

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022	L\$152.7246/US\$1.00	L\$154.5776/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**
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'We hold no allegiance to anyone'

-Says Justice Yuoh

P11

Chief Justice Yuoh




Weah still playing football

-Urey unleashes salvo

P11

President Weah ALP Political leader Urey

MTN MoMo

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Dial *156#

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Continental News

Kenya Ships First Batches of Batteries, Tea Under AfCFTA Pact

NAIROBI, KENYA — In the past two weeks, Kenya has taken advantage of a pilot program by the Africa Continental Free Trade Area which aims to facilitate and increase trade across Africa.

The East African country shipped its first batches of locally made car batteries and tea to Ghana, 21 months after the AfCFTA pact was

with other East and Southern Africa regional blocs, but this is the first trade with the West African region.

"As you know, one reason why Africa has not been trading with itself is [due to] logistical problems, tariff problems, non-tariff barriers, as well," Paloma said. "So, the secretariat has come up with rules and regulations to encourage manufacturers in Africa to trade

without any tariffs," Paloma said.

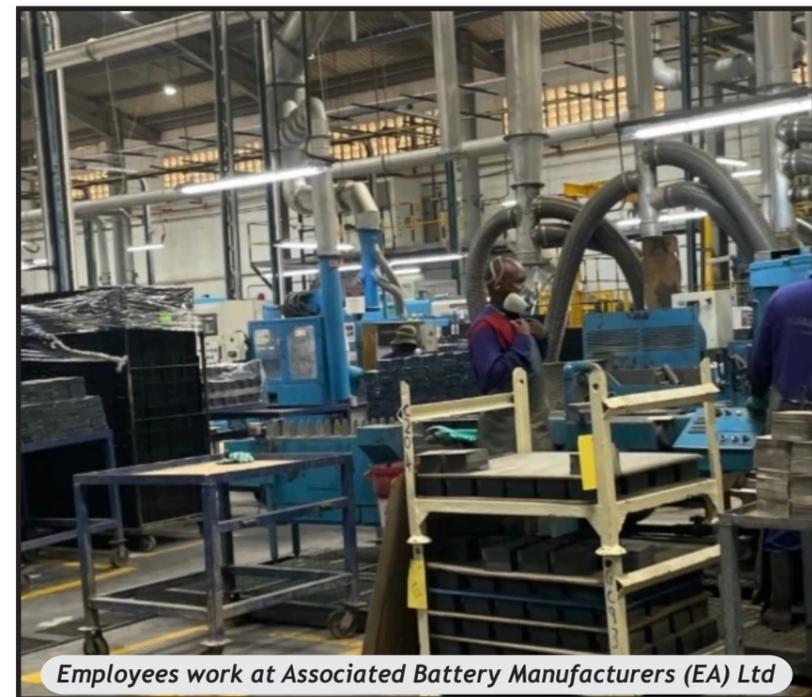
Ghana's high commissioner to Kenya, Dampsey Bediako Asare, told VOA the trial phase that started in July is a significant step toward implementation of the AfCFTA.

"Most of the time we have African countries coming out with a lot of flagship programs and projects, but they remain on the shelves because we are waiting for everyone to get ready before we roll it out," he said. "Some of us believe right from the beginning, 'Why don't we put together countries that are ready to start trading under the CFTA so that they form a nucleus family of countries that ... are ready to implement the CFTA?' And I think that's exactly what happened."

Asare highlighted tariff reduction as a direct benefit under the new pan-African deal.

"We have a lot of African countries that are landlocked," he said. "So, if you are going to be participating in [the AfCFTA], how are they going to participate in this exercise of trading among ourselves meaningfully? We need to improve infrastructure."

Kwame Owino, chief executive officer of the Institute of Economic Affairs, a think-tank based in Kenya, told VOA that rather than a free-trade agreement, it's important to note that AfCFTA is more of a guided-trade agreement. VOA



Employees work at Associated Battery Manufacturers (EA) Ltd

launched. The countries are among eight taking part in this trial phase.

Associated Battery Manufacturers Limited in Nairobi exported its first locally made batteries to Ghana a few weeks ago.

Finance manager Nixon Paloma said the company, which specializes in automotive and solar batteries, had been trading

with other African countries. That's what we took advantage of." Paloma said that getting preferential tariff rates is one of the main benefits of trading under this pilot phase.

"For now, for example in Ghana, we are supposed to get 2 percent every year. So, the duty will be lowered at the rate of 2 percent each year until it goes to zero. So, in 10 years' time, we will be exporting goods to Ghana

Cameroon Sees 100% Increase in Mental Health Care Seekers

Officials in Cameroon say the number of mental health patients in the country has more than doubled in the past year, as the country deals with a separatist crisis in its western regions and Boko Haram clashes in the north.

Fonbe Hedwick is the director of the Vine Mental Health Center, in Bamenda, capital of Cameroon's volatile Northwest region.

He says his center was chosen for World Mental Health Day activities in Bamenda because the number of psychiatric patients at the center increased from less than 20 in 2021 to over 100 in October

2022. "We are receiving those who have gone through traumas, and they are sad, many who complain of sleeplessness, some who cannot be able to control

themselves, they are so restless, so agitated. Some with severe anger issues. They present emotional and



A man wears a mask while walking outside the entrance to the Yaounde General Hospital in Yaounde

Six decomposed bodies found in South Africa building

The South African Police Service (SAPS) say a 21-year-old man will be charged with murder following the discover of six bodies - five of them in an advanced state of decomposition - in a building in the main city, Johannesburg.

The local News24 site reports that the bodies were

rooms in the building.

The body of a woman was first discovered in the building, and her clothes matched the description of a woman reported missing earlier this month, a police statement said.

Five more bodies were found outside "where there is a makeshift workshop and rubbish dumpsters", the statement said.

"Unfortunately, the other five



of six women.

"The [one] victim had her underwear below her knees. Her head and neck were covered with her skirt. All six had their hands and feet tied from behind," an unnamed eyewitness was quoted as saying. Police said they launched an investigation after complaints of a foul smell coming from one of the

bodies are at the late stage of decomposition. They will be subjected to forensic analysis for identification," it said.

The 21-year-old man - who is believed to be the last person to have been seen with the woman - had been arrested, the statement added. He is to be charged with six counts of murder. Police have not yet given a possible motive for the killings. BBC

behavioral tendencies which are uncontrollable," said Fonbe. Fonbe said many families lack the resources to care for psychiatric patients at home and either abandon the patients at the center or put them on the streets. Rebecca Nkwate is the highest government official in charge of mental patients in the Northwest region. She says the number of psychiatric patients seeking help in the region has increased from less than 2,500 to over 6,000 within the past year. "Some of them come here already abused, so we listen to their story to increase their morale and in the course of looking for solutions, it may require that we go for home visits," said Nkwate. "We help them at the level of the police and we work with those that go to the hospital when it comes to trauma management. We make sure that they enjoy the same human rights like other people." Overall, Cameroon says the number of mental patients in the central African state has more than doubled from about 10,000 to 23,000 in the past 12 months. The government says with the separatist crisis in western regions and Boko Haram terrorism on the northern

border decreasing, humanitarian workers are better able to find and assist patients abandoned in villages where fighting was intensive. Laure Mengueme is the director of mental health at Cameroon's Ministry of Health. She says many people lost family members in the conflicts or experienced acts of abuse, violence and trauma, triggering mental health crises.

She urges civilians to seek medical help instead of taking psychiatric patients to traditional healers or pastors who claim they have miracle solutions to mental health problems. She says a majority of the mental patients government workers are assisting to recover their health are nervous, aggressive, irritated and violent. She simply says doctors and therapists should exercise more patience with psychiatric patients when the patients become violent. She says the country counts very much on doctors and therapists to reduce the growing number of mental patients. The World Health Organization reports that growing social and economic inequalities, protracted conflicts, violence and public health emergencies continue to take a toll on mental health, in Cameroon and worldwide. VOA

EDITORIAL

Ending impunity in Liberia is for the general good

The Government of Liberia is glaringly reluctant to implement recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, mainly calls for prosecution of key actors who committed heinous crimes and crimes against humanity during the Liberian Civil War.

The Weah administration will do everything, including bending over to protect former rebel Field Marshall Gen. Prince Yormie Johnson, who is Senator of Nimba county.

However, the Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice from the Office of Global Criminal Justice in Washington, DC, Beth Van Schaack says she is in the country to hear from the Government of Liberia what are the hitches preventing implementation of the TRC report.

The TRC recommended establishment of a war and economic crimes court for Liberia to prosecute those who bear highest responsibility for atrocities committed during the 14-year civil war in Liberia.

But President George Manneh Weah and his ruling Congress for Democratic Change that campaigned for war crimes court, toting caskets in the streets, are today silent because one of the key actors from the civil war Senator Prince Johnson, is a political bedfellow of the ruling establishment. Another former rebel leader, Dr. George S. Boley of the erstwhile Liberia Peace Council (LPC), who was deported from the United States for arming child soldiers in Liberia, is a member of the 54th Liberian Legislature.

Others are the ailing leader of the defunct Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD) and Thomas Yaya Nimely of the Movement for Democracy in Liberia (MODEL), among others.

Liberia is at the junction of decision-making, whether to stamp out impunity and embrace accountability or to maintain the status code and wallop in a vicious cycle of terror, misrule and bloodshed in a jungle justice style.

International partners, particularly the United States is willing to assist Liberians deliver themselves from a few hands of blood-thirsty people, who only means of survival is the muzzles of the gun at the expense of the youths.

We must end impunity now or never. It is important that we welcome the establishment of the war crimes court like neighboring Sierra Leone did to discourage anybody from jumping in the bush again with selfish motives under the disguise of coming to liberate the people only to subject them to mental slavery.

The war crimes court will help to keep this country stable for the good of the majority and attract investors wanting to do business in an environment that is safe and reliable under the rule of law with accountability as hallmark.

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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief:

COMMENTARY

By Dambisa Moyo

Why Deglobalization Makes US Inflation Worse

NEW YORK - It is now widely accepted that deglobalization - the retrenchment of global trade, unwinding of capital flows, new barriers to migration, and declining influence of multilateral institutions - is well underway. But policymakers have yet to acknowledge its contribution to global inflation. To rein in surging price growth, the Federal Reserve and other central banks must adjust to the challenges of a rapidly deglobalizing world.

Globalization acted as a deflationary force by reducing labor and production costs. Likewise, the main features of deglobalization - higher tariffs and other trade barriers, together with a shift from global to regional trade flows - are known drivers of inflation. It is no surprise, then, that core goods inflation in the United States has increased sharply, from less than 2% at the start of 2021 to 6% in mid-2022.

I recently argued that US inflation is headed for a decline because the American economy is uniquely equipped to mitigate the impact of surging prices. But deglobalization will likely contribute to inflationary pressures by increasing companies' operating costs, thereby keeping US inflation higher than the 1-2% range recorded over most of the past decade and hovering near the Fed's 2% target rate.

For decades, US corporations have benefited tremendously from globalization's deflationary effects. Now, however, ongoing supply-chain constraints related to China's strict zero-COVID policy and Russia's war in Ukraine are expected to continue to raise the prices of food, fuel, and manufactured goods over the short and medium term.

More broadly, heightened geopolitical tensions threaten to make higher input costs a fixture of a deglobalizing world. While the cross-border movement of goods, capital, and people characterized the globalized economy of the past three decades, the growing Sino-American rivalry could be a harbinger of an era marked by a widening ideological divide and a balkanized global economy. Barriers to migration would make it harder for US companies to attract top global talent and drive up labor costs.

As interest rates rise and supply chains remain vulnerable, US companies are favoring resilience over low production costs, leading to massive capital repatriation. According to the Yale School of Management's tracker, more than 1,000 companies - many of them American - have voluntarily curtailed their Russian operations beyond what international sanctions require. In a deglobalizing

economy, more investment capital would flow back to the US, leading to a higher volume of dollars chasing US assets and putting more upward pressure on prices.

Finally, the notable absence of monetary-policy coordination - particularly among developed economies - may exacerbate global price increases. Unlike the coordinated monetary response to the 2008 global financial crisis, policymakers in the world's major economies seem to believe that every country must fend for itself in the fight against today's inflationary surge. While G7 leaders have pledged to monitor global inflation, they have not announced measures to combat soaring prices in a coordinated manner. On the contrary, the one recent coordinated policy action G7 countries undertook - sanctions against Russia - has arguably worsened inflationary pressures, by increasing supply-chain interruptions and spurring a spike in fuel prices.

The absence of global cooperation hurts many of the world's most vulnerable countries the most. When major central banks hike interest rates, they export inflation to smaller countries. Aggressive monetary tightening in the US has already led the dollar to rise against the pound, breach parity with the euro, and reach a 20-year high against the yen, propelling higher import-led inflation in countries whose currencies have weakened.

Tackling inflation in the US and globally requires a coordinated multilateral response. At a minimum, such a response would benefit the US by reducing its long-term exposure to rising import costs. Conversely, diplomatic fragmentation - a defining characteristic of our current age of deglobalization - increases the likelihood of tit-for-tat measures, which have led to the erection of multiple trade barriers in recent years, most notably between the US and China and between the United Kingdom and Europe.

Taken together, these trends herald a global environment that will continue to fuel higher US inflation, even if America is less vulnerable than other advanced economies. The Fed's current efforts to stamp out inflation by hiking interest rates and shrinking its balance sheet will reduce demand and thus help curb price growth. But policymakers must also devise measures that mitigate the impact of today's deglobalizing world.

Dambisa Moyo, an international economist, is the author of four New York Times bestselling books, including *Edge of Chaos: Why Democracy Is Failing to Deliver Economic Growth - and How to Fix It* (Basic Books, 2018).

O-PED

By Shang-Jin Wei

Liz Truss vs. the Bank of England

NEW YORK - Following a week of financial-market turbulence, UK Prime Minister Liz Truss was forced to scrap her plan to abolish the 45% top income-tax rate for high earners. This U-turn, an attempt to counter a stunning market sell-off that caused the pound to crash and saw the Bank of England launch a massive bond-buying program to prevent “material risk to UK financial stability,” is a necessary first step toward stabilizing the economy. But unless Truss reverses more of the tax cuts or introduces policies to protect pensioners and help struggling mortgage borrowers, the market turmoil will not end soon. In fact, it could get worse.

The “mini-budget” that Truss and Chancellor of the Exchequer Kwasi Kwarteng proposed at the end of last month, which includes sweeping tax cuts for corporations and the rich, would likely cause an economy-wide surge in demand, further overheating the UK economy and pushing up the already-high inflation rate. The prices of British gilts fell during the week of September 23-27, as investors expected the BOE to offset inflationary pressures by raising interest rates faster than it had planned.

But instead of selling bonds, the BOE began buying gilts to push down the interest rate. What explains this maneuver? Government bonds are a key part of many pension-fund portfolios, and in recent years, many UK pension funds used so-called liability-driven investment strategies to hedge against risks. As yields on UK government bonds soared, pension funds struggled to meet collateral requests. The BOE’s attempt to stabilize the price of long-term bonds was thus meant to prevent the fallout in the pensions sector from spilling over and causing a full-blown financial meltdown.

But the BOE most likely has another motive for intervening in the government-bond market. Unlike the US housing market, where 15-30-year fixed-rate mortgages are common, many UK homeowners have floating-rate mortgages. About one-third of the country’s mortgages are on fixed rates that will expire in the coming two years. This means that any interest-rate increase would raise the monthly mortgage payments of many British homeowners immediately or very soon. It would also make mortgages less affordable, driving many prospective home buyers to put off buying a house. So, the BOE’s intervention may have prevented a mortgage-market meltdown and a housing market crisis at the same time.

But it will also boost inflation. US President Ronald Reagan’s tax cuts in the early 1980s - an inspiration for Truss and Kwarteng’s program - generated upward pressure on prices, but the effect on inflation was offset by the Federal Reserve’s decision to sell US Treasuries rather than buy them. The BOE’s bond-buying program, on the other hand, will add fuel to the inflationary fire.

Given the BOE’s inflation-fighting mandate, it is reasonable to expect that it would look for ways to undo or at least mitigate the impact of its intervention. But monetary policymakers are stuck between a rock and a hard place. They can either raise the interest rate to fight inflation - thereby tolerating falling bond prices and risking mortgage troubles - or lower the interest rate to bail out mortgage borrowers and bond investors and accept rising inflation.

Truss can and must help the BOE find a way out of this conundrum. Given that she has demonstrated a willingness to increase government borrowing to pay for a two-year cap on household energy payments, she could also introduce a two-year cap on household mortgage payments and add protections for pensioners.

To be sure, price caps are not the most effective way to deal with either skyrocketing energy bills or higher mortgage payments. But if the government is willing to cap households’ energy payments, it might as well cap mortgage payments, too, since both have the same “populist” logic. Yes, doing so would increase the deficit - but it would also allow the BOE to focus on fighting inflation without worrying too much about pension and mortgage crises.

The best way the government can stabilize the UK economy and fight inflation, however, is to reverse more of the planned tax cuts, replace the energy-price cap with a fixed subsidy per household, and implement most of the spending cuts it announced.

The UK’s corporate and personal income tax rates were among the lowest in the OECD even before Truss and Kwarteng’s budget plan, so it is hard to make the case that substantial tax cuts are required to make the UK more competitive. Moreover, providing a fixed energy subsidy instead of an energy cap would require a smaller government expenditure to provide the same amount of help to lower-income households, provide an incentive to save energy, and reduce the overall cost of energy-price relief.

The combination of spending cuts and reversal of some of the announced tax cuts would have an inflation-reducing effect akin to an interest-rate increase. That would make it easier for the BOE to tame inflation with a smaller increase in the interest rate. And by facilitating the task of lowering inflation, the UK government could also make the pound more attractive to currency traders, potentially reversing some of sterling’s recent declines.

Shang-Jin Wei, a former chief economist at the Asian Development Bank, is Professor of Finance and Economics at Columbia Business School and Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs.

OPINION

By Diane Coyle

Liz Truss’s Backward Vision of the Future

CAMBRIDGE - What is the government’s proper role in an advanced market economy? That is the fundamental question at the heart of the economic debacle in the United Kingdom. So far, the focus has been on Prime Minister Liz Truss’s disastrous macroeconomic judgment and the (entirely understandable) reaction of financial markets to her fiscal plan. But Truss and her Chancellor of the Exchequer, Kwasi Kwarteng, got one thing right: the UK’s core problem is that long-term growth has ground to a halt.

Few would disagree with Truss and Kwarteng’s diagnosis of the UK’s economic challenges. The current confluence of global crises has exposed the country’s chronically low growth rate and flat-lining productivity. But their proposed remedy - cutting taxes for the rich and undoing economic regulations, thereby unleashing innovation and investment - turned out to be a harder sell. Even financial-market traders (hardly statist left-wingers) do not believe in Truss’s vision of a twenty-first-century Hayekian utopia.

When courting rank-and-file Conservative Party members in the contest to replace Boris Johnson, Truss presented herself as Margaret Thatcher redux, copying not only the Iron Lady’s radical right-wing policies but many of her outfits and photo ops. But unlike Thatcher, who was elected in 1979 with a popular mandate and ample political capital, Truss became prime minister by winning over 81,326 Conservative Party members - just 21,000 votes more than her rival, Rishi Sunak. The wider British public remained on the sidelines.

Thatcher also commanded a vastly different economy than the one Truss was handed. Unlike the highly inefficient and relatively high-tax economy that Thatcher inherited, today’s UK economy is already relatively lightly taxed and regulated, limiting policymakers’ scope to cut taxes or deregulate. Moreover, there is no clear correlation across countries between the government’s share in the economy and GDP growth. Considering that the UK economy is still less productive than its peers after decades of tax cuts and deregulation, the idea that lowering tax for the wealthy would act as a supply-side stimulus struck most people as wishful thinking at best.

To reinvigorate the UK economy, Truss and her government must look to the future instead of mining the past. The character of advanced economies has changed significantly since the Thatcher era, following a steady worldwide shift toward services and knowledge work, the emergence of sophisticated supply chains that enable greater connectivity within and among economies, and the growing importance of intangible assets. Today’s weightless, globalized, high-skill economy requires a different kind of supply-side strategy, whereby governments would have to play a different role.

Some of the classic elements of the “minimal state” are essential to this transition, including the rule of law, contract enforcement, basic infrastructure, and, of course, education. Other widely accepted government functions, like publicly funded basic research and tax support for corporate research and development, are similarly crucial.

But the transition toward digital and green technologies requires governments to take a more active role in shaping markets. Digital markets, for example, must be competitive to encourage new entrants. Several reports in the UK, the European Union, and the United States have outlined steps regulators and competition authorities could take to make today’s winner-take-all markets more contestable.

Likewise, the use of data plays an important role in companies’ success. Research shows that data-equipped companies are more productive and profitable than other companies in their sectors and pay higher wages on average. This makes national data strategies - defining what should be open, setting the terms on which competitors should be able to access certain data, and establishing adequate safeguards and control for consumers - vitally important.

Lastly, governments today have a critical role to play in setting technical and regulatory standards for emerging technologies. And they must do so in a timely fashion to ensure that markets grow big enough to attract investors. Public procurement and advance-purchase commitments can be powerful tools to incentivize innovation and investment. This was the case with the development and production of COVID-19 vaccines, and it may be the case with clean-energy technologies or biomedical discoveries.

In short, an economy undergoing major structural shifts requires a forward-looking economic strategy. Just as the 1960s-era approach of subsidizing selected “winners” survived well past its expiration date, so has the tax-cutting and deregulatory approach of the past 40 years.

Today’s knowledge economy requires an innovative state to provide a long-term framework for investment and set the rules of the game. Unless Truss and Kwarteng stop living in the past, the prospects for the UK economy on their watch look bleak.

Diane Coyle, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Cambridge, is the author, most recently, of *Cogs and Monsters: What Economics Is, and What It Should Be* (Princeton University Press, 2021).



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **SOLICITATION NO:** VA-669-22-000019

2. **ISSUANCE DATE:** October 6, 2022

3. **CLOSING DATE AND TIME FOR RECEIPT OF OFFERS:** October 28, 2022, 11:59pm Local Time, Monrovia, Liberia

4. **POINT OF CONTACT:** Executive Officer, email at LiberiaHR@usaid.gov

5. **POSITION TITLE:** Project Management Specialist (Natural Resources)

6. **MARKET VALUE:** USD \$40,344 – \$65,550 FSN- 11

In accordance with **AIDAR Appendix J** and the Local Compensation Plan of USAID Final compensation will be negotiated within the listed market value. Note that all U.S. Embassy Locally Employed Staff are expected to observe and fulfill all tax obligations imposed by the Government of Liberia and you will be required to provide a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) before employment.

7. **PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:** This contract will be for up to five years depending on programmatic needs, funding availability, and satisfactory performance. This is considered a permanent position and employment under any contract issued under this solicitation is of a continuing nature. Its duration is expected to be part of a series of sequential contracts; all contract clauses, provisions, and regulatory requirements concerning availability of funds and the specific duration of the contract shall apply.

8. **PLACE OF PERFORMANCE:** Monrovia, Liberia with possible travel as stated in the statement of duties.

9. **ELIGIBLE OFFERORS:** Individuals who are Liberian citizens or non-Liberian citizens lawfully admitted for permanent residence in Liberia. Current employees serving a probationary period with the mission are not eligible to apply.

10. **SECURITY LEVEL REQUIRED:** Facility access

II. STATEMENT OF DUTIES

Basic Function of Position

The Natural Resource Management (NRM) Specialist will be based in the USAID/Liberia's Economic Growth Office (EGO). S/he will participate in the planning, design, and management of new and existing NRM programs and activities as a senior-level advisor and technical expert. S/he will exercise significant independent judgment on matters of policy and technical direction and will make decisions to ensure successful program implementation. The Natural Resource Management Specialist will also represent USAID, as requested and appropriate, at meetings with senior Liberian officials and technical counterparts, donors, non-governmental organizations, and implementing partners.

The Natural Resource Management Specialist must be a proactive, forward-leaning, results-oriented professional. S/he will provide technical expertise and project oversight; engage in project performance monitoring and documentation of program success; and serve as the point of contact on local NRM issues and policies. The NRM Specialist must be able to rapidly assimilate, analyze and respond to rapidly changing circumstances and help guide the implementation of Agency and Mission strategies to achieve optimal results. Cross-cultural communications, cultural sensitivities, and outstanding communication and interpersonal skills are essential for success. The NRM Specialist will work under the supervision of the NRM Team Lead, or as designated by the EGO Director.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

Project Management: 50%

The Natural Resource Management Specialist position serves as a project management specialist on key biodiversity and conservation activities, performing the following functions:

- Undertake duties of Contracting or Agreement Officer's Representative (COR/AOR) or Activity Manager as needed. Provide input/advice regarding all matters pertaining to proposed, planned, and ongoing activities. Provide technical direction to the Implementing Partner (IP) and technical review and concurrence of IP deliverables to the Contracting or Agreement Officer (CO/AO) and keep administrative files and records of these activities.
- Conduct regular site visits to monitor the progress and implementation of natural resource management activities. Provide field trip reports, both written and photographic, as required to monitor progress and to ensure work is progressing in accordance with established agreement requirements and work plans. Monitor the Implementing Partners' adherence to USAID regulations and requirements, including environmental considerations, as well as branding and marking requirements.
- Prepare performance reports, briefing papers, concept papers, and other periodic documentation for the Mission, USAID/Washington, the interagency as required, and coordinate site visits for high-level visits.
- Serve as the primary contact for GoL institutions and organizations, including the Forest Development Authority (FDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other stakeholders implicated in the implementation of USAID biodiversity and conservation programs, updating stakeholders on the implementation and progress of USAID/Liberia activities and soliciting stakeholder feedback and buy-in as appropriate.
- Review and approve all activity reports, invoices, and payment requests related to activities, noting discrepancies in documentation, and reporting such discrepancies to the Economic Growth Office supervisor and/or Mission authorities.
- Attend required meetings, scheduled events, and conferences related to assigned program and project activities. This may involve interacting with national, county, and district community officials regarding project implementation or completion and modification issues, including inspection, security, maintenance, operations, and logistical support requirements. Frequent interactions with high-level government officials may be required.
- Ensure compliance with USAID 118/119 Tropical Forest and Biodiversity Analysis requirements and work closely with the Mission Environmental Officer to ensure that Mission-supported activities are in compliance with Regulation 216 requirements.
- Prepare technical documentation including Request for Applications (RFAs), Request for Proposals (RFPs), Statements of Work, Independent Government Cost Estimates (IGCEs), approval memos, and other project design and procurement documents as required to develop and approve biodiversity and conservation projects and activities, obligate funds, and award grants and contracts in accordance with USAID procurement regulations.
- Serve as the chair or member of various Technical Evaluation Committees (TECs) or Selection Committees to evaluate partner applications and proposals or evaluate potential candidates for employment.

Program Management: 25%

The Natural Resource Management Specialist position serves as an expert on biodiversity and conservation development for the Mission and will incorporate natural resource management considerations into Mission strategy documents and plans, performing the following functions:

- Lead in developing a comprehensive strategy for USAID interventions in biodiversity and conservation.
- Incorporate natural resource management priorities into the Embassy's Integrated Country Strategy (ICS), the USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS), and other UGS strategy documents and agendas to ensure that the Mission is able to accomplish programmatic objectives.
- Work with USAID/Liberia Technical Teams to identify environmental and natural resource management issues, and address these issues in project designs to achieve sector goals.
- Assist in the preparation of the relevant sections of the EGO Portfolio Reviews, Mission Performance Plan and Reports, and the Operational Plans, as well as, other relevant program documents and reports as needed.

Knowledge Management and Relationship Development: 25%

The Natural Resource Management Specialist will also serve as the primary point of contact (POC) for the Mission on biodiversity and conservation -related topics, building relationships with GOL, donor community, and private sector counterparts. As the Mission POC on

biodiversity and conservation sector issues, the Natural Resource Management Specialist will perform the following functions:

- Serve as the Mission's representative on the GOL Steering Committee meetings in the sector and other donor or national dialogues on natural resource management and present USAID activities, priorities, and accomplishments.
- Advise GOL counterparts in the development of Liberian regulatory institutions, as needed, and helps them to effectively carry out their mandate; also provides advice to the GOL on conservation efforts and policy reforms.
- Facilitate dialogues between GOL authorities, USG stakeholders, donors, and partners to reach a consensus on biodiversity and conservation -related activities; prepare and present reports pertinent to performance monitoring and evaluation, identifying, tracking, and monitoring milestones to evaluate progress.
- Manage outreach efforts with USAID's Development Outreach Coordinator and the State Department's Public Affairs Officer which may include public events, press releases, and close coordination with other USG partners.
- Liaisons with other donors and institutions on biodiversity and conservation sector issues, brief USAID and Embassy management on discussions, and prepare necessary documents, including USAID's position, briefers, and talking points for meetings.
- Develop and maintain close professional contacts and active dialogue with biodiversity and conservation sector peers in other country donor agencies, and various GOL offices which engage in the policy reform issues.
- Review policies of the GOL that affect the biodiversity and conservation sector development including planned or proposed protected areas, timber concession agreements, and climate financing agreements or strategies; provide information on the implications of these policies and agreements for Liberia and on the effective implementation of USAID biodiversity and conservation sector programs.

Supervision Controls: Supervision is not contemplated.

Supervisory Relationship: The Natural Resource Management Specialist is directly supervised by the Economic Growth Office Natural Resource Management Team Leader, as delegated by the Economic Growth Office Director.

12. PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The work requested does not involve undue physical demands.

II. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THIS POSITION

- Education:** A minimum of Bachelor's degree from an accredited university in the field of environmental management, conservation, natural resource management, forestry, ecology, international development, or other related degree is required.
- Prior Work Experience:** A minimum of five (5) years prior project management experience and technical knowledge in the field of natural resource management, conservation, biodiversity, environmental management, or wildlife protection is required. Work experience should include project management positions in the field of natural resource management, environmental management, forestry, conservation, or wildlife protection. The incumbent should have a demonstrated broad understanding of issues related to Liberia's natural resource management sector, biodiversity, and conservation laws and policies is required.
- Work/Residency Permits:** Applicants must have valid work and/or residency permits allowing work in Liberia.
- Language Proficiency:** Professional written and oral proficiency in English is required (Level IV for speaking, reading, and writing). Given the nature of the position, effective written and oral communication are critical to performing successfully in this position. The incumbent must be able to communicate effectively and accurately with 1) all categories of Mission employees; 2) local government officials at the Minister level and lower; 3) numerous international and local economic development organizations and donors; 4) USG Agencies and the USAID Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation (DDI), and the USAID Africa Bureau; and 5) the general public.

III. EVALUATION AND SELECTION FACTORS

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

1. Selection Process

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

2. Evaluation Factors

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

FACTOR #1: Understanding the Natural Resources Sector

Describe in 500 words or less, critical challenges in the Natural Resources and Environment sector of Liberia. How do you think these challenges can be addressed, when stakeholders' priorities and/or timelines are not synchronized.

FACTOR #2: Impact of National Land Policy on the Natural Resources Sector

Describe in 500 words or less, the types of disputes you foresee resulting in efforts to implement the new national land policy? Would you see these potential land and natural resource related disputes as concerning or impeding forest conservation and livelihood creation if the new national land policy is fully implemented, and why?

FACTOR #3: Experience in the Natural Resources Sector

Describe in 500 words or less your experience managing natural resources projects. This should include managing relationships and coordination with the Government of Liberia and other key donors, international financial institutions, non-government organizations and local stakeholders. Give specific examples of the results you achieved.

3. Basis of Rating

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

Evaluation Factors	40 points
Factor #1	15 points
Factor #2	15 points
Factor #3	10 points
Written Interview	20 points
Interview Performance	40 points

Interview questions will revolve around the candidate's fit for the position as described in the statement of duties.

Total Possible Points 100 points

IV. SUBMITTING AN OFFER

Applications must be submitted electronically by email with the subject line **VA-669-22-000019-Project Management Specialist (Natural Resources)** LiberiaHR@usaid.gov.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Gender kicks off Int'l Day of the Girl Child with career summit

By Kruah Thompson

Following President George Manneh Weah's proclamation, declaring Tuesday, October 11, 2022, as "International Day of the Girl Child", the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MGCSPP) has held summit and career events in

our rights, Brighten our future", respectively. However, activities of the commemoration climax today, Tuesday, October 11, at Bentol Administration Building in Fendel, Montserrado county. This year's celebration is sponsored by Action Aid, Plan

described young people in Liberia as change makers. He said the goal of the Ministry is to ensure that women and girls have access to quality education and basic social services, and to obtain such goal, government has focused on developing a strategy that will reduce they face in the country.



Monrovia to kick off commemoration of the Day.

The summit and career events making the celebration were launched on Monday, October 10, 2022, at the Monrovia City Hall on 3rd Street Sinkor, under the Global theme "Our time is now", and the National theme, "Protecting

International, UNICEF, UNFPA, ECOWAS, Medice Liberia, Liberia Association of Psychosocial Services, Jungle Water Group, Her Voice Liberia and Mentorship Initiative, respectively.

Acting Deputy Minister and Technical Assistant to the Deputy for Gender Mohammed O. Massalee,

"We see these challenges as our responsibility and [have] outlined a series of activities to create a conducive environment where they will be able to live freely and network with their colleagues", Minister Massalee said.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

Liberia to host 8-team tourney

By Naneka A. Hoffman

The President of the Liberia Football Association (LFA) Mustapha Raji has disclosed that Liberia is to host an eight-team tournament shortly, including a team from Saudi Arabia in honor of Chief Patron of Sports, President George Manneh Weah to strengthen the bond of friendship between the two countries.

Mr. Raji said Liberia's U-17

returned from Mauritania.

Meanwhile, Mr. Raji said the Liberia Football Association takes responsibility for the recent disqualification of the U-17 males in the WAFU championship

He conceded to how the Liberia U-17 team campaign was upended following their disqualification when two of the players failed a MRI test. He emphasized that players, who are above 17, will be graduated



women team will benefit from an opportunity to travel to Saudi Arabia for training to enhance their development. He said the Saudi Empire will also accommodate the current Liberian U-17 team that just

to the U-20, while the rest will participate in a tournament in Saudi Arabia. Mr. Raji made the disclosure in a news conference at the Antoinette Tubman Stadium in Monrovia after his return from Saudi Arabia.

Over 155 students receive scholarship

Keyera's Gift, a non-governmental organization has awarded scholarships to over 155 students in five counties at an estimate cost of 110,000 United States Dollars.

Country Representative Reverend Francis Kollie, who appeared very ill, said the scholarship also includes book bags, copybooks, uniforms, shoes and health insurance.

Reverend Kollie made the disclosure when the Keyera's Gift distributed books, book bags, pens and pencils to over 155 students in Paynesville, outside Monrovia during the weekend.

He urged students, who are not performing well in their studies, to double up because they risk being dropped from the scholarship.

Reverend Kollie thanked Madam Karen Ecklund and Kreig Ecklund of Keyera's Gift International for their support for children in

Liberia. He said scholarships to students are intended to buttress the Pro-poor Agenda of the Liberian government. Students from five counties, including Montserrado, Margibi, Bong, Nimba and Grand Bassa are benefiting from the scholarship program.

Responding on behalf of

parents, Mrs. Maleay Karmoh thanked Keyera's Gift for providing scholars to their children, as the assistance will go a long way in impacting lives of the children.

The distribution of school materials, including textbooks, bookbags, pens and pencils was graced by parents and employees of Keyera's Gift.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



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UNFPA Country Rep calls for

the programme is now expanded gradually to other counties with the support of the Government and partners." Meanwhile, in observance of the International Day of the Girl Child, today, 11 October, Ms. Pillai is calling on individuals, communities, national institutions, and stakeholders to take measures that enable

the Girl Child to make informed life choices and to provide the necessary support for her in cases when her rights are threatened, stressing "Every young girl has the right to fulfill her human potential regardless of where she lives or her economic circumstances. Today, too many girls are denied that right. We can change that, and we must., One girl at a time.

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Français

Éditorial

La vice-présidente Taylor snobe la Cour Suprême sur fond d'affrontements violents

La vice-présidente Jewel Howard Taylor a snobé vendredi dernier une ordonnance de la Cour suprême en présidant un autre congrès du parti sur fond de violences.

Dans une ordonnance, la Cour Suprême du Liberia avait mandaté le président du Parti patriotique national (NPP), James Biney, et le secrétaire général Andrew

Le 7e congrès biennal du NPP s'est tenu conformément au mandat du tribunal de droit civil, qui a statué sur le conflit prolongé au sein de l'ancien parti au pouvoir de l'ancien président emprisonné Charles Taylor.

A en croire des témoins oculaires, tout a commencé lorsque des partisans de la vice-présidente Taylor ont tenté de se frayer un chemin dans la salle du congrès après s'être vu refuser de

intenses, le calme est revenu, mais ce calme a été de courte durée car la violence a de nouveau éclaté. Ainsi, la faction de la vice-présidente Taylor a dû sortir de la salle pour organiser son congrès à elle devant le hall de la mairie de Paynesville. Quant au groupe fidèle à Biney, il est resté sur place et a poursuivi son congrès au cours duquel Biney, sénateur du comté de Maryland, fut reconduit comme président national après que son challenger Abraham Masseley s'est retiré de la course.

George S. Mulbah a été élu Vice-président chargé de l'Administration, Daoda Metzger, Vice-président chargé des opérations, Charlyne A. Taylor, Vice-présidente chargé des affaires de genre, John A. Siaway, Vice-président chargé de la Planification, de la politique et de la recherche et Dopee Menkarzon, Vice-président chargé des Projets spéciaux.

Les autres dirigeants élus sont Thomas G. Goba, Vice-président chargé des Finances et de l'Investissement, Sylvia Z. Taylor, Vice-présidente chargée des services sociaux, Allison Barco, Vice-président chargé des Affaires gouvernementales et Randolph C. J. Cooper, Trésorier national. M. Biney a nommé séance tenante un comité d'examen du cadre de la coalition de 16 membres pour examiner les questions

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Vice president Jewel Howard-Taylor

Peters, pour présider le congrès du parti.

Des affrontements violents ont éclaté lors du congrès du Parti Patriotique National entre deux groupes rivaux. Le parti a fini par organiser des congrès séparés à l'hôtel de ville de Paynesville. Mme Taylor a présidé un, tandis que le président Biney et le secrétaire Peters ont présidé l'autre.

le faire en raison parce qu'ils n'avaient pas de laissez-passer.

La vice-présidente aurait ordonné aux agents de l'Unité d'Intervention Urgente de se mettre à la porte pour permettre à ses partisans "non accrédités" d'entrer dans la salle du congrès.

Mais elle s'est heurtée à une vive résistance de la faction Biney, ce qui a conduit à un affrontement à l'intérieur de la salle du congrès. Après près d'une heure de violences

Premier procès en France d'un ancien chef de guerre libérien

Des heures sombres de la guerre civile au Liberia aux Assises de Paris. Le procès d'un ancien chef rebelle s'ouvre ce lundi 10 octobre en France. Celui de Kunti Kamara, commandant de l'Ulimo durant la première guerre libérienne (1989-1997). Il encourt la prison à perpétuité. Il est poursuivi pour complicité de crimes contre l'humanité, tortures et actes de barbarie, en 1993 et 1994, dans le comté de Lofa. Dans le comté de Lofa, territoire riche en diamants du nord-ouest du Liberia, frontalier de la Guinée et de la Sierra-Leone, au début des années 1990, c'est la terreur. Tortures, mises à mort, travail forcé et violences sexuelles. Le mouvement armé rebelle Ulimo (United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy) formé en 1991

gagne du terrain sur le NPFL (National Patriotic Front of Liberia), mouvement armé dirigé par Charles Taylor.

Au moment des faits qui lui sont reprochés, Kunti Kamara a alors à peine vingt ans. En tant que commandant au sein de l'Ulimo, il encourage les viols et les actes d'une

extrême violence contre les habitants, pour les intimider ou les punir d'une collaboration supposée avec le groupe adverse.

Sur son site internet, l'organisation Civitas Maxima, à l'origine de la plainte contre

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Mettre fin à l'impunité au Libéria est pour le bien général

LE GOUVERNEMENT DU Libéria est manifestement réticent à mettre en œuvre les recommandations de la Commission vérité et réconciliation (CVR) qui appelle principalement à la poursuite des acteurs clés de la guerre civile libérienne, qui ont commis des crimes odieux et des crimes contre l'humanité.

L'ADMINISTRATION WEAH FERA tout son possible pour protéger l'ancien maréchal général rebelle Prince Yormie Johnson, qui est sénateur du comté de Nimba.

EN TOUT CAS, Beth Van Schaack, Ambassadrice itinérante pour la justice pénale mondiale du Bureau de la justice pénale mondiale à Washington, DC, est dans le pays pour s'enquérir des obstacles auxquels est confronté le gouvernement du Libéria pour la mise en œuvre du rapport de la CVR.

LA CVR A recommandé la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre et économiques pour le Libéria afin de poursuivre ceux qui portent la plus haute responsabilité pour les atrocités commises pendant les 14 années de guerre civile au Libéria.

MAIS LE PRÉSIDENT George Manneh Weah et son Congrès pour le changement démocratique, qui a organisé des marches pour réclamer la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre, sont aujourd'hui silencieux simplement parce que le sénateur Prince Johnson, qui a commis des atrocités dans ce pays, est aujourd'hui un principal allié politique. C'est aussi le cas pour l'ancien chef rebelle George S. Boley du Conseil pour la paix du Libéria (LPC), qui fut expulsé des États-Unis pour avoir armé des enfants soldats au Libéria.

IL EST AUJOURD'hui membre du parlement libérien. Il y a aussi le leader des Libériens unis pour la réconciliation et la démocratie (LURD), qui est aujourd'hui malade, et Thomas Yaya Nimely du Mouvement pour la démocratie au Libéria (MODEL).

LES PARTENAIRES INTERNATIONAUX, en particulier les États-Unis, sont prêts à aider les Libériens à se délivrer de quelques personnes assoiffées de sang, dont le seul moyen de survie est la violence aux détriment des jeunes.

IL FAUT QUE nous mettions fin à l'impunité maintenant ou jamais. Il est important que nous saluions la création du tribunal des crimes de guerre comme l'a fait la Sierra Leone voisine pour décourager toute velléité d'aller à nouveau dans la brousse pour satisfaire des désires égoïstes sous prétexte de libérer le peuple.

LE TRIBUNAL DES crimes de guerre contribuera à maintenir la stabilité de ce pays pour le bien de la majorité et à attirer les investisseurs désireux de faire des affaires dans un environnement sûr et fiable dans le cadre de l'état de droit.

Français

La vice-présidente Taylor snobe la Cour

saillantes de l'accord qui lie le parti à un accord signé par le Congrès pour le Changement démocratique (CDC), le Parti démocratique populaire du Libéria (LPDP) et le NPP lors des élections de 2017.

Le comité de 16 membres est dirigé par Me Abel Momodu Massaly et le Dr Agnes Reeves Taylor en tant que coprésident tandis que l'avocat Allison Barco en est le secrétaire général. Les autres membres du comité sont Samson Wiah, Albert Quenah, Charlyne A. Taylor, Dopoe Menkazon et d'autres partisans éminents.

Le congrès organisé par la faction Biney a également mandaté le Comité exécutif national du Parti pour organiser des congrès pour le Secrétariat national et d'autres dirigeants à travers le pays.

Pendant ce temps, la faction de la vice-présidente Taylor tenait son congrès à l'extérieur de la salle avec Emmanuel Lomax en tant que président de la commission électorale.

Lomax a affirmé qu'une décision avait été prise de rendre tous les postes vacants au sein du parti, et que chaque militant est libre de se porter candidat. "Nous, délégués, qui participons au 7e congrès biennal du NPP, déclarons par la présente le vote en bloc pour les noms individuels attachés aux postes électifs", a-t-il déclaré. "Nous, délégués, avons présenté cette résolution et obtenu les signatures des votes à la majorité des deux tiers des 638 délégués ... pour donner un effet juridique à toute décision de cette convention", a-t-il ajouté.

Nommant les élus, Lomax a déclaré que Madame Jewel Howard-Taylor avait été élue porte-drapeau du NPP, Me Stanley McClain, président national du PNP et Morris Paye, secrétaire général du NPP, entre autres.

Les premiers signes des

problèmes du congrès sont apparus au cours de l'étape préparatoire, le parti n'ayant pas pu collecter assez de fonds pour le budget initial de 100 000 USD pour accueillir 638 délégués. Ainsi, le parti, le 4 septembre, 2022, à son siège national, a pris la décision de réduire à 301 le nombre de personnes qui doivent y prendre part, selon la faction Biney.

Le parti, dans un communiqué de presse signé et approuvé par Andrew Peters et le sénateur James Biney, respectivement secrétaire général national et président national, a dit que le message avait été correctement communiqué aux partisans et que les ajustements nécessaires avaient été apportés.

Or, malgré cet ajustement, certaines personnes non accréditées ont tenté d'avoir accès à la salle de conférence. Alors la confusion a éclaté lorsque, sur instruction du Secrétaire Général, elles ont été empêchées d'entrer dans la salle. A en croire ces personnes concernées, la liste initiale de 638 délégués demeure. Elles disent ne pas reconnaître la décision qui a réduits à 301 le nombre de délégués.

La vice-président Howard-Taylor, s'adressant également aux journalistes après l'élection des responsables de la faction qui est fidèle, a déclaré que le NPP maintenu le nombre de 638 délégués.

" Mais lorsque les délégués sont arrivés, on leur a dit qu'il y avait une liste de 301 personnes. Nous nous sommes réunis et avons eu des discussions avec tous les présidents et délégués des comtés, et ils ont choisi. Nous avons donc 13 présidents de 13 comtés et c'est une nouvelle direction du NPP qui a été choisie", a dit Madame Howard-Taylor. Elle a accusé Andrew Peters d'avoir établi une fausse liste de 301 personnes, en supprimant les noms des vrais délégués régionaux pour les remplacer par des noms des personnes qui leur sont favorables.

Premier procès en France d'un

Kunti Kamara, rappelle que selon la Commission Vérité et réconciliation, l'Ulino s'est rendue responsable de plus de 11 000 violations des droits humains durant la première guerre civile du Libéria. Kunti Kamara a été arrêté en France en 2018. Remis en liberté provisoire suite à une erreur procédurale, il est arrêté à nouveau en janvier 2020 alors qu'il essaie de quitter le pays. Son procès va durer

jusqu'au 4 novembre à Paris en vertu de la compétence universelle qui permet de juger les crimes les plus graves quel que soit le pays où ils ont été commis.

Selon Civitas Maxima, qui documente les crimes internationaux pour obtenir réparation au nom des victimes, pour cette affaire, les autorités françaises, aux côtés des autorités libériennes, se sont rendues dans le comté de Lofa.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Dambisa Moyo

Comment la démondialisation aggrave l'inflation aux USA

NEW-YORK - La démondialisation est en marche, c'est d'ailleurs une idée communément admise. Par démondialisation, on entend la diminution du commerce mondial, des flux de capitaux, de nouvelles entraves aux migrations et la diminution de l'influence des institutions multilatérales. Pourtant les dirigeants politiques ont quelques difficultés à reconnaître son rôle dans l'inflation mondiale. Pour s'attaquer à cette inflation, la Réserve fédérale américaine (Fed) et d'autres banques centrales doivent répondre au défi d'une démondialisation rapide.

Diminuant le coût de la main d'œuvre et de la production, la mondialisation était déflationniste. De la même manière, la démondialisation se caractérise par une hausse des taxes douanières et des autres barrières commerciales, ainsi que par un basculement du commerce mondial vers le commerce local. Ce sont là des facteurs inflationnistes. Il n'est pas étonnant qu'aux USA l'inflation sous-jacente ait fait un bond considérable, passant de moins de 2% début 2021 à 6% mi-2022.

J'ai dit récemment que l'inflation américaine était sur le point de diminuer parce que l'économie américaine peut atténuer mieux que toute autre l'impact de la flambée des prix. Mais la démondialisation contribuera probablement à l'inflation en augmentant le coût d'exploitation des entreprises. Le taux d'inflation américain devrait donc se maintenir au-dessus de l'intervalle de 1% à 2% de la majeure partie de la dernière décennie - un peu au-delà du taux cible de 2% de la Fed.

Pendant des décennies, les entreprises américaines ont énormément profité des effets déflationnistes de la mondialisation. Aujourd'hui cependant, les chaînes d'approvisionnement éprouvent des difficultés dues à la politique chinoise rigoureuse de zéro Covid et à la guerre en Ukraine. A court et moyen terme, on peut donc s'attendre encore à une hausse du prix de l'alimentation, du pétrole et des produits manufacturés.

Plus généralement, du fait de l'intensification des tensions géopolitiques, la hausse du coût des intrants pourrait devenir un élément incontournable de la démondialisation. L'économie mondialisée des trois dernières décennies se caractérisait par la libre circulation des biens, des capitaux et des personnes, mais la rivalité sino-américaine croissante pourrait être le signe avant-coureur d'une ère nouvelle marquée par un fossé idéologique grandissant et une économie mondiale balkanisée. Les barrières à la migration rendront alors plus difficile le recrutement des meilleurs talents mondiaux par les entreprises américaines, et feront grimper le coût de la main-d'œuvre.

Les taux d'intérêt étant à la hausse et les chaînes d'approvisionnement restant vulnérables, les entreprises américaines privilégient la résilience plutôt que les faibles coûts de production, ce qui entraîne un rapatriement massif de capitaux. Selon les relevés de l'Ecole de gestion de Yale, plus de 1 000 entreprises, dont beaucoup américaines,

ont volontairement réduit leurs opérations en Russie au-delà de ce qui est exigé par les sanctions internationales. Dans une économie en voie de démondialisation, de plus en plus de capitaux libellés en dollar retourneront aux USA à la recherche d'actifs, d'où une pression supplémentaire à la hausse sur les prix.

Enfin, l'absence notable de coordination des politiques monétaires - en particulier entre les pays développés - pourrait accélérer la hausse des prix un peu partout sur la planète. Contrairement à la réponse monétaire coordonnée à la crise financière mondiale de 2008, les responsables politiques des principales puissances économiques semblent croire que chaque pays doit se débrouiller seul dans la lutte contre la poussée inflationniste. Les dirigeants du G7 se sont engagés à surveiller l'inflation au niveau mondial, mais ils n'ont pas annoncé de mesures pour combattre la hausse des prix de manière coordonnée. Au contraire, la seule action politique coordonnée récente des pays du G7 (les sanctions contre la Russie) a sans doute aggravé l'inflation en augmentant les perturbations dans des chaînes d'approvisionnement et en provoquant une flambée du prix du pétrole.

L'absence de coopération internationale nuit à beaucoup des pays les plus vulnérables de la planète. Lorsque les banques centrales des pays les plus puissants augmentent les taux d'intérêt, elles exportent l'inflation vers les pays plus faibles. Le resserrement monétaire agressif qui a lieu aux USA a déjà conduit le dollar à s'apprécier par rapport à la livre, à dépasser la parité avec l'euro et à atteindre son niveau le plus élevé depuis 20 ans par rapport au yen. C'est ainsi que l'inflation liée aux importations américaines touche les pays dont la monnaie s'est affaiblie.

S'attaquer à l'inflation aux USA et plus généralement dans le monde exige une réponse multilatérale bien coordonnée. Au strict minimum, il faudrait qu'elle bénéficie aux USA en réduisant leur exposition aux coûts de plus en plus élevés des importations. Inversement, la fragmentation diplomatique (une autre caractéristique de la démondialisation en cours) augmente la probabilité de mesures du style œil pour œil, dent pour dent qui se sont traduites depuis quelques années par la mise en place de multiples barrières commerciales, notamment entre les USA et la Chine et entre le Royaume-Uni et l'Europe.

Cette évolution est annonciatrice d'un environnement mondial qui va continuer à alimenter l'inflation aux USA, même si ces derniers y sont moins vulnérables que d'autres pays avancés. La politique actuelle de la Fed visant à réduire l'inflation en augmentant les taux d'intérêt et en réduisant son bilan va diminuer la demande et de ce fait contribuer à limiter la hausse des prix. Mais il revient aux responsables politiques d'élaborer des mesures pour amortir le choc de la démondialisation.

Traduit de l'anglais par Patrice Horovitz

Dambisa Moyo est une économiste de renommée internationale. Elle a écrit quatre livres cités dans la liste des meilleures ventes établie par le New York Times, notamment *Edge of Chaos: Why Democracy Is Failing to Deliver Economic Growth - and How to Fix It* (Basic Books, 2018).

LIBERIANS

DEBATE

Topic: Rice scarcity and price hike *By Naneka Hoffman*

The looming rice crisis in the country is becoming unbearable for ordinary Liberians, as price skyrockets. A bag of (25kg) rice is reportedly being sold in Monrovia and its environs for US\$25.00 or between 4,000 to 5,000 Liberian Dollars. It is difficult to find. Some commentators say rather than government continuously subsidizing the price of rice, market forces (Supply and Demand) should be allowed to operate, as is the case now.

The NEW DAWN asks few retailers and consumers in the commercial hub of Bushrod Island whether government should remove subsidy and allow market forces to operate. Read their responses below.



Sarah Sieh

“The rice price is too high in the country; one bag of (25kg) rice is twenty-five United States Dollars (25USD). And we are buying food, so the government should keep subsidizing the rice. They should not leave it with market forces because the rice is here

but, the market forces are keeping it. The rice is in some of the rice stores in Waterside that I am aware of but, they are hoarding it. I who is talking, one cup of rice I don't have it. And we are buying one cup of rice (80) Eighty Liberian Dollars. I don't able to buy bag of rice. [See] the small good items I am selling, so we're begging the government; my grandchildren are not going to school because of things prices so high. I hold (beg) the government, let them keep subsidizing the rice price. Let [President] George Weah subsidizes the rice price because that rice business can bring problem in the country.”

“For me personally, I will like for the government to leave the market open and let the importers do what they are able to do to get the rice business or the market flowing. They shouldn't subsidize the rice. Reason is because they have said they are doing it and we are not seeing the effect of it. We keep getting rice shortage and we keep on hearing the company complaining that government owes them a lot of money, so for that reason, they started attaching the rice with other goods, and major company like K&K has not been importing for almost two or three months, because no rice there. They are one of the biggest importers. And for the rumor that is going around is that government owes importers more than (US\$4Million) Four Million in subsidy, so they are not subsidizing the companies. They will only say it and at the end of the day, it is not working, so I really done want that. The people imported their rice and the cost of importation, government should allow



Maflah T. Velemee

importers to sell the way they will sell to get profit. We Liberians should be able to accept it because we are not able to provide or produce rice for ourselves now. The importers can't go and spend more then government says they are helping them or subsidizing them and at the end of the day, the money the government supposed to give them is not coming. Then it will just cause scarcity of rice and citizens start to suffer. In my presence, this morning one bag of (25kg) rice was sold for (4, 500LD) Four Thousand Five Hundred Liberian Dollars. It is very frustrating, so government should allow importers to bring the rice. If they want to sell it 14.50% or US\$15. Let importers sell it (15USD) Fifteen United States Dollars and let the rice market be open; let stores be full with rice and people should go and buy freely and buy what they want, instead of them saying they are subsidizing the companies or the importation of the rice and at the end of the day, citizens and companies become frustrated.”



Esther Flomo

“I am selling cooked food for living. I am buying one bag of (25kg) bag rice (4,500LD) Four Thousand Five Hundred Liberia Dollars. No, I want for the government to keep subsidizing the rice; they shouldn't leave it

with market forces because if the government leaves it with the market forces, we the business people will not get profit from the business we are doing. For example, I am living on cooked food business and if the rice price continues to be high then we will start increasing our cooked food prices, because remember, nobody will like to do business without profit. But if we start to do so, at the end of the day, we will start losing our customers. So, I am begging the government to keep subsidizing the rice. They shouldn't leave it with market forces.”

“The rice price in the country is not fine; the price just increasing - one bag of (25 kg) rice is (3,500LD) Three Thousand Five Hundred Liberian Dollars. During the past regime, we were buying one bag of 25kg (2,250) Two Thousand, Two Hundred and Fifty Liberian Dollars, but now the rice price too high. Even you buy it and sell it by cup to get your money out is hard. Let the government subsidize the rice, they should not give [leave] it to the market forces because if they do so, the rice price will continue to be high. Let the rice be the same price. We were buying one bag of 25kg (2,250) Two Thousand, Two Hundred Fifty Liberian Dollars but, now the importers are saying the government



Ajah Aminata Kamara

increased taxes so they said the rice should be (15USD) Fifteen United State Dollars. Government said it should be sold for US\$13.00 and now because of \$2.00, rice price just increasing and it's even more than the (US\$15) Fifteen United States Dollars now. If the government can just subsidize the rice to (\$15) Fifteen United States Dollars it will be ok.”



Hawa Zoker

“The thing I know about the rice business in this country is rice shortage. No rice, the people who are selling the rice by bag now, they are selling it by cup (70) seventy Liberian Dollars, so no rice is in the market. As for me, I want the government to subsidize the rice price in the country. I don't want the government to leave it with the market forces.”

'We hold no allegiance to anyone'

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia's newly commissioned Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh says her administration will hold no allegiance to any authority, but the principle of law.

Speaking during her official seating and opening for the

the former Chief Justice of England John Marshall knelt before the throne of the King when taking oath in obedience to the King. In taking his oath as to the administration of the law, she said he stood up before the King to demonstrate that he held no allegiance to the Monarch or

appointment by former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf before being elevated as Chief Justice by President Weah. Chief Yuoh said she is resolved to discourage the filibustering by lawyers and clients who are determined to delay cases through unnecessary legal technicalities just to frustrate the end of justice.

She said she expects that all trial judges will gradually follow the examples of her administration on the Supreme Court bench. She said she holds the view that lack of adequate support to the judiciary is an erosion to the rule of law, peace, and security of the republic. Notwithstanding, Chief Justice Yuoh cautioned that these challenges should never deter judges and magistrates from the core duty that they have to perform. In this regard, she said her colleagues whom she has worked with on the bench have agreed in principle to forester an unprecedented process of tackling these challenges.

She said they have agreed to build a strong coordination between the Supreme Court and the other two branches of the government.

"We have agreed to maintain a vibrant network between the bench and the Liberia National Bar Association," she said. She noted that she has resolved to implement judicial policy that will make the working of the court appreciated by the citizens and residents. The third female chief Justice added that cardinal to all this, she will resolve to not only hear the human rights cases but to render opinion expediently and timely. --*Edited by Winston W. Parley*



Chief Justice Yuoh

October Term of the Supreme Court Monday, 10 October 2022, she vowed a robust judiciary under her administration. "We will make sure that justice is provided to all pursuant to Article 11 (a) and (b)," said Chief Justice Yuoh. "Cardinal to this, I will resolve to not only hear the human rights cases but to ... render opinion ... timely and expediently," she added. Her official seating on Monday was graced by President George Manneh Weah, Speaker Bhofal Chambers, Senate President Pro - Tempore Albert T. Chie and members of the Legislature. Members of the diplomatic corps, lawyers and other invitees were in attendance. Chief Justice Yuoh argued that

anyone except the written law and his conscience. She vowed to be very robust and straight to the law as former Chief Justice Marshall. Chief Justice Yuoh noted that her abiding conviction to uphold constitutional principles of due process guarantees all citizens and residents their rights. Following her confirmation by the Liberian Senate last month, President Weah commissioned Chief Justice Yuoh as successor of retired Chief Justice Francis S. Korkpor, Sr. She becomes Liberia's third female Chief Justice. She was serving as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court since her

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Weah a bad product

delay tactics toward the pressure's registration process. He said the EFFL is now convinced that the government is not interested in playing to the rules.

He lamented that the government is not interested in respecting the tenet of democracy which guarantees multiparty democracy. Meanwhile Gonquoi said the EFFL lowering its political pressure was intentional, judging from experience. "We were thinking that this would have helped in our pursuit of legally transitioning from just being a pressure group to a

legitimate political party," he said. He noted that their process has unfortunately been stalled by some unpatriotic men and women sitting in very sensitive government positions, with some even being at the NEC. "Knowing the history of the CDC (Coalition for Democratic Change) and how they have proceeded when critical institutions have disagreed with them, [we] couldn't continue our pressure," he said. "The EFFL lowered its political pressure to allow the government sees its weakness to speedily work on the process of [obtaining] the certificate as a registered political party in the country," he added.

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Gender kicks of Int'l Day of the

However, he notes that it is the responsibility of the Gender Ministry to ensure that women of Liberia are all up to the task, and "to do so, we are working closely with the necessary authority to introduce laws that will create an enabling environment for women and girls." The deputy minister continued that the main purpose of the celebration is to expose young girls here by making them know they are all up to the task. Similarly, UNFPA representative at the program revealed that young people are currently denied their rights because of gender perceptions and that for this reason, when a female gets pregnant at an early age, her parents will encourage abortion, which is prohibited under the law of Liberia

"Young people, in Liberia today are denied their basic rights; they don't have the choice to decide for themselves", the UNFPA said. Panelists from various

partnering institutions presented projected slides lecture on HIV and AIDS prevention and the negative impact of substance use, Gender Base Violence (prevention and negative impact of substance use), and sharing of experiences from taking a girl campaign, business, and entrepreneurship, how to choose a career pathway, public speaking and important of girls' education, among other. Students in attendance lauded the host of the program for the opportunities to learn more impactful life-changing experiences from forum. According to them, career planning is one of the things that is lacking in schools in the country, and for this reason, most people go University without even knowing what to do.

Meanwhile, in December 2011, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 66/170, declaring 11 October 2012 as the inaugural day recognizing the importance of empowering and investing in girls. The day is being celebrated across the world. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Weah still playing football

By Ramsey N. Singbeh, Jr. in Margibi

Liberian businessman-turned politician, Benoni Wilfred Urey, is upset about poor state of affairs in the country under President George Manneh Weah, noting that President Weah, a former soccer icon, is still playing football with the lives of Liberians, instead of improving their living condition.

Mr. Urey laments that President Weah is seriously dribbling Liberian electorate, who he claimed, made a mistake in electing him (Weah) to the Presidency in 2017 despite he not presenting a convincing platform other than showing himself on television playing football.

"Mr. Weah didn't promise anything; he never gave any speech; he never participated in any debate; the only thing he did was to bring television showing himself playing football. He's still playing football, he's dribbling your",

says Urey, who is also leader of his All-Liberian Party (ALP). Speaking in World Bank Community, Kakata, Margibi County when the county chapter of the ALP over the weekend endorsed former Vice President Joseph Nyumah Boakai's bid for the Presidency, the ALP leader

blamed the current leadership deficit in the country to alleged voters' mistake at the poll in 2017.

Mr. Urey: "It's the mistake all of us or some of us made that is causing this problem today, if we had voted wisely, we will never be where we are today."



President Weah

ALP Political leader Urey

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He observes that President Weah is making the road smooth or easier for the opposition bloc for 2023, given the way his government is proceeding with the country.

According to him, he feels the pain of Liberians, who stood in long queues for days just to purchase a (25kgs) bag of rice, adding that Mr. Boakai is the

best person to address the problems of Liberia.

However, Mr. Urey's statement about a strong opposition contradicts his exit of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) along with former Vice President Boakai that disappointingly disintegrated the once formidable opposition collaboration. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Weah a bad product of democracy

-EFFL's Gonquoi alleges



Flashback: Gonquoi addresses the Media

By Lewis S. Teh
Mr. Emmanuel Gonquoi, the head of a political pressure group called Economic Freedom Fighters of Liberia (EFFL), alleges that President George Manneh Weah is a bad product of democracy. At a press conference held in the Old Road Community Monday, 10 October 2022, Gonquoi warned citizens against supporting President Weah's second presidential term bid. "George Weah is a bad product of democracy and when you have [a] bad product of democracy, you take steps,"

said Gonquoi. The pressure group leader who goes by the title of Commander-In-Chief of EFFL, angrily told journalists that democracy was not designed to give any country an emperor. He said it was neither designed to give a country tyrants as leaders because they are bad products of democracy. Gonquoi lamented that people will claim to love Liberia and want the best for the country, yet they are supporting a bad product of democracy. He

said this undermined the credibility of the country. Commenting on electoral matters in the country, Gonquoi alleged that the National Elections Commission (NEC) lacks total independence to adequately handle the country's electoral process. Gonquoi explained that since 5 January 2022, his EFFL has written the NEC on the status of its registration process, but officials at the commission are yet to reply to his organization. He alleged that the NEC's refusal to grant EFFL certificate is due to the commission allegedly taking instructions from President Weah. He accused President Weah's government of allegedly interfering with EFFL's registration process at the NEC and preventing it from granting EFFL a certificate of registration as a political party. He said this comes despite EFFL allegedly presenting every necessary required document. Gonquoi said those responsible at the NEC to certify the EFFL have embarked on alleged

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