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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA		
MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR		
DATE	BUYING	SELLING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022	L\$152.6946/US\$1.00	L\$154.5429/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.

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**Chief Cyril Allen**

**VP Jewel Howard-Taylor**

# 'Complete gangsterism'

**—Cyril Allen describes NPP Violent Convention**

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**ENS ISPS Report**

**IMPORT - LIBERIA**

Shipper: CASTROLANDA COOPERATIVA  
Forwarder: CASTROLANDA COOPERATIVA  
Agent: MAERSK LINE LIBERIA LTD  
Consignee: TRH TRADING CORPORATION  
Carrier: MAERSK LINE  
Incoterms: FOB  
Port of loading: Itajai  
Country / date of BL: Brazil / 8/23/22  
Means of Transport: CMA CGM RIO GRANDE  
ETA: 9/22/22

Sailing date: 8/23/22  
Port of discharge: Monrovia  
Bill of lading: 220003235  
Voy n°: 232N

Declared  
FOB: \$14,100.00  
Freight: \$1,649.00  
Insurance: 75.00  
Other:

**220003235**

HS Code: 0204420000  
Weight: 27,891.000 kg  
Country of Origin: Brazil  
FOB value declared: 14100.00 USD  
Package: 1350 CARTONS OF FROZEN PORK HIND...

Total: 27,891.000

CONTAINERS  
Code: MNB4070592  
Size: 40ft  
Seal No.: 265710/SIF2427  
Type: Refrigerated ISO containers

Consignment is subject to physical examination

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**Warning note to Liberian Authorities**

# TRH, owners account frozen

**-As FIU digs deep into tax evasion amidst drug busts**

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# Continental News

## Eritreans hunted down as military call-up intensifies over Ethiopia's Tigray war

Eritrean authorities have intensified military mobilisation and are hunting down draft dodgers across the country, as the war in neighbouring Ethiopia escalates, multiple Eritrean sources have told the BBC.

The latest round-ups are the worst so far as women have not been spared, with many elderly mothers and

from its northern Tigray region, which borders Eritrea.

"As many ignored the call-up, the round-up has been intensified," a source said, adding that wives have also been detained after their husbands tried to avoid conscription.

Checkpoints have been set up along major roads, and widespread searches are taking place in cities and villages.

In the capital, Asmara, round-

said that a "tiny number" of reservists had been called up, denying that the entire population had been mobilised.

The almost two-year-long war in Tigray and neighbouring regions has been described by some analysts as bloodier than the conflict in Ukraine. But there has been less media coverage of it as the Ethiopian and Eritrean governments have heavily restricted travel, and communication lines to Tigray have mostly been down.

The Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which controls the region and is leading the fight against Ethiopia's government, has also embarked on a mass mobilisation campaign to bolster its forces. This follows the collapse of a five-month-long truce in August and the failure of the African Union to get peace talks off the ground.

A source in Eritrea said the authorities were trying to "stir emotions" at public meetings, linking their military intervention to "the existence and sovereignty of the nation", and saying that the TPLF "must be buried".

Last month, Eritrea recalled reservists under the age of 55 and some were sent to the frontlines.

In the last few days, fighting has been reported in many border areas, including Adigrat, Rama, Shiraro and Zalambesa. *BBC*



*Eritrea has been criticised for its decades-long compulsory military service (file photo)*

fathers detained in a bid to force their children, who have gone into hiding, to surrender, they say.

They spoke on condition of anonymity as Eritrea is a highly restrictive state that controls almost all aspects of people's lives.

Eritrea has sent troops to help the Ethiopian government against forces

ups are being carried out on the streets while in many rural areas, the authorities have sealed homes, confiscated cattle and harassed relatives if a wanted person is not found, the BBC has been told.

The BBC has contacted the Eritrean government for comment.

Last month, Information Minister Yemane Gebremeskel

## 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 Bameda, 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 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



*A man wears a mask while walking outside the entrance to the Yaounde General Hospital in Yaounde, March 6, 2020.*

## Chad Ex-Opposition Figure Saleh Kebzabo Named Prime Minister

Veteran Chadian politician and former opposition figure Saleh Kebzabo has been appointed prime minister, according to a decree issued Wednesday by military leader and interim president Mahamat Idriss Deby Itno.

Former journalist Kebzabo, 75, ran four times for the presidency against Deby's father, Idriss Deby Itno, who was killed during an operation against rebels in April 2021 and was succeeded by a junta headed by his son, a 38-year-old five-star general.

Kebzabo is "named prime

promised he would not take part in the future elections.

But as the 18-month deadline neared, a nationwide forum staged by Deby reset the clock.

Last weekend it approved a new 24-month timeframe for holding elections, named Deby "transitional president" for the interim and declared he could be a candidate in the poll.

Deby was sworn in on Monday, vowing to name a "government of national union" within days.

The outgoing premier was 55-year-old political veteran Albert Pahimi Padacke, who had served for 18 months and had also been



*Longtime Chadian politician and opposition leader Saleh Kebzabo, the President of the National Union for Democracy and Renewal poses after an interview with AFP at his residence in N'djamena, Apr. 12, 2021.*

minister," according to the decree issued by Deby.

The junta had originally declared it would restore civilian rule after 18 months in power, and Deby had at first

prime minister under Deby's father.

He formally resigned on Tuesday along with his government. *VOA*

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

## Walk the talk, Chief Justice Yuoh

**NEWLY COMMISSIONED CHIEF** Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia, Her Honor, Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, sounded tough on Monday at her official siting and formal opening for the October Term of the Supreme Court, vowing here to lead a robust judiciary for the country.

**CHIEF JUSTICE YUOH** also promised that her administration will hold no allegiance to any authority, but the principle of law, saying “We will make sure that justice is provided to all pursuant to Article 11 (a) and (b); cardinal to this, I will resolve to not only hear the human rights cases but to ... render opinion ... timely and expediently.”

**WHILE WE APPLAUD** the expressed intention of the Chief Justice, we present an open challenge to her to go a step further by demonstrating practical actions in her quest to transform the Liberian judiciary.

**TOO OFTEN, WE** have observed with great disappointment, officials making flowery speeches when they assume office, including promises that they don’t intend to keep or fulfill. This is unfortunate.

**BUT AS THE** third female to head the Highest Court of the Land, we hope that Her Honor, Chief Justice Yuoh will depart from this culture of flowery speeches and do exactly as she has promised, to emulate the good example of former Chief Justice of the United Kingdom John Marshall in being robust and straight to the law, holding no allegiance to the Executive or the Presidency or anyone except the written law of Liberia and her own conscience.

**THE LIBERIAN JUDICIARY** has been brought to international scrutiny and criticism for corruption, characterized by compromising of cases and, justice only for the highest bidder. United States Human Right Reports have constantly indicted the judiciary for graft, which does not present a positive image for the country.

**THIS HAS NOT** only hindered effective dispensation of justice to the population but discouraged investors and strangulated the business environment, making doing business in Liberia very difficult.

**ANOTHER ISSUE PLAGUING** the Liberian judiciary is selective justice, where government moves quickly to prosecute some cases, while it drags its feet on others, such as officials indicted in audit reports against the swift trial and conviction of former Defense Minister Brownie J. Samukai and others for corruption on one hand, and obvious reluctance to try ex-Passport Director Andrew Wonploe for passport scandal, which led the U.S. State Department to sanction him and his immediate family.

**WHEN PRESIDENT GEORGE WEAH** promised in his inaugural speech that under his administration, Liberians would no longer be spectators in their own economy, but in actual fact, Liberian-owned businesses are being strangulated under his watch, then we deem it prudent in sounding these caveats to officials making flowery speeches when they come to office. Raising public expectations that you do not intend to meet is dangerous.

**THEREFORE, WE CALL** on Her Honor, Chief Justice Yuoh, to do as she has promised by walking the talk in restoring public confidence in the Liberian judiciary despite temptations that may come her way or attempts from various sectors to sway her decisions.



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# COMMENTARY

By Raghuram G. Rajan  
and Viral Acharya

## Where Has All the Liquidity Gone?

**C**HICAGO/NEW YORK - The malfunctioning of the government bond market in a developed economy is an early warning of potential financial instability. In the United Kingdom, the new government’s proposed “mini-budget” raised the specter of unsustainable sovereign debt and led to a dramatic widening in long-term gilt yields. Recognizing the systemic importance of the government bond market, the Bank of England correctly stepped in, both pausing its plan to unload gilts from its balance sheet and announcing that it will buy gilts over a fortnight at a scale near that of its planned sales for the next 12 months.

Markets have since calmed down. But as commendable as the BOE’s prompt response has been, we must ask what blame central banks bear for financial markets’ current fragility. After all, while long-term gilt yields have stabilized, gilt market liquidity (judging by bid-ask spreads) has not improved. And across the Atlantic, the market for US Treasuries is also raising liquidity concerns. Many metrics are flashing red, just like at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and in the aftermath of Lehman Brothers’ failure in 2008.

After two years of quantitative easing (QE) - when central banks buy long-term bonds from the private sector and issue liquid reserves in return - central banks around the world have begun to shrink their balance sheets, and liquidity seems to have vanished in the space of just a few months. Why has quantitative tightening (QT) produced that result? In a recent paper co-authored with Rahul Chauhan and Sascha Steffen (which we presented at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City’s Jackson Hole conference in August), we show that QE may be quite difficult to reverse, because the financial sector has become dependent on easy liquidity.

This dependency arises in multiple ways. Commercial banks, which typically hold the reserves supplied by central banks during QE, finance their own asset purchases with short-term demand deposits that represent potent claims on their liquidity in tough times. Moreover, although advanced-economy central-bank reserves are the safest assets on the planet, they offer low returns, so commercial banks have created additional revenue streams by offering reserve-backed liquidity insurance to others. This generally takes the form of higher credit card limits for households, contingent credit lines to asset managers and non-financial corporations, and broker-dealer relationships that promise to help speculators meet margin calls (demands for additional cash collateral).

The speculators are not limited to hedge funds, as we recently learned in the UK. Rather, they also include normally staid pension funds that have engaged in so-called liability-driven investment: To compensate for the QE-induced low return on long-term gilts, they increased the risk profile of their other assets, taking on more leverage, and hedging any interest risk with derivatives. While their hedged position ensured that an interest-rate increase would have an equal impact on their asset and liability values, it also generated margin calls on their derivative positions. Lacking the cash to meet these calls, they were reliant on bankers with spare liquidity for support.

In sum, during periods of QE, the financial sector generates substantial potential claims on liquidity, effectively eating up much of the issued reserves. The quantity of spare liquidity is thus much smaller than that of issued reserves, which can become a big problem in the event of a shock, such as a government-induced scare.

Our study also finds that, in the case of the United States, QT makes conditions even tighter still, because the financial sector does not quickly shrink the claims that it has issued on liquidity, even as the central bank takes back reserves. This, too, makes the system vulnerable to shocks - an accident waiting to happen. During the last episode of QT in the US, even relatively small, unexpected increases in liquidity demand - such as a surge in the Treasury’s account at the Fed - caused massive dislocation in Treasury repo markets. That is exactly what happened in September 2019, prompting the Fed to resume its liquidity injections.

The onset of the pandemic in March 2020 was an even larger liquidity shock, with corporations drawing down credit lines from banks and speculators seeking help in meeting margin calls. Central banks duly flooded the system with reserves. One can only imagine the scale of the intervention that would have been needed if the shock had been as bad as the one in 2008. An even deeper crisis would have prompted some depositors to dash for cash, causing some banks to hoard spare liquidity to meet unexpected claims on the deposits they had amassed during the boom times.

Put differently, the larger the scale and the longer the duration of QE, the greater the liquidity that financial markets become accustomed to, and the longer it will take for central banks to normalize their balance sheets. But since financial, real, and fiscal shocks do not respect central banks’ timetables, they often will force fresh central-bank interventions, as we saw in the UK.

Monetary policymakers thus find themselves in a very difficult position. A central bank may need to raise rates to reduce inflation. But if it also must simultaneously supply liquidity to stabilize government bond markets, it risks sending a mixed message about its policy stance - not to mention raising concerns that it has become a direct financier of the government. Not only does this complicate policy communication; it also could prolong the fight against inflation.

While central banks have always had a duty to provide emergency liquidity, doing so on a sustained, large-scale basis is an entirely different kettle of fish. Our findings suggest that QE will be quite difficult to reverse, not least because QT itself increases the system’s vulnerability to shocks. While the BOE deserves praise for riding to the rescue, central banks more generally need to reflect on their own role in making the system so vulnerable.

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



# The COP of No Return

**S**HARM EL-SHEIKH - Some fear that this year’s United Nations Climate Change Conference - to be held here on November 6-18 - will be an unintended casualty of the geopolitical tensions and economic challenges the world is facing. I believe the opposite: COP27 represents a unique and timely opportunity for the world to come together, recognize our common interests, and restore multilateral cooperation.

The human cost of climate change is making headlines almost daily. Global warming is no longer a distant or theoretical threat, but an immediate material one - a phenomenon that affects each of us, our families, and our neighbors. No society has been left unscathed by more frequent and intense droughts, wildfires, storms, and floods. Millions of people are already battling for survival.

And that is with temperatures having risen by just 1.1° Celsius, relative to pre-industrial levels. As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has made clear, every additional tenth of a degree makes matters worse. Yet the changes needed to avert catastrophe are not being made, at least not fast enough, and the developing world is increasingly frustrated with rich countries’ refusal to pay their fair share for a crisis for which they bear overwhelming responsibility.

But there is reason for hope. In my discussions with delegations around the world, I see their determination to make COP27 a success. Already, societies are starting to act. Climate adaptation and new forms of collaboration are gaining traction, and investment in climate tech is booming. This includes new carbon-removal technologies, electric transport solutions, and renewable energies. As a result, clean-energy prices continue to fall: almost two-thirds of renewable power added in G20 countries in 2021 cost less than the cheapest coal-fired options. My country, Egypt, is on track to produce 42% of its energy from renewable resources by 2035. At the same time, civil society is devising mechanisms for holding companies and governments to account, guarding against greenwashing, and ensuring a just transition. There is a new focus on restoring nature.

More ambition, scale, and speed are needed, and the rules remain unclear or contested. But a process is underway, and there is no going back. Even in countries that might seem to be wavering in their commitments - say, by investing in fossil-fuel infrastructure - officials insist that stopgap measures necessitated by immediate challenges should not be mistaken for long-term strategies. No one doubts the greener road ahead.

The question for those of us who will participate in COP27 is straightforward: How can we seize the opportunity the conference offers to create a sense of common endeavor, prevent backsliding, and inspire an approach based on science, trust, justice, and equity? At its heart, climate action is a bargain. Developing countries have agreed in good faith to help tackle a crisis they did not cause, on the understanding that support - particularly financial support - would be provided to complement their own efforts, which are often limited due to their scarce resources and competing development needs. Developed countries must uphold their end of that bargain, by supporting both mitigation and adaptation, thus fulfilling their envisaged responsibilities in the Paris agreement.

On the mitigation front, we must move from rhetoric to action in cutting our greenhouse-gas emissions and removing carbon from our atmosphere. All countries must embrace more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions, and then translate those pledges into programs. We must act now to ensure appropriate resources are available to developing countries to unlock their potential. At the same time, we must craft a transformative adaptation agenda, so that communities - especially in climate-vulnerable regions - can protect themselves from the effects that are already unavoidable. The bill for this agenda must be divided fairly.

To date, a disproportionate share of climate finance has been directed toward mitigation, leaving developing countries largely to fend for themselves in financing adaptation investment. But even the finance provided for mitigation is far from sufficient and has not been delivered with the appropriate instruments.

In 2009, developed countries pledged to provide \$100 billion annually for climate action in the developing world by 2020. This is only a small portion of the more than \$5.8 trillion that is needed (up until 2030), according to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change’s Standing Committee on Finance. And yet this amount has not been delivered. We need an increase in the scale of finance pledges - especially for adaptation - at COP27, compared to those made at COP26 in Glasgow.

Developed countries must also honor the pledge they made last year to double adaptation finance by 2025, and they should provide the assurances needed for the Green Climate Fund’s new replenishment.

And the time has come to address the loss and damage suffered by countries that did not cause the climate crisis. This remains contentious, but I believe that we can approach it constructively, guided by the priorities of developing countries, for the benefit of all. A just transition must account for the needs of various regions. For example, African countries are committed in principle to adopting renewable energy and refraining from exploiting their fossil-fuel resources. But 600 million people in Africa - 43% of the continent’s population - currently lack electricity, and around 900 million don’t have access to clean cooking fuels. The climate-action bargain demands that this be addressed, and the continent’s broader development needs be met, in sustainable ways.

All of these imperatives must be pursued together, with a carefully designed package of actions, rather than through piecemeal measures. They are the pillars of a just transition. If one is missing, the entire edifice collapses.

Ahead of the 2015 COP in Paris, few believed that an agreement would be reached. Yet delegates from all over the world came together, and through skill and perseverance, reached a groundbreaking deal. In 2022, we face even higher hurdles, so we must work even harder to clear them. If we do, we will usher in a new age of clean energy, innovation exchange, food and water security, and greater climate justice.

As daunting as this challenge is, we have no choice but to confront it. We must negotiate with one another, because there can be no negotiating with the climate.

# “Masses Leader” Failed the masses on rice:

**W**eah Would Need 10+ Years (15yrs total) to add the quantity of rice Ellen added in 6yrs to the domestically produced rice stock!

In 2018, Weah promised- via his PAPD- to take actions in the rice sector that would increase rice production from the 247K+ he met in 2017 to 357K+ tonnes in 2022. Put another way, he promised to add 110k tonnes of rice to the 247K tonnes he met.

357K tonnes of rice is approximately 7.1 million bags of 50kg rice, and because Liberians consume approximately 600k bags per month, 7.1 million bags in stock today would last up to October 2023 without a need to import a single bag of rice. But the CDC/Weah FAILED!

Instead of the additional 110K tonnes promised, only 42k tonnes- an embarrassing 62% less than what was promised-have been added to locally produced rice stock! This additional 42k tonnes is approx. 840k bags of 50kg rice that are mostly unprocessed and in the field or packed in farm kitchens across the country. All rice data from the FAO.

CDC’s 2021 and 2022 rice production quantities are estimated based on 2018, 2019, and 2020 actuals.

This failure is disgraceful for a gov. that adorns itself with a development plan that inserts agriculture as the fulcrum of its growth, and poverty reduction; and is the sole reason Weah has been and remains subdued to silence since the rice crisis.

For those interested in comparing CDC/Weah’s failure on rice production to UP/Johnson-Sirleaf’s record, see here: Johnson-Sirleaf took rice production from 154K tonnes in 2005 to 291k tonnes in 2011; adding 136,200 tonnes or an 88% increase. By 2016, rice production under Johnson-Sirleaf/UP was 335K tonnes; almost three times the 2005 quantity.

Like CDC failed to add value to and bring locally produced rice from the farms to dining tables, UP equally failed earlier on.

The stark difference between UP/Johnson-Sirleaf and CDC/Weah is the production quantity: UP/Johnson-Sirleaf recorded 88% increase in rice production or added additional 136K+ tonnes of rice during her first term.

The CDC/Weah records an embarrassing 12% increase or have added only 42K+ tonnes after 5yrs or a few months to the end of his first and only term.

Based on the current quantity of rice that the actions of Weah in the rice sector has added to the domestically produced rice stock and given Weah’s continuous absentmindedness and tolerance for incompetence and corruption in the agriculture sector, he would need additional 10+ years (that is 15yrs total) to produce the quantity of rice Ellen added to the rice stock in 6yrs.

Liberians cannot condone this! Our people deserve a BETTER LIBERIAAGENDA that can produce and process high quality rice that reach their dining tables in rural and urban Liberia.

The masses will eject Weah for failing them and delivering success only for him, his wife, and a few of his friends.

Ambulah Mamey, International Agricultural Development Practitioner



## ARTICLE

## ARTICLE

# The Level of Political Prostitution is Sickening in Liberia

By S. Karweaye

It has been an interesting few weeks in Liberia. For those of us that have been watching Liberian politics since the 90s, it feels very much like Déjà vu. It is often said that the route in politics is littered with broken relationships and strange bedfellows. This is playing itself out in Liberia currently. With the 2023 election drawing closer, defections from one political party to the other have hit the political class. Liberian politicians are moving camps, divorcing and marrying new political suitors, and erecting new shades to ply their political trade.

Avalanche of individual politicians have recently decamped from one party to the other. The most astounding, was the mass defection of members of the national legislature from the former ruling Unity Party (UP), Alternative National Congress (ANC), and Liberty Party (LP) to the ruling Congress of Democratic Change (CDC), a constituent party of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) during the party 17th anniversary. Grand Cape Mount County Senator Simeon Taylor, in a rather surprising move, dumped the ANC of presidential hopeful Alexander Cummings and pitched his tent with the ruling CDC. Maryland County District #1 representative UP member P. Mark Jurry and Grand Cape Mount County District #2, Representative Mambu Sonii of the LP also formally broke ranks with their respective parties. Representative Johnson Gwaigolo of Nimba's District #9 and Sen. Gblebo Brown (Independent) of Maryland County were among those lawmakers who joined the ruling CDC.

The Chairman of the Liberian People's Party (at the time) Cllr. Joseph Kpator Jallah became a proxy candidate of the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change in the senatorial by-election in Lofa County and won; he also pitched his tent with the ruling CDC. Also, the ANC's former vice Standard Bearer Ambassador Jeremiah C. Sulonteh officially joined the CDC.

The ruling Coalition of Democratic Change has also experienced its losses through defections. Dr. Toga G. McIntosh, a founding member of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Party (NPP) announced his support and pledged his allegiance to the Presidential bid of Mr. Alexander Cummings of the Alternative National Congress (ANC) who is now the standard bearer of the Collaborating Political Party (CPP). Previously, Dr. McIntosh broke ranks with the NPP and joined the Unity Party of Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf where he served as Minister for Planning and Economic Affairs and Vice President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Dr. McIntosh was once the presidential hopeful of the Unity Party for the 2017 presidential election. Dr. Togar Gayewea McIntosh later joined the Liberia People Democratic Party (LPDP). LPDP joined the Coalition of Democratic Change (CDC). After the coalition won the 2017 presidential election, Dr. McIntosh served as the Chairman of the Governing Council of the CDC.

The Senator of Maryland County, Senator H. Dan Morais from the National Patriotic Party joined a 44-member Team, dubbed "Team Cummings 2023." Also, George W. Wisner who served as the Unity Party Campaign Coordinator for the 2011 elections and Former Executive Director of the National Investment Commission during Sirleaf's administration joined Team Cummings 2023 as well as Former Bassa County Superintendent Madam Julia Duncan-Cassell.

There was also the defection of Ambassador Lewis Brown, a founding member of the National Patriotic Party and the ruling coalition. Ambassador Brown pledged his support to the presidential bid of opposition leader Alexander Cummings. During Charles Taylor's dictatorial rule, Brown was the National Security Adviser and Adviser on Political and Domestic Affairs, between

1999 and 2001. He also served as Minister of State for Presidential Affairs in 2002. In 2003, he was Minister for Foreign Affairs and Taylor's government's Chief Negotiator at the Accra Peace Talks. In 2011, Ambassador Lewis Brown assisted in forming the National Democratic Coalition (NDC) with Professor Dew Mason as its Standard Bearer. Brown served as Liberia's Minister for Information between 2012 and 2016 and later was Liberia's Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations during the regime of Madam Sirleaf.

Such defections indeed would shake the foundation of any political party. However, it is not the first time defections are heating the Liberia polity. With 2023 fast approaching, it is normal for politicians to re-position themselves in a way that things will favor them. It happened in 2011 with mass defections from the then-opposition party CDC and Liberty Party to the then-ruling Unity Party. Now, the shift has reversed. The opposition is divided. Several heavyweights from the opposition had pulled out of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP). The CPP was instrumental in the 2020 senatorial election. Today, mass defections have arguably destroyed the CPP.

So Why Do Liberian Politicians Bounce Between Political Parties?

Many have questioned the rationale and legality of the action, especially as it happens whenever general elections are coming closer. While many Liberians have lambasted politicians for defecting from one party to another, others say there is nothing wrong with the



action, provided it is within the ambit of the law.

Many reasons have been proffered for these defections. Political parties in Liberia tend to lack ideologies and explicit messages that separate them from each other. Because of the country's tribal, religious, and geographic divide, political parties are driven by personalities as opposed to ideologies. For example, in the United States, political parties are defined by their platforms, or manifestoes as they are called in Liberia. So, if a Democrat candidate comes knocking at your door, you have a sense of where he or she stands on the current critical issues.

When a politician defects, as they say in Liberia, he or she usually moves with hundreds or thousands of individuals, including officials of the party that he or she is leaving. While political parties are vessels to government and power all over the world, they are the main way to get into government in Liberia. In politics, as it is often said, there are no permanent friends or enemies, only permanent interests. The line that separates one Liberian politician from the other is so thin that some Liberian politicians have practically traversed all political parties in a bid to satisfy their burning interests. By moving from one political party to the other, they make new friends with whom they share the same personal interests at the moment and not the country's interests. For example, in 2017, 19 Liberian Senators pledged their support for Joseph Boakai's 2017 Presidential Bid including Senator Albert Chie who somersaulted to Weah's CDC after Weah won the presidency. Senator Albert Chie is now a member of the CDC and the Pro Tempore of the Liberian senate.

Defections, decamping and cross-carpeting have become the order of the day in Liberian politics. Irrespective of the word they use to describe their reasons, one thing remains the same, political prostitution is a politician's second nature. Liberian politicians especially have perfected the art of hopping from one party to the other that Liberian politics has become a glorified game of jump rope. At this rate, every political party in Liberia might as well merge into one big association of fork-tongued traitors with no umbrella to hide under. They will, at last, be forced to deal with the chaos that they have created, with no opposition to blame or run to for refuge. Then they can fix their mistakes or give up power altogether.

In Liberia, politicians are perceived to always be after their selfish interests. They don't have the interest of the common man at heart. This has been given as a reason for the gale of defections. Nobody decamped for the unpaid pensioner or for the teachers, health workers, soldiers, police, etc. who work for months without pay, and the litigant that cannot afford the cost of Justice. Nobody decamped for the children who beg to clean our windshields...See? Nobody decamped for them. Our politicians are fighting for their pockets and only God will deliver us from their hands. They want to satisfy themselves. It is not in the interest of Liberians.

From what we are seeing, it is obvious that politicians are in business. They are shameless people. They are not fighting for us, no plan for Liberia, and that is why they are fighting their way to the top. The defections are for selfish reasons, but if you ask them, they will say it is for the benefit of the masses. They are just playing games. They are migrating like rats running from one room to another and keep saying they are working for us. If you need to trust anyone, trust yourself first. Liberian politicians defect for the sake of proximity to power. The current defections and counter-defections of our politicians from one political party to another sadly confirm that our politicians are deeply corrupt and without ideology as previously stated. Most of them are in politics to sustain themselves with stolen money, but not to serve the electorates. How can we grow and develop as a nation?

Unfortunately, the youths whose future is being wantonly destroyed are in jubilation over this. God help Liberia. We are very clear in our minds and share the collective conviction that our present woes are a result of the collective failure of leadership by those who have been in the leadership of our country for decades and the establishment that has institutionalized support in their self-interest. Dogs eat their own vomit, but the main problem with defection is that the defector takes along with him the office he occupies by belonging to his former party. In another clime, the appropriate thing would be for decampees to resign from the offices they occupy before joining another political party. Hence, when a major political officeholder decamps from his party to the other, it becomes a huge issue that ends up affecting the entire polity. The consequences could sometimes threaten democracy.

What we are seeing today is not done in the interest of democracy. Liberia is a dynamic country with a growing population in West Africa. The citizens deserve parties that are not only generating answers to the country's complex problems but are also engaging its citizens about the best way forward. When the citizens go to vote on October 10, 2023, we are hoping they will vote for the candidate and party that has put forth the best vision for the future of this country, not the recycled political goons.



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### APM Terminals Liberia facilitates more rice imports

#### As country moves arrest shortage

The New Dawn has gathered, that a rice vessel chartered by the Supplying West Africa Traders (SWAT), through the intervention of APM Terminals Liberia, has docked at the Free Port of Monrovia to bring in supplies of rice for the Liberian market.

The vessel, the NV Ken

One businessman who was seen at the Freeport of Monrovia in search of rice to purchase for onward sale, Enerst Mcbourough noted that the development is timely because it demonstrates APM Terminals Liberia's ability to adjust its operations to respond to market demands and the exigencies of the time even

entire operations team for a successful job.

"This is a vessel that ordinarily our ongoing dredging activities would not allow us to host. However, we had to do this to respond to the current challenges.

With our highly skilled marine pilots, we even went beyond the 2-meter space to accommodate a 5-meter space, and given our 600-meter Berth, this is some significant work that we are proud of" explained Mr. Saint-Jean.

With rice being Liberia's staple food, these past few months of rice shortage on the market have caused agitations with consumers and the buying public.

This development has received widespread attention from different government stakeholders including members of the House of Representatives who last month met the leadership of the rice importers association to deliberate on solutions.

With APM Terminals Liberia's announcement of milestone Cargo deliveries in September and the successful docking of this rice vessel, it is expected that more rice will be on the market to alleviate the situation.

in the face of inevitable difficulties.

Head of Operations at APM Terminals Liberia Etienne Christopher Saint-Jean who explained this development said the company had to respond to the current challenges.

He praised the highly skilled marine pilots and the



Star, according to our reporter, brought in 23,000 metric tonnes of rice equivalent to approximately a million bags of rice.

This, according to some business tycoons, will significantly alleviate the ongoing scarcity of rice within sections of the Liberian market.

## Liberian Actress Korto Davis set to release another hit movie

A hit Liberian movie titled "Evil Lives Here" is set to premiere on November 18, 2022, at the Ministerial Complex in Congo Town.

The movie was produced in Liberia by Korto Davis and her team from the KKL Mansa Production, featuring home-based and American-based Liberian actors.

The movie "Evil Lives Here" was directed by Korto Davis, and shot by Ansu K. Sirleaf.

Ahead of the release of the hit movie, Ms. Davis urged Liberians to attend the event due in November to promote the work of their fellow citizens.

"We encourage the public, especially Liberians, to attend the premiere in November to promote the cultural values and boost the tourism sector of the country."

"We Liberian filmmakers can compete with other nationals in the movie industry with the support of our people," she said on Tuesday, October 11, 2022.

This hit movie centers around family drama regarding

inheritance, greed, love, and more.

Korto has been in the industry for roughly 20 years and has been in the

neighboring country Ghana to acquire her filmmaking education.

She has also been in Hollywood for some movie



### Aggrieved residents give 2 weeks ultimatum

By Patrick N. Mensah in Maryland

Aggrieved residents, including traditional leaders of Yokudee Pedebob, Maryland county have given local government officials two weeks ultimatum to provide them brand new transmitter.

The residents erected road block and gave the ultimatum following several promises from authority of the Liberia Electricity

and talisman on transmission poles, daring "anyone calling themselves man" to climb the poles.

Yokudee and nearby villages in the Pedebob Border area, host transmission lines from Ivory Coast to Liberia passing over the Cavalla River but those areas have been without electricity for more than seven years since a 50KVA transformer was allegedly removed to replace a damaged



Corporation in the county.

According to them, it's been nearly a year now since Mr. Wallace Dennis, who coordinates electricity activities there, promised to have provided them a transmitter, but is yet to fulfill his promise. The NEW DAWN has not independently verified this allegation.

Aggrieved residents, including traditional leaders headed by one Eric Dickson had earlier erected 'traditional' road blocks, but later agreed on Saturday, October 8, 2022, to remove the blockade on transmission poles of the West Africa Power Pool Project (WAPP) after several appeals, announcing a two-week ultimatum or else, they would return to protesting.

The blockage lasted for four days, causing residents of adjacent towns and cities to have slept in darkness after aggrieved residents put traditional charms

one in central Harper during the administration of former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Inhabitants continue to receive promises, including one from incumbent Senator James Biney, during his campaign for the senate in 2020 that is yet to be fulfilled, according to reports.

Pedebob town in Maryland situates at the border with neighboring Ivory Coast. But like several other villages and communities in the county, it is without power.

Meanwhile, this paper has gathered that several factors continue to hinder smooth implementation and free flow of electricity from the West Africa Power Pole, including poorly planted poles, lack of meters for customers, and absence of a substation on the Liberian side of the border. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

## Advertise with us!

projects before returning to Liberia to continue with her passion for the industry.

The KKL Mansa Production is one of the top movie companies in Liberia that Liberians can brag of. Their stories, pictures, and sound quality always stand out among others.

The movie will premiere on November 18, 2022, at the Ministerial Complex Theater. The movie stars Korto Davis, Sekou M.

Sirleaf, Ertamar Thompson, and George E. Dayo Collins.

Further, it stars Duke Murphy Dennis, Nasera Love Kamara, and Musa Sheriff.

The Red Carpet starts at 6PM, and the Movie starts at 8PM.

You can get your tickets now via MobileMoney/SendWave

08864 61708 or 0776546285. VIP is US\$25, and Regular is US\$15.



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# CDC appoints mediation committee

—for NPP's crisis  
By Bridgett Milton

The ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) has appointed a Dispute Resolution Committee to mediate lingering disharmonies within its constituent party, the National Patriotic Party (NPP).

appointed the Dispute Resolution Committee in consultation with the Governing Council.

CDC National Chairman Mulbah K. Morlu said the Special Mediation Committee is to fully investigate post-convention controversies alleged to have emerged out of the NPP's 7th biennial convention.

are: Cllr. Charles Gibson, Chairman; Mr. Moses Y. Kollie, Co-Chairman; Henry Fahnbulleh, Secretary; Prof. Wilson Tarpeh, Member; and Sen. Richard Devine, Member. Others are Cllr. Edward K. Goba, Member, John T. Richardson, Member, Madam Lydia Nimley, Member, Mr. Jefferson T. Kojee, Member, Garbla V. Williams, Member and Madam Reginald Soka-Teah, Member.

On Friday, 7 October 2022, Vice President Howard-Taylor snubbed a Supreme Court order that mandated the NPP Chairman James Biney and Secretary General Andrew Peters to hold the party's convention.

She reportedly dedicated to herself the responsibility to hold the convention, leading to the violent clashes.

The NPP's 7th Biennial Convention was held in compliance with the mandate of the Civil Law Court, which adjudicated the prolonged leadership conflict within the former ruling party. Eyewitnesses said it all started when supporters of VP Howard-Taylor attempted to force their way into the convention hall after being denied to do so due to lack of convention passes.

The Vice President in return was said to have ordered officers of the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) of the Liberia National Police to take siege of the gate to allow her

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

# NEC certifies Liberia's newest political party

The National Elections Commission (NEC) has certificated Liberia's newest political party, The People's Party (TPP) ahead of the 2023 presidential and legislative elections. NEC Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah announced in a ceremony on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at the electoral house headquarters in

application of intent from the proposed The Peoples' Party (TPP) expressing interest to be registered as a political party.

"The Commission now calls the organizing committee Chairperson of the TPP to come fourth and receive this certificate of accreditation. On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, members and



Sinkor, Monrovia that the TPP has met all requirements for the establishment of a political party in the country thus, its certification.

"I am pleased to inform you that following a thorough and in-depth process, the proposed TPP has met the requirements for the establishment of a political party. As a result, this certification program follows", Chairperson Lansanah said.

She noted that Chapter VII of the Constitution of Liberia as well as regulation relating to political parties and independent list requirements that an association must meet in order to be certificated as a political party within the Republic.

She recalled that a while ago, the Commission received an

staff of the National Elections Commission, I wish to congratulate you and present this certificate of accreditation as a fully registered Political Party in Liberia", the NEC boss declared. At the same time, she reminded that election is everybody's business and it is therefore binding on all Liberians to ensure a peaceful election at all times, stressing "All Liberians must commit themselves to the rule of law as the surest way to sustaining our peace and democracy in Liberia."

The TPP joins over two dozen other parties in the country with barely a year to the presidential election in which incumbent President George Manneh Weah is seeking re-election against several challengers.

# Foreign Minister Kemayah Extols Egyptian Ambassador to Liberia for Support

Liberia's Foreign Minister Amb. De-Maxwell Saah Kemayah, Sr., has extolled the Egyptian Ambassador to Liberia, His Excellency Mr. Ahmed EL-Sayed Helal, for his immense contributions aimed at strengthening the bilateral relations subsisting between the two countries.

Minister Kemayah praised Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal for playing meaningful role in the smooth running of the Egyptian Scholarship program in Liberia which enables Liberian students the opportunity to seek studies in Egypt. The Minister made the assertion when Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal paid a Courtesy Call on him on Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at his Foreign Ministry Office, on the Capitol Hill.

He said the Government of Liberia under President Weah is working assiduously to further solidify the excellent

bilateral relations between Egypt and Liberia.

The Dean of the Cabinet also encouraged the Egyptian Ambassador to continue to advocate on behalf of Liberia for Egyptian investors to explore investment opportunities in the field of agriculture, youth empowerment, energy, mining etc. Speaking earlier, the Egyptian Ambassador EL-

Sayed Helal expressed his deep gratitude to Minister Kemayah and the Liberian government for the warm reception and excellent cooperation his Embassy continues to receive aimed at cementing the cordial ties of friendship between the two sisterly countries.

Ambassador EL-Sayed Helal said he has deep admiration and love for the people of Liberia adding "I will work to further



Foreign Minister Kemayah

**REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA**  
HEADQUARTER OF THE LIBERIA NATIONAL POLICE  
Zone Five (5) Depot Five (5) (Turtle Base)  
Red-Light, Paynesville, Montserrado County

Office of the Crime Service Department 0770-421-826/ 0779-135-109

**To:** Insp. Joseph M. Yancy  
General Commander/ CSD Zone -Five and its Depots  
Paynesville, Montserrado County

**From:** The Office of CSD Affairs  
Zone-Five, Depot-five

**Subject:** Informative report into a misplaced beg reported by Mr. Ravi Chawla of ELWA Junction on September 11, 2022 at 09:00hrs.

**Case#:** MC-ZSD5-/09/04/2022

**Date:** September 15, 2022

**Case History**

Sir,

On September 11, 2022 at 09:00hrs Mr. Ravi Chawla age 35yrs, an Indian National and resident of ELWA Junction reported a case of a missing bag.

Mr. Chawla reported that on September 10, 2022 at 7:00pm he rode a Keh-keh and he had his back beg containing his passport and other items placed on the seat when he got down, he forget about his beg and he can't remember the plate of the Keh-keh.

**Police Action**

Based upon said complaint the case was booked, while the police is making effort to search for said keh-keh in question to recover the bag.

This is for your information and onward transmission.

Respectfully submitted

Signed: *R. J. T. Brown*  
Det. Jonathan T. Brown  
Investigator /CSD/Z-5D-5

Approved: *Det. Guantuah H. Willie*  
Det. Guantuah H. Willie  
Commander /CSD/Z-5D-5

Cc-C05 D5

P #: S6652328



# Français

## La CDC nomme un comité de médiation pour trouver une solution à la crise au NPP

La Coalition pour le changement démocratique (CDC) au pouvoir a nommé un comité de règlement des différends pour arbitrer les désaccords persistants au sein du Parti patriotique national (NPP), membre de la coalition au pouvoir.

La semaine dernière, de violents affrontements ont éclaté lors du congrès du NPP.

différends.

Selon Mulbah K. Morlu, président national de la Coalition au pouvoir, le comité spécial de médiation va mener une enquête approfondie sur les controverses et les affrontements qui ont émaillé le 7e congrès biennal du NPP. Au terme de cette enquête, le comité soumettra des recommandations à la direction du parti pour une résolution

processus d'enquête ou de discréditer le parti.

Les personnes nommées au comité sont : Me Charles Gibson, président, M. Moses Y. Kollie, co-président, Henry Fahnbulleh, secrétaire, le Pr Wilson Tarpeh, membre, le sénateur Richard Devine, membre, Me Edward K. Goba, membre, John T. Richardson, membre, Madame Lydia Nimley, membre, M. Jefferson T. Koijee, membre, Garbla V. Williams, membre et Madame Reginald Soka-Teah, membre

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

La vice-présidente aurait ordonné aux agents de l'Unité

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



L'ancien parti au pouvoir de l'ancien président emprisonné Charles Ghankay Taylor a dû organiser deux congrès distincts à l'hôtel de ville de Paynesville.

Dans un communiqué qui date du 10 octobre 2022, la Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique a dit que son bureau exécutif, en consultation avec le conseil d'administration, a nommé un comité de règlement des

durable.

Le président Morlu a affirmé que le comité doit rendre son rapport dans 14 jours. « D'ici le mardi 25 octobre 2022, il soumettra un rapport complet qui sera accompagné de recommandations quant aux mesures qui seront prises », a-t-il dit.

Il a donc demandé à toutes les parties de s'abstenir de tout commentaire public susceptible de porter atteinte à l'intégrité du

## Mali : un avant-projet de nouvelle Constitution présenté à Assimi Goïta

Au Mali, l'avant-projet de nouvelle Constitution a été remis mardi 11 octobre au président de transition, le colonel Assimi Goïta, qui a rappelé l'objectif de cette nouvelle loi fondamentale : « repartir sur de nouvelles bases » avec « l'espoir commun d'une démocratie renouée et d'un État mieux organisé ».

Le président de la Commission qui l'a rédigé, Fousseyni Samaké, en a présenté les principales nouveautés sur l'ORTM, la télévision d'État mardi. Il comporte 195 articles contre 122 pour la Constitution actuelle, qui date de 1992. Sur le fond, ce nouveau texte, rendu public par la présidence malienne ce mercredi, apporte plusieurs changements.

D'abord, il met en avant «

l'affirmation claire du caractère unitaire de l'État malien », une manière d'assurer noir sur blanc que le Mali ne sera jamais un État fédéral. Cette possibilité avait été proposée par certains pour mettre un terme aux rébellions indépendantistes dans le

Nord, mais une telle fédération n'est pas prévue par l'accord de paix conclu en 2015. Cela ne sera donc désormais même plus envisageable, à moins de modifier encore la Constitution.

Langues et laïcité

Le Mali a actuellement le

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



colonel Assimi Goïta

## Éditorial

### Parlons-en, Madame la présidente de la Cour Suprême

La nouvelle présidente de la Cour suprême du Libéria, Son Honneur, Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, a promis lundi, lors de sa cérémonie officielle de prise de fonction de la rentrée judiciaire de la Cour suprême pour le mois d'octobre, de rendre fort le système judiciaire du pays.

La juge en chef Yuoh a également promis de ne prêter allégeance à aucune autorité, sauf au principe de droit. « Nous veillerons à ce que justice soit faite conformément à l'article 11 (a) et (b). Je prendrai ainsi la résolution non seulement de me pencher sur tous les dossiers relatifs aux droits de l'homme, mais aussi de rendre une décision en temps opportun et de manière appropriée pour chaque dossier », a-t-elle dit.

Certes nous applaudissons l'intention exprimée par la juge en chef, mais nous lui lançons le défi ouvert d'aller plus loin en démontrant par des actions pratiques qu'elle est vraiment prête à transformer le système judiciaire libérien.

Trop souvent, nous avons observé avec une grande déception, des responsables faire des discours alléchants lorsqu'ils entrent en fonction. Ils font aussi des promesses qu'ils n'ont pas l'intention de tenir et qu'ils ne tiennent jamais. Voilà ce qui est malheureux.

Nous espérons cependant que Son Honneur la juge en chef Yuoh, qui est la troisième femme à diriger la plus haute cour du pays, s'écartera de cette culture et fera exactement ce qu'elle a promis, pour imiter, comme elle l'a si bien promis, le bon exemple de l'ancien juge en chef du Royaume-Uni John Marshall en ne faisant aucun compromis vis-à-vis du droit. Nous espérons qu'elle ne prêterait pas d'allégeance à l'exécutif ou à la présidence ou à qui que ce soit. Elle n'aura pour guide que la loi écrite du Libéria et sa propre conscience.

C'est le lieu de rappeler que le système judiciaire libérien a été pour longtemps pris pour cible par des critiques sur le plan international, des critiques qui font état d'actes de corruption, de compromis et de favoritisme à l'égard des plus riches. Les Rapports des États-Unis sur les droits de l'homme au Libéria n'ont cessé d'inculper le système judiciaire, ce qui ne donne pas une image positive du pays.

Les populations, dans leur grande majorité, ne bénéficient pas de justice équitable. Le système est tel que même les investisseurs ont peur de s'aventurer au Libéria pour y faire des affaires, ce, à cause de l'environnement peu propices aux affaires.

La justice sélective est un autre problème qui afflige le système judiciaire libérien. Pour des dossiers qui concernent les opposants, le gouvernement agit rapidement pour les juger sans perdre la moindre minute. Tandis que quand une personne proche du régime est soupçonnée d'un crime aussi odieux soit-il, le gouvernement traîne les pieds, comme c'est le cas des responsables mis en cause par des rapports d'audit et de l'affaire de passeport qui impliquait l'ancien directeur des passeports Andrew Wonploe. Le gouvernement a tellement joué avec ce dossier que les États-Unis ont dû intervenir pour sanctionner ce dernier. Pourtant, pour ce qui concernait le cas de l'ancien ministre de la Défense Brownie J. Samukai. Il n'a perdu aucun instant pour le juger et le condamner.

Le président George Weah avait promis dans son discours inaugural que sous son administration, les Libériens ne seraient plus des spectateurs de leur propre économie, mais en réalité, les entreprises appartenant à des Libériens sont étranglées. Vous qui faites de fausses promesses, il est dangereux de susciter des espoirs vains sachant que vous n'avez pas l'intention de traduire dans les faits ce que vous dites.

Par conséquent, nous appelons Son Honneur, la juge en chef Yuoh, à faire ce qu'elle a promis en respectant sa parole donnée pour restaurer la confiance du public dans le système judiciaire libérien malgré les tentations qui pourraient se présenter à elle ou les tentatives de divers secteurs d'influencer ses décisions.



français

La CDC nomme un comité de médiation pour

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 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 chargée des affaires de genre, John A. Siaway, Vice-président chargé de la Planification, de la politique et de la recherche et Dopoe 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.

Mali : un avant-projet de nouvelle

français comme langue officielle utilisée dans l’administration et treize langues nationales, parlées et enseignées dans le pays : le bambara, le peul, le songhaï, le tamachek, l’arabe... La nouvelle Constitution prévoit que ces langues « ont vocation à devenir des langues officielles » et que « l’État peut adopter, par la loi, toute autre langue étrangère comme langue d’expression officielle ».

Concernant la laïcité, une question épineuse au Mali, pays très religieux, le nouveau texte, selon ses rédacteurs, vient « clarifier » la « conception malienne » de la notion de « République laïque ». La nouvelle Constitution prévoit ainsi que « la laïcité a pour objectif de promouvoir et conforter le vivre-ensemble dans la société, fondée sur la tolérance, le dialogue et la compréhension mutuelle. Pour l’application de ce principe, l’État garantit le respect de toutes les croyances ainsi que la liberté de conscience, de religion et le libre exercice des cultes ».

Changement dans les institutions

Pour ce qui concerne les institutions, le document promet « beaucoup d’innovations ». L’Assemblée nationale unique sera remplacée par un Parlement à deux chambres, avec la création d'un Haut Conseil de la Nation, l’équivalent d’un Sénat.

À noter également que le Parlement ne pourra plus renverser le gouvernement et le président de la République ne pourra plus dissoudre l’Assemblée. Une Cour des comptes, dont le rôle sera de contrôler l’utilisation de

l’argent public, sera également créée. Le Conseil économique social et culturel sera d o r é n a v a n t a u s s i environnemental. Et des suppressions sont également mentionnées, comme celles de la Haute Cour de justice et du Haut Conseil des collectivités.

Dans l’exécutif, ce n’est plus le Premier ministre mais le président de la République qui déterminera la politique de la nation, et le gouvernement sera chargé de conduire celle-ci. Un changement qui vient, selon les rédacteurs du nouveau texte, rétablir un état de fait et mettre le chef de l’État devant ses responsabilités. Pour le gouvernement, le nombre limite des membres (ministres, secrétaires d’État ou « quelle que soit leur dénomination ») sera fixé à 29.

Justice traditionnelle

Côté judiciaire, les modes de justice traditionnels ou alternatifs - sans doute faut-il comprendre « religieux » - sont autorisés. De fait déjà utilisés dans beaucoup d’endroits du territoire, une loi viendra préciser leur champ d’action. Autre nouveauté : le Conseil supérieur de la magistrature pourra être saisi par les citoyens et la Cour constitutionnelle verra certaines de ses attributions modifiées, sans que l'on sache encore lesquelles.

De procédures de destitution seront introduites pour le président de la République, ainsi que pour les présidents de l’Assemblée et du futur Haut Conseil de la Nation.

Le texte devra être soumis au Conseil des ministres et au Conseil national de transition, puis aux Maliens eux-mêmes, qui décideront de valider, ou non, cette nouvelle Constitution lors d’un référendum prévu en mars 2023.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Raghuram G. Rajan et Viral Acharya

Où sont passées toutes les liquidités ?

CHICAGO/NEW YORK - Le dysfonctionnement du marché des obligations d’État dans une économie développée est un avertissement précoce sur son instabilité financière potentielle. Au Royaume-Uni, le nouveau « mini-budget » proposé par le gouvernement a ressuscité le spectre de la dette souveraine non viable et a conduit à un élargissement spectaculaire des rendements des titres d'emprunt à long terme. En reconnaissant l'importance systémique du marché des obligations d’État, la Banque d'Angleterre a réussi son entrée, en suspendant son plan de retirer ses titres d'emprunt et en annonçant qu'elle allait acheter des titres d'emprunt sur une quinzaine de jours à une échelle proche de celle de ses ventes prévues pour les 12 prochains mois.

Depuis cela, les marchés se sont calmés. Mais aussi louable que puisse être la réponse rapide de la BdE, nous devons nous demander quelle est la responsabilité des banques centrales dans la fragilité actuelle des marchés financiers. Après tout, alors que les rendements des titres d'emprunt à long terme se sont stabilisés, la liquidité (à en juger par les écarts entre la demande et l'offre) ne s'est pas améliorée. De l'autre côté de l'Atlantique, le marché des bons du Trésor américain soulève également des préoccupations en matière de liquidité. De nombreux indicateurs au rouge vif, comme au début de la pandémie de COVID-19 en 2020 et à la suite de la faillite de Lehman Brothers en 2008.

Après deux années d'assouplissement quantitatif (QE) - lorsque les banques centrales ont acheté des obligations à long terme du secteur privé et émis des liquidités bancaires en échange - les banques centrales du monde entier ont commencé à réduire leurs bilans et la liquidité semble avoir disparu en l'espace de quelques mois seulement. Pourquoi le resserrement quantitatif (QT) a-t-il produit ce résultat ? Dans un article récent co-écrit avec Rahul Chauhan et Sascha Steffen (que nous avons présenté à la conférence Jackson Hole de la Banque de la Réserve fédérale de Kansas City au mois d'août), nous montrons que l'assouplissement quantitatif peut être assez difficile à inverser, parce que le secteur financier est devenu dépendant de liquidités faciles.

Cette dépendance se manifeste de multiples façons. Les banques commerciales, qui détiennent généralement les réserves fournies par les banques centrales pendant l'assouplissement quantitatif, financent leurs propres achats d'actifs avec des dépôts de demande à court terme qui représentent des créances fortes sur leurs liquidités en période de vache maigre. En outre, bien que les réserves des banques centrales des économies avancées soient les actifs les plus sûrs de la planète, elles offrent des faibles rendements, de sorte que les banques commerciales ont créé des flux de revenus supplémentaires en offrant une assurance de liquidité adossée à des réserves à d'autres. Cela prend généralement la forme de limites de carte de crédit plus élevées pour les ménages, de lignes de crédit conditionnelles pour les gestionnaires d'actifs et les sociétés non financières, ainsi que de relations entre courtiers et revendeurs qui promettent d'aider les spéculateurs à répondre aux appels de couverture (demandes pour des garanties de trésorerie supplémentaires).

Les spéculateurs ne se limitent pas aux fonds spéculatifs, comme nous l'avons appris récemment au Royaume-Uni. Ils incluent plutôt des fonds de pension normalement immobilisés qui se sont engagés dans des investissements dits « adossés au passif » : pour compenser le faible rendement des titres d'emprunt à long terme induit par l'assouplissement quantitatif, ils ont augmenté le profil de risque de leurs autres actifs, en prenant davantage d'endettement et en couvrant tout risque d'intérêt lié aux produits dérivés. Bien que leur position couverte ait garanti qu'une augmentation des taux d'intérêt aurait un impact égal sur la valeur de leurs actifs et de leurs passifs, elle a également généré des appels de couverture sur leurs positions dérivées. Faute de liquidités pour répondre à ces appels, ils dépendaient de banquiers disposant de liquidités pour les soutenir.

En somme, durant les périodes d'assouplissement quantitatif, le secteur financier génère des créances potentielles substantielles sur les liquidités, en régénérant effectivement une grande partie des réserves émises. La quantité de liquidités disponibles est donc beaucoup plus faible que celle des réserves émises, ce qui peut devenir un gros problème en cas de choc, comme une peur induite par le gouvernement.

Notre étude constate également que, dans le cas des États-Unis, le resserrement quantitatif rend les conditions encore plus strictes, parce que le secteur financier ne réduit pas rapidement les créances qu'il a émises sur des liquidités, alors même que la banque centrale reprend des réserves. Cela rend également le système vulnérable aux chocs - un accident qui a toutes les chances de se produire prochainement. Au cours du dernier épisode de resserrement quantitatif aux États-Unis, même s'il a été relativement réduit, des augmentations inattendues de la demande de liquidités (comme une augmentation du compte du Trésor à la Fed) ont provoqué une dislocation massive sur les marchés des repos du Trésor. C'est exactement ce qui s'est passé en septembre 2019, ce qui a incité la Fed à reprendre ses injections de liquidités.

Le début de la pandémie en mars 2020 a été un choc de liquidité encore plus important, les entreprises ayant réduit les lignes de crédit des banques et des spéculateurs à la recherche d'aide pour répondre aux appels de couverture. Les banques centrales ont dûment inondé le système de réserves. On ne peut imaginer l'ampleur de l'intervention qui aurait été nécessaire si le choc avait été aussi mauvais que celui de 2008. Une crise encore plus profonde aurait poussé certains déposants à se départir de leurs espèces, ce qui aurait poussé certaines banques à thésauriser leurs liquidités afin de répondre à des demandes inattendues sur les dépôts qu'elles avaient amassés durant les périodes de forte expansion.

Autrement dit, plus l'échelle est grande et plus la durée de l'assouplissement quantitatif sont longs, plus la somme de liquidités à laquelle les marchés financiers s'habituent est grande et plus il faudra de temps pour que les banques centrales normalisent leurs bilans. Mais comme les chocs financiers, réels et budgétaires ne respectent pas les calendriers des banques centrales, ils forceront souvent de nouvelles interventions de la banque centrale, comme nous l'avons vu au Royaume-Uni.

Les décideurs monétaires se trouvent donc dans une position très difficile. Une banque centrale pourrait avoir besoin d'augmenter ses taux pour réduire l'inflation. Mais si elle doit également fournir simultanément des liquidités pour stabiliser les marchés obligataires, elle risque d'envoyer un message mitigé sur sa position politique - sans parler des inquiétudes suscitées par le fait qu'elle est devenue un financier direct du gouvernement. Non seulement cela complique la communication politique, mais cela pourrait également prolonger la lutte contre l'inflation.

Alors que les banques centrales ont toujours eu le devoir de fournir des liquidités d'urgence, le faire sur une base durable et à grande échelle est une autre paire de manches. Nos résultats suggèrent que l'assouplissement quantitatif sera très difficile à inverser, notamment parce que le resserrement quantitatif lui-même augmente la vulnérabilité du système aux chocs. Bien que la BdE mérite des éloges pour s'être empressée de sauver le système, les banques centrales ont plus généralement besoin de réfléchir sur leur propre rôle qui fragilise tant le système dans son ensemble.

Raghuram G. Rajan, ancien gouverneur de la Reserve Bank of India, professeur de finance, Booth School of Business de l'Université de Chicago. Il a publié dernièrement The Third Pillar: Comment les marchés et l’État quittent la Communauté ( Penguin, 2020). Viral Acharya, professeur d'économie, New York University's Stern School of Business.



Those hitches were said to have prompted the party to take a decision on September 4, 2022, at NPP's national headquarters to reduce the number of persons on the list to 301 persons, according to the Biney Faction.



## 'Betrayal of trust'



LNBA Pres. Cllr. Rennie

### Pro-Tempore Chie

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA) has described as a travesty of justice and betrayal of trust, the Senate's reported recommendation for a traditional justice commission instead of a war crimes court here.

In a statement issued 11 October 2022 under the signature of LNBA National

Secretary General Cllr. Bornor M. Varmah, the Bar stated that Liberia has not prosecuted anyone for the grave crimes committed during the country's armed conflict.

"The LNBA described the action of the Liberian Senate ... as [a] travesty of justice and betrayal of trust of the Liberian People," Cllr. Varmah said.

"LNBA expresses dismay

over the failure of the ... legislature to establish a war and economic crimes court," the statement said.

The Bar's statement came after a brief meeting with United States Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice Beth Van Schaack.

Also, the Bar lamented that Liberia is yet to establish a war crimes court despite a

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