corruption in Liberia. The Commission was established in 2008, through an Act of the Legislature. Among others, LACC has the mandate to prevent corruption as well as investigate and prosecute all corruption related cases and offences. In July 2022, the 2008 Law creating the Commission was amended and restated, thus creating a new Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission to be managed by a seven-member board of commissioners, instead of the five (5) provided for in the 2008 Act. More broadly, LACC works with state and non-state actors to champion the fight against corruption in Liberia so that public resources are judiciously allocated and managed in ways that serve the best interest of the general public.

Pursuant to Chapter 6.10 of the Amended LACC Act, recently, the President of the Republic of Liberia, His Excellency George M. Weah, Sr. constituted an Ad-hoc Committee for the pre-selection of candidates for seven (7) commissioner positions at the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC).

In line with its mandate, the Committee is seeking applications for the following positions as described below:

1. EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (1 Position):

(a) Core Mandate of the Executive Chairperson:

Pursuant to Part 8 of the July 2022 amended LACC Act, the Executive Chairperson shall head the administration and management of the Commission, providing overall leadership and oversight in ensuring proper functioning of the institution. He/she will work with other Commissioners, the Secretariat of the Commission, other staffs, consultants, and external partners to ensure that LACC satisfactorily plays its role as the lead state anti-graft institution in Liberia. This entails implementing appropriate measures and undertaking programs aimed at investigating, prosecuting, combating, and preventing acts of corruption, including educating the public about the ills of corruption and the benefits of eradication. He/she shall also improve the integrity, transparency, and credibility of the LACC.

(b) Main Tasks and Responsibilities of the Executive Chairperson:

In providing overall direction and leadership for the LACC, in line with the Amended LACC Act, the specific responsibilities of the Executive Chairperson of the LACC shall be:

1. Serve as the Chief Executive Officer and spokesperson of the Commission, and be responsible, along with other commissioners, acting as a body, for the implementation of approved policies and programs of the Commission;
2. Control, supervise, and direct the administrative operation of the Commission;

3. Preside over all meetings of both the Commission and the Management Team of the Commission;
4. For the purposes of carrying out the functions of his/her office, have the powers to act, contract, and sign instruments and documents for the Commission and may, with the approval of the other commissioners acting as a body, delegate such power to other officers;
5. Perform any other assignment(s)/function(s) for and on behalf of the institution, prescribed by law or as may be necessary.

(c) Required Qualifications:

Education - A Law Degree from an accredited university (locally and internationally), including any advanced certification(s) in the legal profession.

Experience - The applicant must be a Lawyer with not less than 5 years of active experience as a trial lawyer or judge. Additionally, other relevant experience in the legal and other related professions will be highly desirable.

2. EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIRPERSON (1 person)

(a) Core Mandate of the Executive Vice Chairperson:

Pursuant to Section 6.9 of the 2022 amended LACC Act, the Vice Executive Chairperson shall assist the Executive Chairperson to be the administrative and technical head of the LACC, providing overall leadership and oversight in ensuring proper functioning of the institution. He/she will aid the Chairperson in working with other Commissioners, the Secretariat of the Commission, other staffs, consultants, and external partners to ensure that LACC satisfactorily plays its role as the lead state anti-graft institution in Liberia. This entails implementing and undertaking appropriate measures and programs aimed at investigating, prosecuting, combating, and preventing acts of corruption, including educating the public about the ills of corruption and the benefits of eradication.

(b) Main Tasks and Responsibilities of the Executive Vice Chairperson:

Pursuant to Section 6.9 of the New LACC Act, in addition to being the principal deputy to the Executive Chairperson of the Commission, the Executive Vice Chairperson shall be directly responsible for the Department of Education and Prevention. The specific responsibilities of the Executive Vice Chairperson shall be:

1. Oversee/provide leadership to the Department of Education and Prevention of the Commission;
2. Assist the Executive Chairperson to provide overall leadership for the institution;
3. Act as acting Executive Chairperson, in the absence of the Executive Chairperson;
4. Without limiting the generality of his power and authority, as head of the Department of Education and Prevention, be responsible to undertake research into the causes, manifestation and dimensions of corruption in Liberia;
5. Advise on approaches, program and practices needed to be adopted by the Government of Liberia, private and public institutions, organizations and entities to prevent and combat corruption;
6. Design and implement programs aimed at educating and sensitizing the public about the menace of corruption and its debilitating effect on the social fabric of Liberia and the economy of Liberia and what should be done to prevent and combat corruption;
7. Perform any other assignment(s) for and on behalf of the institution, as may be required by law and or directed/prescribed by the Executive Chairperson.

(c) Required Qualifications:

Education - A Degree in Accounting or other relevant qualification from an accredited university or higher institution of learning (locally or internationally). He/she shall be a certified member of the Liberia Institute of Certified Public Accountants or the equivalent membership from recognized international body.

Experience - A professional Auditor or Accountant with not less than 5-year professional experience as a Forensic Auditor or an Accountant.

3. COMMISSIONERS (5 persons)

(a) Core Mandate of the Commissioners:

Pursuant to Section 6.9 of the July 2022 amended LACC Act, there shall be five (5) Commissioners, in addition to the other two (who shall serve as Executive Chairperson and Vice Executive Chairperson). Acting as a body, along with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, the five Commissioners will make and implement policies for smooth running of the institution. Three of the five Commissioners shall be jointly responsible for the Department of Monitoring and Investigation of the Commission, while the other two (2) Commissioners shall be jointly responsible for the Department of Prosecution of the Commission. Together, they shall assist the Executive Chairperson and Executive Vice Chairperson in working with the Secretariat, other staffs, and external partners to ensure that LACC satisfactorily plays its role as the lead state anti-graft institution in Liberia. This entails implementing appropriate measures and programs aimed at investigating, prosecuting, combating, and preventing acts of corruption, including educating the public about the ills of corruption and the benefits of eradication.

(b) Main Tasks and Responsibilities of the Commissioners:

Three of the five Commissioners shall be jointly responsible for the Department of Monitoring and Investigation of the Commission, while the other two (2) Commissioners shall be jointly responsible for the Department of Prosecution of the Commission. The specific responsibilities of the five Commissioners shall be to:

Department of Monitoring and Investigation (3 Commissioners):

1. Oversee/provide leadership to the Department of Monitoring and Investigation;
2. monitor all suspicious acts of corruption and for investigating acts of corruption to determine whether there is probable cause that any person or organization or entity is engaged in acts of corruption;
3. File reports of its monitoring activities and investigations to the Executive Chairperson and the Department of Prosecution;

Department of Prosecution (2 Commissioners)

4. Oversee/provide leadership to the Department of Prosecution;
5. Evaluate the investigative reports from the Department of Monitoring and Investigation to determine whether the evidence produced by the reports present probable cause that the person(s), organization(s) and/or entity(ies), who/which were subject of the monitoring/investigation were engaged in acts of corruption;
6. Prosecute such person(s), organization(s) and entity(ies) whenever a determination is made that any act of corruption has been committed. Provided that the Department of Prosecution shall present its findings in a report to the entire Board of Commissioners, which shall make a decision thereon by a majority vote of all commissioners, including the Executive Chairperson as a member of the majority, and in the absence or incapacity of the Executive Chairperson, the Vice Executive Chairperson;
7. Perform any other tasks for and on behalf of the Commission, prescribed by law or as may be assigned or determined by the Chairperson/leadership of the Commission.

(c) Required Qualifications:

Education - The applicant must have an undergraduate or graduate degree(s) from an accredited university or higher institution of learning (locally or internationally). This includes any qualification and professional certification as well as professional experience in one or more of the following fields: law, law enforcement, criminal justice, accounting, internal control, compliance, and transparency and access to information.

Experience - Interested Applicants must have minimum five years professional experience as a lawyer, anti-corruption professional, accountant, auditor, criminal justice professional, or in any other related professions/fields. Also, where necessary, applicants for these positions must be members in good standing with their respective professional bodies/societies such as the Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA), Liberian Institute of Certified Public Accountants (LICPA), among others Experience in advocacy for integrity and good governance, prevention and combating of corruption and its related social menace will be desirable, but not necessary

B. Additional Requirements Core Skills and Competencies

Each applicant for the abovementioned positions of the LACC must be a Liberian citizen of minimum thirty (30) years of age and with good moral character. He/she must have the following core skills and competencies:

- ✓ Computer literacy, especially in Microsoft Office Suite
- ✓ Be knowledgeable about the use of key Accounting Software and Packages (applicable to Vice Chairperson)
- ✓ Proficiency in written and spoken English
- ✓ Proven strong analytical skills, excellent team building and interpersonal skills
- ✓ Integrity and high moral standards, respect for gender, diversity, and inclusion
- ✓ Result-based planning, management, and leadership
- ✓ Developing, empowering, and getting the best out of others
- ✓ Effective and efficient management of performance and resources

C. Salary and benefits: shall be in line with government-approved salary and benefits for said or similar position(s).

D. Application Requirements:

1. A cover letter detailing applicant's interest in the position.
2. Maximum two-page statement on the applicant's vision for the position and institution.
3. At least one copy of all relevant degree(s) and professional certification(s)
4. Curriculum Vitae with all relevant information and details, including at least three references, their contacts, and contact authorization
5. A letter of permission to request attestation from the university(ies) or any higher learning institution from which candidate graduated.
6. Copy of a passport, national ID card and police clearance

E. Application Procedure:

All applications must be submitted **ONLINE ONLY** to the adhoccommittee for pre-selecting LACC Commissioners via the following email address: adhoccommitteelacc2022@gmail.com The cover letter and subject of the email shall clearly state the position for which the applicant is applying.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2022 @ 4:00PM.

Note: Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

Français

Les États-Unis saluent la plus grande saisie de drogue au Libéria

Le gouvernement des États-Unis a salué les services de sécurité du Libéria et leur succès dans la plus grande saisie de drogue de l'histoire du Libéria. Le week-end dernier, des agents de la Liberia Drugs Enforcement Agency (LDEA) et la National Security Agency (NSA), ont arrêté des trafiquants de drogue et confisqué des drogues d'une valeur d'environ 100 millions de dollars.

Selon La LDEA, la capture a été rendue possible grâce à

résiderait au Libéria, a ensuite été arrêté, portant à deux le nombre de suspects en détention.

Les autorités libériennes en poursuivraient d'autres liés à ce qui pourrait être le plus grand cartel de drogue démantelé de l'histoire du pays. Makki aurait été arrêté alors qu'il fuyait le Libéria. Il se rendait en Sierra Leone. Il a été arrêté à la frontière entre les deux pays voisins. Concernant l'arrestation de Conte, la LDEA a dit avoir pris d'assaut SONIT Liberia Inc. à Topoe, le long de l'autoroute du

internationaux lui avaient demandé de suivre le colis et de faire en sorte qu'il atteigne sa destination finale.

On ignore cependant si le Libéria était la destination finale. Le suspect serait arrivé dans le pays avec deux autres complices qui auraient élu domicile à Royal Grand Hotel de Monrovia. Mais plus tard, ils auraient déménagé à Boulevard Palace Hotel adjacent. C'est là que la LDEA reçu des informations supplémentaires qui ont mené à leur cartel.

Les suspects Gustavo Henrique, un Brésilien, et Adulai Djibril, un Portugais qui accompagnaient tous deux Malam Conte, n'étaient pas dans leur chambre d'hôtel au moment de l'arrivée des forces de l'ordre.

Le directeur général de l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue, Marcus D. Zehyoue, a déclaré lors d'une conférence de presse que son institution travaillait en étroite collaboration avec ses homologues internationaux pour recueillir plus d'informations susceptibles de lier les suspects aux complices.

Pendant que l'enquête se poursuit, Zehyoue a exhorté les médias à être patients et à compter sur la LDEA pour toute autre information concernant l'arrestation. Le patron de la LDEA a confirmé l'arrestation des suspects et la saisie de la drogue lors de la conférence de presse. Le directeur Zehyoue a déclaré qu'il avait chargé son département d'enquête

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Min. Dean

DEA Boss Marcus D. Zehyoue

des informations relayées par le gouvernement américain.

Au cours d'un raid, les forces de l'ordre libériennes ont arrêté le suspect Malam Conte, un ressortissant bissau-guinéen de 31 ans. Il fait l'objet d'une enquête approfondie en lien avec le cartel de drogue.

Avec la coopération du gouvernement sierra-léonais, le suspect Issam Makki, un ressortissant libanais qui

Japon, et saisi une énorme quantité de cocaïne brute dissimulée parmi les produits surgelés appartenant à SONIT Inc. Le suspect Conte aurait admis avoir un lien avec le colis. Cependant, SONIT Inc. a dit ne rien avoir avec la drogue qui a été découverte dans ses locaux et coo-père avec la LDEA pour procéder aux arrestations. La LDEA a révélé que le suspect Conte avait déclaré aux enquêteurs que ses partenaires

s'est exprimée dans la presse mardi, disant espérer qu'il n'y aurait pas une multiplication des renvois et appelant le ministère de la Justice à

respecter ses obligations et à protéger les parties civiles. Aucune mesure n'a encore été prise concernant cette

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Le conseil des gouverneurs de la CBL tient sa retraite annuelle

Le Conseil des gouverneurs de la Banque centrale du Libéria (CBL) a réaffirmé son engagement à re-nommer la Banque conformément à son plan stratégique triennal (2021-2023) et à s'acquitter efficacement de son mandat comme l'attend la population de Libéria.

Le Conseil a réaffirmé son engagement à la fin de sa retraite annuelle le 24 septembre 2022, dans un hôtel local à Monrovia, au Libéria. S'exprimant lors de la retraite, le gouverneur exécutif de la CBL, J. Aloysius Tarlue, a remercié le conseil d'administration et l'équipe de direction pour leur soutien continu au changement de marque de la CBL au fil des ans. Il a dit que sans leur soutien et leur travail acharné, la Banque n'aurait pas fait les progrès et les réalisations qu'elle a enregistrés. Le gouverneur Tarlue a en outre reconnu les efforts du conseil d'administration et de la

buton à la promotion de la stabilité macroéconomique et financière du pays, mais qu'elle est également importante pour restaurer la confiance du public dans le système financier. D'où la nécessité pour toutes les parties prenantes de travailler ensemble pour assurer l'intégrité et la crédibilité du processus.

Le Gouverneur a en outre affirmé que l'économie du pays est sur une bonne trajectoire, ce, largement attribuée grâce à une politique monétaire saine et à des mesures budgétaires prudentes, qui ont été confirmées par la 4e revue du programme de la Facilité élargie de crédit (FEC) achevée en mars, année.

"Nous avons assez bien réussi à maîtriser l'inflation grâce à notre politique monétaire restrictive. Notre économie est sur une voie stable grâce à notre supervision prudente du secteur financier et à de saines décisions de politique monétaire », a souligné le gouverneur, indiquant que le Libéria est actuellement l'un des pays de la sous-région ouest-africaine qui ont un niveau moins élevé d'inflation, malgré l'aug-



direction pour s'assurer que la Banque s'acquitte de son mandat et de sa responsabilité conformément à la loi de la CBL qui a été modifiée et reformulée en 2020.

Le gouverneur Tarlue a affirmé que la retraite a lieu à un moment difficile où la Banque met en œuvre une responsabilité nationale très importante - l'exercice de réforme monétaire. Le processus, a déclaré le gouverneur, se déroule bien jusqu'à présent. Il a souligné le rôle important joué par le Conseil des gouverneurs. Il a aussi appelé son équipe à faire preuve de vigilance pour atténuer tous les risques potentiels qui pourraient saper tous les efforts. Le gouverneur exécutif a également souligné une perspective positive pour le programme de réforme monétaire en cours de la Banque, soulignant que la tâche n'est pas seulement importante pour sa contri-

mentation des prix du carburant et des denrées alimentaires en raison de l'impact de la pandémie de COVID-19 et de la guerre géopolitique russo-ukrainienne qui ont affecté l'économie mondiale et les marchés financiers. Le gouverneur Tarlue a averti que la crise russo-ukrainienne présente un risque bas-sier important pour les perspectives d'inflation du pays, ajoutant que "nous devons surveiller de près la situation et agir, si nécessaire, pour maintenir notre économie sur une trajectoire stable".

Le Gouverneur exécutif de la CBL a dit qu'il y a encore des défis critiques auxquels la Banque est confrontée malgré les nombreuses réalisations. L'un des principaux défis, a-t-il souligné, est le problème persistant des prêts non performants (NPL) élevés qui posent un risque systémique pour la stabilité du système financier du pays. Il a dit que le Conseil travaille sans relâche pour résoudre ce problème et promouvoir la stabilité du système financier.

Guinée: la défense s'exprime longuement à la réouverture du procès du 28-Septembre

La semaine dernière s'est ouvert en Guinée le procès du massacre du stade de Conakry, le 28 septembre 2009. Ce jour-là, une manifestation de l'opposition contre une candidature du chef de la junte de l'époque, Moussa Dadis Camara, avait été réprimée dans le sang. L'audience avait été renvoyé au 4 octobre. Ce sont les avocats de la défense qui ont été les premiers à prendre la parole.

Beaucoup de sièges sont restés vides à l'ouverture de l'audience ce matin vers 10h30 (TU et heure locale). Cette deuxième journée de débats doit permettre des avancées. C'est ce que demande en tout cas Asmaou Diallo, la présidente de l'Avipa, une association de victimes. Elle

Français

Les États-Unis saluent la plus

d'ouvrir une enquête rapide sur l'arrestation de toutes les personnes liées au complot, que ce soit directement ou indirectement.

"En plus de cela, nous prenons toutes les mesures nécessaires pour que le lieu du crime soit préservé. Nous ne négligerons aucun effort et veillerons à ce que toutes les personnes impliquées soient confrontées à tout le poids de la loi", a-t-il déclaré.

Lors de la conférence de presse conjointe, le ministre de la Justice Frank Musa Dean a averti que le Libéria ne sera plus un refuge sûr pour les trafiquants de drogue.

Il a aussi dit le suspect Conte fait actuellement l'objet d'une enquête approfondie. Il a salué la coopération du gouvernement sierra-léonais pour l'arrestation du suspect Issam Makki.

« D'autres suspects sont poursuivis par nos forces de sécurité, a déclaré le ministre Dean.

Il a remercié les forces de l'ordre libériennes qui ont participé à l'opération pour leur bravoure.

Le ministre Dean a également remercié le gouvernement des États-Unis, par l'intermédiaire de l'ambassade des États-Unis près de Monrovia, pour l'aide

considérable que le Libéria continue de recevoir dans la lutte contre le trafic de drogue et d'autres crimes transnationaux. À la suite des derniers développements, le gouvernement des États-Unis, par l'intermédiaire de son ambassade, a félicité l'action rapide de la LDEA et de la NSA. "C'est le résultat d'enquêtes en cours dans le monde et d'une coordination étroite entre les services de sécurité nationale", ont déclaré les Américains dans un communiqué.

« Le succès de cette opération est le résultat direct d'une excellente communication entre les forces de l'ordre du monde entier, y compris le Brésil, les États-Unis et le Libéria, entre autres. Même avant l'arrestation de Paul Calder Le Roux, le principal chef de file du cartel en septembre 2012 par les autorités libériennes, les États-Unis ont déclaré qu'un nombre croissant de criminels et de syndicats sous-estimant les capacités des forces de l'ordre du Libéria se sont retrouvés menottés pour faire face à des poursuites officielles et de longues peines de prison au Libéria. » Le gouvernement des États-Unis salue le dévouement des services de sécurité du Libéria et leur succès le week-end dernier dans la plus grande saisie de drogue ici.

Guinée: la défense s'exprime longuement à

protection, selon l'association. Ce matin, des badges identiques ont été distribués à la fois aux parties civiles, aux témoins, aux journalistes et aux simples membres du public, pour favoriser l'anonymat des victimes notamment.

L'audience se poursuit en ce moment même avec la prise de parole des avocats de la défense. Les uns après les autres, ils ont décidé de soulever plusieurs exceptions susceptibles, selon eux, d'annuler les poursuites contre leurs clients. Parmi les éléments de procédure mis en cause, il y a l'ordonnance de renvoi. Elle date de 2017. Certains des avocats pointent des irrégularités. D'autres encore, dont les clients ont passé plusieurs années en prison, dénoncent des détentions abusives.

Face aux arguments des avocats parfois longuement développés, le président a montré plusieurs fois des signes d'agacement, demandant aux avocats d'aller droit au but pour soulever leurs exceptions. La

défense est toujours en train de s'exprimer. Cela fait maintenant plus de deux heures qu'elle a la parole.

Deux jours par semaine de procès

Dans le box des accusés, les onze prévenus sont tous là. Moussa Dadis Camara, en boubou noir et blanc, le chef de la junte au moment du massacre, devrait plaider non-coupable. C'est ce qu'a déclaré son avocat Me Pépé Antoine Lama. Un autre avocat de la défense, Me Salifou Béavogui, confiait ce matin avoir eu des échanges avec ses confrères des parties civiles. Les deux pools d'avocats se seraient mis d'accord pour que le procès se tienne deux jours par semaine.

Dans la salle, des sièges en velours bleu ont remplacé les simples chaises de la semaine dernière. Le reste du mobilier du tribunal ad hoc a fini par être livré et installé. Pour cette deuxième journée d'audience, beaucoup de couacs au niveau de l'organisation encore. L'accréditation des journalistes, la répartition du public dans la salle ont posé problème. Tout n'est pas encore au point. L'audience qui devait s'ouvrir à 10h a eu une demi-heure de retard.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Mariana Mazzucato, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Johan Rockström et Tharman Shanmugaratnam

Transformer l'économie et la gouvernance de l'eau

LONDRES - Les inondations, les sécheresses, les canicules et les incendies qui ravagent de nombreuses régions du monde mettent deux faits fondamentaux au premier plan. Premièrement, les dégâts causés aux approvisionnements en eau douce mettent de plus en plus à rude épreuve les sociétés humaines, en particulier les pauvres, et ont des conséquences considérables sur la stabilité économique, sociale et politique. Deuxièmement, l'impact combiné des conditions extrêmes actuelles est sans précédent dans l'histoire de l'humanité et dépasse la capacité des responsables politiques à réagir.

En Afrique de l'Est, une sécheresse dévastatrice de quatre ans a détruit des millions de moyens de subsistance et a laissé plus de 20 millions de personnes au bord de la famine. Au Pakistan, les récentes inondations ont submergé un tiers du pays, tuant au moins 1 300 personnes jusqu'à présent et détruisant 45 % des récoltes de cette année. En Chine, une canicule sans précédent a provoqué de graves pénuries d'eau dans les régions qui représentent un tiers de la production de riz du pays.

En outre, les sécheresses et les incendies aux États-Unis et en Europe, ainsi que les graves inondations et sécheresses en Inde ont réduit les rendements céréaliers mondiaux et les exportations alimentaires, soulignant encore à quel point notre production alimentaire dépend de volumes d'eau stables et importants. Si l'on ajoute à cela l'impact de la guerre en Ukraine sur l'approvisionnement en céréales et en engrais, il existe un risque considérable que la crise alimentaire mondiale actuelle persiste.

Pour la première fois de notre histoire, les activités humaines mettent en péril l'eau à sa source même. Le changement climatique et le déboisement remodelent la saison de la mousson, provoquant la fonte de la glace sur le plateau tibétain et affectant les réserves d'eau douce de plus d'un milliard de personnes. La hausse des températures mondiales modifie les modes d'évaporation et réduit les réactions d'humidité des forêts, perturbant ainsi les précipitations sous le vent. Et un cycle mondial de l'eau déstabilisé aggrave en soi le changement climatique. Par exemple, l'épuisement de l'eau dans le sol et les forêts réduit leur capacité à séquestrer le carbone.

Les restrictions sur l'utilisation de l'eau, les coupures de courant et d'autres mesures d'arrêt ne peuvent plus dissimuler sur le fait que nos systèmes de gouvernance et de gestion de l'eau ne sont pas adaptés à un monde de changements environnementaux radicaux. Tous nos arrangements actuels reposent sur l'hypothèse, maintenant invalidée, selon laquelle l'approvisionnement en eau est relativement stable (dans les limites de la variabilité naturelle), prévisible et gérable de manière localisée. Mais la crise de l'eau est mondiale et ne peut être résolue qu'au moyen d'une réflexion transformationnelle et par une nouvelle gouvernance.

Nous devons reconnaître que tous nos principaux défis environnementaux sont liés à l'eau, qu'il y en ait trop ou trop peu, ou qu'elle soit trop polluée pour être utilisée par l'homme. La tâche

consiste à présent à comprendre les liens entre l'eau, le changement climatique et la perte de biodiversité et à définir, valoriser et gouverner correctement l'eau comme un bien commun mondial. Penser à l'eau de cette manière nous permettra de mobiliser l'action collective et de concevoir de nouvelles règles qui placent l'équité et la justice au centre de notre réponse.

Pendant trop longtemps, la plupart des gouvernements ont soit ignoré les défaillances du marché, soit répondu par des solutions rapides, plutôt que par la mobilisation des secteurs public et privé autour d'ambitions communes. Le secteur public doit se considérer comme un marché qui collabore avec toutes les parties prenantes de l'économie de l'eau pour créer des voies d'innovation et d'investissement, assurer un accès universel à l'eau potable et à l'assainissement et fournir suffisamment d'eau pour l'alimentation, l'énergie et les systèmes naturels.

Une leçon clé des défis passés qui exigeaient une innovation systémique, c'est qu'une mission clairement définie est nécessaire pour organiser nos efforts. Les politiques axées sur les missions permettent aux gouvernements d'orienter l'innovation et le savoir-faire directement vers la réalisation d'objectifs ambitieux. Lorsqu'elles sont guidées par une approche inclusive du « bien commun », ces mesures sont sans pareilles quand il s'agit de fournir des solutions à des défis qui nécessitent d'énormes niveaux de coordination et de financement sur de nombreuses années. Le changement climatique, la perte de biodiversité et les crises de l'eau sont précisément des défis de ce genre.

Des stratégies basées sur des missions peuvent aider les gouvernements à innover en se dotant d'un but, d'une orientation et d'une urgence. Mais pour être efficaces, les décideurs doivent tenir compte de l'expérience et de la sagesse des citoyens ordinaires, des communautés et des innovateurs qui savent prospérer dans un monde de pénurie d'eau, de températures plus élevées et de systèmes fluviaux et littoraux modifiés.

Nous devons reconnaître à présent les menaces qui pèsent sur le système mondial d'eau douce et traduire notre prise de conscience en action collective. Parce que la rareté de l'eau mettra en péril tous les autres objectifs de développement durable, elle devrait renforcer notre détermination collective à limiter les augmentations de température à 1,5 °C au-dessus des niveaux préindustriels (comme spécifié dans l'Accord de Paris sur le climat), pour préserver les systèmes naturels qui assurent des modèles stables de ruissellement pluvial.

Pour relever ces défis mondiaux, nous devons inclure les principes d'équité et de justice dans tous les nouveaux arrangements que nous concevons. Aucune communauté ne peut prospérer sans un approvisionnement fiable en eau pure. Mais la sauvegarde de ce bien commun mondial nécessite de nouvelles politiques et de nouveaux systèmes.

Le droit et l'économie doivent être réorientés pour assurer un accès universel à l'eau potable, à l'assainissement et à l'hygiène et pour construire des systèmes alimentaires plus résilients et plus durables. Les incitations doivent changer afin que le secteur privé puisse faire sa part pour fournir un accès à la technologie et à l'innovation aux pays pauvres comme aux pays riches. Cela va exiger des financements à long terme et de nouveaux mécanismes visant à

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Protest loom over rice shortage

-As SUP, EFFL others announce mass rally to stage rice riot

By Lincoln G. Peters

Several Liberian and political pressure groups have threatened mass rally and protest action against the Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government if President George M. Weah failed to arrest the current rice crisis in the country.

The group which includes Economic Freedom Fighters of Liberia (EFF) and University of

administration has degenerated into the insolvency of carelessness and imbalances," the group noted adding, "President Weah has once again showed our people how incompetent and incapable his government is in providing leadership."

According to the group, the current Liberian state is in disorder because of poor statecraft with incompetence human agencies of the highest

kind" in the country's history. EFFL and SUP also pointed out that the scarcity of and heightened increment in the price of rice is not only generating hardship for the people but has also condemned them to a shameful situation of sleeping on the street in long queues and jumping over fences and combating over who to be served first by the wholesalers.

It has been over three weeks since the situation of rice shortage evolved the country and the inimitable increment in the price of the commodity hit the country. The government has failed to give attention to the situation to properly remedy the crisis but maintain that there is enough rice in the country.

But also addressing the situation at a press conference Tuesday October 4, 2022, on the main Campus of the University of Liberia, SUP Chairman Mustapha N. Kanneh said that rice which is Liberia staple food is a commodity with a history in the country which led to social political eruption because of past government's inability to exercise decisive leadership.

"The rice riot of April 14 1979 is a classic historical account that any serious government should learn from. Again, we are seeing another rice crisis that has evolved in such a short time and the Weah regime has been unable to provide any feasible solution so far. Since the regime has played just lip service to this plight, the crisis is pushing the people along the line of forceful

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 5

Diaspora Liberians hope to vote in 2023

By Winston W. Parley

U.S. - based Liberian Mr. Emmanuel S. Wettee has hinted at the possibility of having "Out of Country voting" materialized in 2023 or after for diaspora Liberians. "These achievements were made possible owing to ULAA's leadership and partnerships with an assortment of other Diaspora organizations, lawmakers in both the United States of America and the Republic of Liberia," he said during the 48th General Assembly of the Union of Liberian Associations in the Americas (ULAA).

"As we convene at this Assembly we, with our sister Liberian Diaspora organizations around the world, are now submerged in the noble battle for the possibility of having "Out of

Madam Mabel Green, Dr. Clarice Ford Kulah, Brother Robert G. Garguah, Sr., Mr. Dennis Jah, [and] Eminent David Flomo, among many others," he said. Eminent Wettee also cited the current achievements of ULAA in the advocacy for Dual Citizenship for natural-born Liberians and their children. Further, he mentions the advocacy that seeks to make a Liberian woman pass on her citizenship over to her child at birth, irrespective of the citizenship or pigmentation of the biological father. Eminent Wettee said ULAA has made an achievement in advocacy that seeks to make it possible for Liberians on TPS/DED to get Green Card. He said these achievements constitute a continuation of patriotic efforts by ULAA leaders and leadership



Liberia campus-based Vanguard Student Unification Party (SUP) say their move is being instigated by the president's "callous and lethargic" tendency towards the ongoing crisis.

"The callous and lethargic tendency of President Weah government toward this crisis is not just a signal of administrative ineptitude but a gross demonstration of how the Liberian public

order that lack the discipline, thought and requisite knowledge to administer leadership in a third-world nation like Liberia.

The group further that it's sadden that Liberian are currently buying a bag of 25kg rice for four thousand five hundred Liberian dollars, while a cup of rice is sold for one hundred and fifty Liberian dollars, something which the group describe as "first of its

Country devils apologize to Inland Church

-for forceful initiation of member

By Thomas Domah, Nimba county

Traditional masked dancers commonly known here as country devils have publicly apologized to the Liberia Inland Church in Sanniquellie, Nimba County for forcibly initiating a congregational member of the Church, 28-year-old Aaron Bahn.

An officer of the Liberia Fire and Rescue Service, Mr. Bahn was recently initiated while on detail at an immigration checkpoint on the outskirts of Sanniquellie City.

He had been in the custody of the country devils for the past one week but due to pressure from the Church, the traditional masked dancers returned him to the local congregation and openly apologized for the action. Mr. Bahn is assigned at the Sanniquellie immigration checkpoint where he was arrested by the traditional devils and forcibly enrolled in a traditional school outside of Sanniquellie. His arrest brings to

four the number of congregants from the Liberia Inland Church, who had been forcibly apprehended and initiated by the traditional school in the county.

Meanwhile, executives of the Inland Church have threatened to take the traditional devil to court for continuously attacking its members and forcibly initiating them. The Poro and Sande societies are two key

traditional institutions in Liberia. They are trusted custodians of culture and have been here for centuries. The Poro is a traditional institution meant for males, while the Sande is its female counterpart. These societies are traditionally believed to inculcate values and teach skills that are conducive to communal harmony and to prepare children for the rigor of adulthood. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Country voting" materialize in 2023 or after," said Eminent Wettee in a keynote address at ULAA's 48th General Assembly in the U.S. late September.

He has stressed the need for Liberians who are legal residents in other lands to have the right to vote at least in Liberia's presidential election. "Let us now summon the needed courage to coalesce forces to ensure that Liberians who are legal residents in other lands, especially with appreciable populations, have the right and are enabled to vote at least in Liberia's presidential election," he said in a keynote address recently. He said it was also made possible due to the heavy push by President George Manneh Weah wherever push was needed.

"And lest I forget, we recognize our local advocates in Georgia and down South in persons such as

from the 1970s to abolish the one-party political system, fight corruption and abuse of power in government, and ensure the prevalence of the rule of law. "Today, the current generation of Liberians is enjoying multi-party democracy, thanks to these gallant battles fought by ULAA and its partners," he said. "Gone are the days when lawmakers were selected, literally handpicked, and not elected," he said.

He said today in sharp contrast to yesteryears, the people of Liberia can actively participate in the political process as subject actors, not mere objects, of history. "They now have the leverage to impact the political situation by acknowledging legislative activities; be they good or bad, and move to effect change."

Starts from page 11 Beyond the biggest drug catch:

and seized huge quantity of raw Cocaine valued US\$100 million concealed among frozen goods owned by SONIT Inc.

Liberian law enforcement authorities have arrested two suspects, including Malam Conte, a 31 - year - old Guinea Bissau national, and Issam

Makki, a Lebanese national said to be residing in Liberia.

Authorities here are said to be pursuing others linked to what has been described as the biggest single drug syndicate busted in the country's history. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

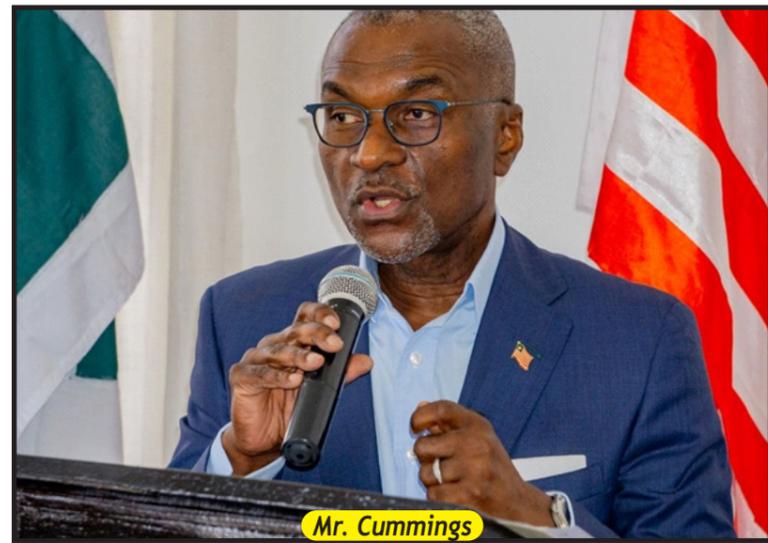
Cummings sends strong message

By Lincoln G. Peters

Mr. Alexander B. Cummings, standard bearer of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) Tuesday, October 4, 2022, sent a strong message ahead of the 2023 political season announcing an initial forty-four-man (44-man) campaign team. The team dubbed Team Cummings 2023 comprises dozens of veteran politicians, mostly former government officials, experienced campaign strategies and prominent Liberians of diverse professions, political and religious backgrounds.

but also the rich diversity that is Liberia's. Our hope is that Liberians everywhere will see themselves in this Team" he noted. "One of the Real Changes we seek is that we will no longer only represent some Liberians, because in the united Liberia we seek, no one must be left out or left behind. Liberia belongs to all Liberians. Our differences in religion, gender, tribe and political parties ought not to divide but unite us in building a better, prosperous and just Liberia" Mr. Cummings noted. Members of the 2023 Team Cummings include Dr. Togar

David Bajibo, Madam Queenyah Thomas Saturday, Elder Rufus Saydee, Ms. Robell Gbeintor, Elder Jallah, Madam Carmena Abdallah, Ma Musu Sanoe, Mr. Chris Dossen, Rev. Josiah Kennedy, Mr. Rodney Wilson, and Madam Wadei Powell. The rest are Mr. Momo Sambola, Atty. Lawrence Sua, Mr. Onesimus James, Madama Louise Duarto, Mr. Madela Geeplay, Madam Aumuo Ebanks, Madam Vivian Sendolo Norman, Madam Kebbeh Collins, Mr. Samuel Dean, Mr. Victor Saye, and Mr. Jethro SK Harris. Mr. Cummings also used the occasion to also reassure Liberians that he will work with everyone for real change beyond tribes, religion, gender and political parties, adding that Truly, Liberia deserves better and Liberians deserve better. Meanwhile, after announcing the campaign team, Amb. Lewis Brown a member of the team in an acceptance address on behalf of the team expressed excitement and appreciation to Mr. Cummings for appointing them on his initial campaign team. "This is a happy day. Every journey begins with a first step. Mr. incoming President, we take the challenge you have given to us to rescue our country from the hands of a leader who is bagging to offload the responsibility of the president of the republic. Today, too many are ready, too many are disappointed because the president does not appear to be connected to the everyday condition of the hardship of our people. We will end all of this in 2023" he noted. Mr. Brown noted that enough is enough, therefore, it's time to embrace real change and work with Mr. Cummings to change the country that President Weah government had made a laughing stock in the international and diplomatic space.



Mr. Cummings

Making the much-publicized announcement at the Liberty Party headquarter in Sinkor 19th street, Mr. Cummings explained that the initial 44-man Team will help in propagating his message for real change to the Liberian people in every area of the society. "I am honored to name the initial Team Cummings 2023 of forty-four man which includes member of the disabled community and all Liberian. Today, we stand on that historic truth to name the first few of our Real Change Team. These Liberians reflect not just a rich pool of talents

Gayewea McIntosh, Amb. Lewis Garseedah Brown, Mr. George Gyude Wisner, Hon. H. Dan Morias, Hon. Jonathan Boye Charles Sogbie, Madam Julia Duncan-Cassell, Madam Mariama D. Sangare, Mr. Daniel Chea, Mr. Roland Siddiq Kamara, Atty. Lafayette Gould, Hon. Larry Nyanquoi, Hon. Yekeh Kolubah, Emmanuel Yartoe, Aloysius Toe, and Mr. Martin Saye Kollah. Others are Madam Nicky Jah, Mr. William Moyes, Ma Kula Morris, Mr. Othelo Krayee, Rev. David Benito, Mr. Peter Nuyan, Mr. Chernor Jalloh, Mr.

Beyond the biggest drug catch: Who owns SONIT Liberia Inc.?

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

NEW DAWN's investigation into last Saturday's (October 1, 2022) Liberian security dragnet that busted drugs with street value at US\$100m at SONIT Liberia Inc. compound in Topoe Village outside Monrovia after a tipoff from the United States Government, is drawing in chain of businesses under which the prime suspect SONIT Liberia operates.

The NEW DAWN gathers that AJA- Group Holdings, a conglomeration of ABI Jaoudi & Fresh Frozen Food Inc, also has in its chain SONIT Liberia Inc that owns the warehouse in Topoe Village.

SONIT Liberia Inc is a French frozen food company

that has been inactive due to challenges, prompting management to have rented the facility to Fresh Frozen Food Liberia (FFF) Inc. - a sole proprietorship of ABI Jaoudi & Azar Trading Corporation, owners of ABI

Jaoudi Supermarket on Randall Street in central Monrovia that are all under the supervision of AJA-Group Holdings.

Sources confided in this paper that prior to the arrest of the huge consignment of drugs over the weekend, there has



Starts from back page 'Stop speaking

said Whapoe. He indicated that Liberians don't want to be controlled by other countries because they are the ones feeding Liberia. He challenged President Weah to face the reality, adding that the government should learn to

see mistakes not as the end of the line, but as the beginning of hope. Dr. Whapoe wonders why President Weah and his government are finding it difficult, to be honest with the Liberian people.

LIBERIA NATIONAL RED CROSS SOCIETY
107th Lynch Street, Monrovia

PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT – INVITATION TO BID NOTICE

The Liberia National Red Cross Society (LNRCS) is a Humanitarian Organization that works throughout the 15 Counties. The LNRCS is an impartial, neutral and independent organization whose mandate is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all time all forms of humanitarian activities.

The LNRCS, through the support of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is seeking ICT Materials (Lap Top Computers & digital ID Card Printer) compliant with international standards. **LNRCS invites sealed bids** from suitably qualified and experienced bidders for the provision of the mentioned materials, to the LNRCS Monrovia Office, DDP (Incoterms 2020, 107 Lynch Street Monrovia-Liberia).

Bid documents containing invitation to bid, instruction to bidders, requirements, general & special conditions of the contract etc. for the service provider can be obtained from the LNRCS website www.lnracs.org.lr until 14th October 2022 at 16:00 from LNRCS by sending a request via email at the following email address: Lnracs.procurement@liberian-redcross.org cc: john.gborie@liberian-redcross.org or obtaining a hard copy at the LNRCS Head Office, 107 Lynch Street.

Bids, complete in all respects and in a sealed envelope must be received at the above address **during office hours** (Monday to Friday) from 9:00am to 16:00 hrs. **no later than 14th October 2022 at 16:00**

The LNRCS reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the offers without assigning any reason whatsoever and is not bound to accept the lowest bid.

been series of alleged transactions of drugs at the very same vanue in Topoe Village where SONIT Liberia Inc. has its frozen food warehouse.

Sources speak of clandestine activities there during night hours, with trucks carrying huge consignments entering and coming out of the SONIT Liberia Inc. compound daily.

Residents in the proximity of the compound, who asked for anonymity said there has been nothing like sales of frozen food in the fence, but the facility has been used as a warehouse.

But Mohammed Saleem, whose number was placed on the official website of Fresh Frozen Food Liberia Inc, denied having link with SONIT Liberia Inc.

Efforts to reach the General Manager of Fresh Frozen Food (FFF) Mr. Bilal Ibrahim, was unsuccessful as his phone rang tirelessly.

D u a n n a K a m a r a , Interrelation Officer between ABI Jaoudi & Azar Trading Corporation, and the public said ABI Jaoudi Inc. has nothing to do with SONIT Liberia facility in Topoe Village and Fresh Frozen Food (FFF) Liberia that is said to

have rented the facility from SONIT Liberia Incorporated for commercial purpose.

AJA Group Holdings is a flagship investment company, AJA Holding, owned by Al Nabhan family involves in the investment and development of Al Nabhan financial interests, named after AJA Mountain, spearheaded by the family.

AJA Holding plays a dual role in developing existing financial enterprises within the group and creating new investment opportunities.

With a portfolio of various leading enterprises, AJA Holding harnesses local capabilities and envisions a global expansion, a step that enhances its position as a diverse holding company.

It comprises Fresh Frozen Food Liberia, Fresh Frozen Food Conakry, Fresh Frozen Food DR Congo, ABI Jaoudi & Azar Trading Corporation, GBK Motors Inc, Africom, RIA Hotel & Resort, and IFT Strategic Purchasing.

Authorities of the Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency (LDEA) and the National Security Agency (NSA) over the weekend, stormed SONIT Liberia Inc. compound in Topoe Village, along the Japan Freeway,

'Stop speaking deception'

-Whapoe urges Pres. Weah



Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe

By Lincoln G. Peters
 Opposition Vision for Liberia Transformation Party (VOLT) political leader Dr. Jeremiah Z. Whapoe has urged President Weah and his government to stop speaking deception to the Liberian people. Delivering a keynote speech at the graduation of Zion High School over the weekend, Whapoe noted that understanding is an empirical character a good leader should possess. "Because you have food does not mean the nation has food. Please invest in agriculture so that we can stop begging other

nations for food because the hands that feed you control you," Whapoe warned President Weah. He argued that leaders must face the reality, calling on President Weah and his government to be honest because Liberians are not fools. "You know that the nation's capital city, Monrovia, is dirty, and has no structure as compared to Miami, Florida. But yet, the President said that Monrovia has become like Mimi," said Dr. Whapoe. He lamented that the

Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) government has refused to accept the wrong and use it as a lesson for improvement. "Mr. President, Monrovia cannot be compared to Miami. Not because your house is clean at the expense of those who work for you means that Liberia is clean and developed as your home," Whapoe argued. Dr. Whapoe claimed that while every citizen including visitors is aware of the shortage of rice in the Liberian market, President Weah continues to maintain that there is enough rice on the market to take the country to 2023. The VOLT political leader stated Liberians are struggling to feed their families, and rice price is being hiked. He accused President Weah of making fun of Liberians by telling them that there is enough rice in the country. He said President Weah is doing so because he has food in his storage to eat and so he believes that everyone has food. "Mr. President, the Liberian people's eating bowl is not in your house, rather, their ... houses. Therefore, they know what they are going through,"

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

MTN MoMo

Perform any transaction on MTN Mobile Money and stand a chance to win.

Dial *156#

Lonestar Cell | MTN

The New Dawn

TRULY INDEPENDENT

PRESS

WE DO GENERAL PRINTING SERVICES:

- * Newspapers * Magazines * Flyers * Posters
- * Calendars * Brochures * Letterhead
- * Receipts * Invoices * Souvenirs etc...

DIGITAL & OFFSET Printing

0886484201 | Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com | P.O. Box 1266 UN Drive & Center Street
 0777007529 | Website: www.thenewdawnliberia.com | Opposite NIC, Monrovia, Liberia