

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
<https://thenewdawnliberia.com>

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

WE NOW DELIVER DAILY COPIES
The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT
AT YOUR DOORSTEPS
0886484201 / 0777007529
WE WILL DELIVER YOUR DAILY COPY
From MONDAY TO FRIDAY
Don't worry, you can pay for your subscription at the end of the month.
Hurry and book now!

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024	L\$189.6349/US\$1.00	L\$191.4221/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

New Dawn

TRULY INDEPENDENT

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

ANDROID APP ON Google Play

QPR CODE: 797005
Down Load New Dawn Android App

VOL. 14 NO. 19

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024

PRICE LD\$40.00



Mr. Francis S. Nyumalin

CDC urges Senate to reject Nyumalin & Freeman



Mr. J. Nelson Freeman

-due to their alleged troubling human rights records



Grand Bassa District #5 Candidate cries injustice

-In NEC's hearings

ON 2ND THOUGHTS

Liberian Aliens and Nationality laws-what are we protecting?



Pay with MoMo!
Dial ***156*3#**

GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN





Continental News

Senegalese Protesters Call for Release of Two Opposition Leaders

Supporters of opposition presidential election candidate Bassirou Diomaye Faye on Sunday demanded his immediate release in the name of "equal treatment" under the constitution.

The coalition noted the situation also required the urgent release of jailed opposition Pastef party leader Ousmane Sonko.

The Constitutional Court rejected Sonko's candidacy but accepted that of Faye, the party's number two, along with about 20 others.

election on equal terms.

Dozens of opposition supporters have been set free in recent days by President Macky Sall who says there are no political prisoners in Senegal.

The Diomaye coalition called for "all political prisoners who have been locked up unjustly to be immediately released."

Sall plunged traditionally stable Senegal deep into crisis by postponing at the last minute the February 25 election for his successor.

In power since 2012 but not running for a third term, Sall said he called off the vote over disputes about the

disqualification of potential candidates and concern about a return to unrest seen in 2021 and 2023.

The Constitutional Council intervened on Thursday and Sall, under strong international and domestic pressure, back-pedaled agreed to its demand to organise the election as soon as possible, but no date was set. VOA

South Africa Considers Mini-Nuclear Stations to Counter Power Shortages

South African nuclear scientists want to build a new generation of mini nuclear reactors, both to plug holes in their own country's blackout-plagued grid and to build an export industry for the future.

One company has designed a gas-cooled small modular reactor that it says can be installed within three years on a site smaller than a football field and safely produce enough power for a city.

Similar projects are underway in other countries, as the world confronts the challenge of powering a future economy of electrified transport, heating and data centres while slashing carbon emissions. Europe is divided on the way forward. Some countries, led by France, are betting on nuclear. Others, like Germany, are hoping that renewables like wind and solar will replace fossil fuels and make-up for the loss of access to Russia's natural gas exports.

South Africa will rely on coal for some time to come but,

the Koeberg nuclear power plant, on the South Atlantic coast just north of Cape Town.

It was commissioned 40 years ago and has a capacity of just under 2,000 megawatts, a small chunk of the 27,000 MW that South Africa's much-derided state electricity firm Eskom can deliver, thanks largely to carbon-intensive coal-fired plants.

But domestic demand for power often peaks at more than 32,000 MW per day, and South Africans face rolling blackouts or "load-shedding" of up to 12 hours a day, a serious burden on the economy of what should be the continent's powerhouse.

In December, the government announced that it planned to bring the first of a new series of nuclear plants on stream by 2033, adding another 2,500 megawatts of capacity, while planning to renew Koeberg and extend its life for another 20 years.

But, even with solar panels springing up on homes and developments across the country, that still leaves the country short of power in the medium term. This is where, in the plans of



Supporters of detained Senegalese opposition leader Ousmane Sonko hold a banner during a march to protest against the postponement of the presidential election that was scheduled for February 25 in Dakar, Senegal February 17, 2024.

"All candidates must benefit from the constitutional principles of equal treatment," said a statement from the Diomaye President coalition.

"That's why the release without delay of candidate Bassirou Diomaye Diakhar Faye is a popular demand and respectful of the Constitution," the statement said.

Sonko has been in prison since July 2023 for calling for an uprising, associating with criminals linked to terrorism and harming state security.

Faye has been under preventive detention since April last year but has yet to face trial.

The European Union last month stressed that candidates approved by the Constitutional Council must all be allowed to campaign for

African Union to Press for Renewal of US AIDS Plan

The African Union's health watchdog said on Sunday the continent's leaders will "send a strong message" for the renewal of the main U.S. program aimed at reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Launched in 2003, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, or PEPFAR, is a major funder of HIV testing, counseling and life-saving treatment worldwide.

The program until recently has enjoyed near universal support in the U.S. Congress.

But lawmakers have failed formally to renew the scheme for another five years due to the hot-button U.S. issue of abortion.

African leaders "will send a strong message for the re-authorization of PEPFAR," said Jean Kaseya, head of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).

"We need to accelerate this agenda. Statistics are showing us that every day young people are affected," he told reporters on the sidelines of the AU summit in Addis Ababa.

"Losing our young people means killing our economy and

stopping our development."

The program, launched by former U.S. president George W. Bush, contributes \$16 billion each year for Africa's anti-AIDS response, Kaseya said.

It has been credited with saving millions of lives but health advocates worry that cutting back aid is putting those gains at risk.

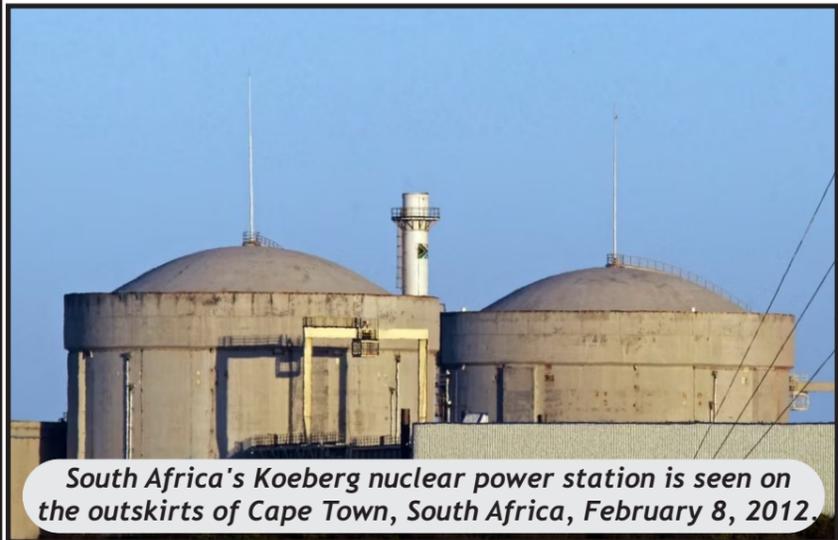
The United Nations says the HIV prevention response is 90 percent short of the amount needed by 2025. As of 2022, there are 39 million people around the world living with HIV, according to the UN AIDS agency. Of them, 20.8 million are in eastern and southern Africa.

But out of the 39 million, 9.2 million do not have access to life-

saving treatments. Those missing out include more than 600,000 children.

The UN first set out in 2015 the target of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Kaseya said Africa was still on course to achieve that target, adding that the continent would organise a summit later this year to discuss funding. "We are committed to this agenda and will do our best," he said Without re-authorization, PEPFAR will not automatically end, with funding still in the pipeline, but supporters say that health providers and other donor nations need assurances on long-term U.S. commitment. VOA



South Africa's Koeberg nuclear power station is seen on the outskirts of Cape Town, South Africa, February 8, 2012.

with power already in short supply, it is betting on building up its nuclear program.

And some experts like Kelvin Kemm, a nuclear physicist and chief executive of Pretoria-based private outfit Stratek Global, think South Africa is uniquely placed to take the lead in developing fourth generation reactors.

Rolling blackouts "I believe the future is not only around the corner, I believe the future has arrived," Kemm told AFP in an interview in his garden in the Pretoria suburbs. "I see in the next half dozen years, there is going to be a massive worldwide proliferation of nuclear power of all sizes, that there will be a huge change of heart over the next 24 months. I believe South Africa is already a leader."

South Africa's civilian nuclear journey began in 1976 when construction began on

nuclear evangelists like Kemm, small modular plants come in.

Large plants like Koeberg, with its two French-designed pressurized water reactors (PWR), must be situated by the ocean to allow for 80 tons of cold water a second to be pumped in to cool its reactors Most of South Africa is dry, however, and its commercial hub Johannesburg and its energy intensive mines and industry are far from the sea. The capital Pretoria is as far from Cape Town's cool Atlantic shore as Rome is from London This is where Stratek hopes to come in with its High Temperature Modular Reactor (HTMR-100). According to Kemm, who is already in talks with international operators from as far away as France as well as South Africa, these helium gas-cooled reactors can be installed in groups of up to 10 or typically six to power off the shelf steam turbines. VOA



EDITORIAL

A messy PR

The Executive Mansion in Monrovia has struggled but failed to present pictorial or video evidence that during President Joseph Nyuma Boakai's recent visit to the Republic of Ghana, he met with Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo or Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia as it has claimed.

Last week, the Executive Mansion announced via a press release that President Boakai left the country Tuesday, February 13, 2024 for a two-day visit to meet and hold consultations with President Nana Akufo-Addo, on matters of mutual interest to both countries and issues obtaining in the sub-region.

But just as the Liberian President arrived in Accra, Ghana, President Akufo-Addo was leaving Ghana for an official trip abroad. Subsequently, it was gathered that President Boakai did not meet the Ghanaian Vice President either.

Who then did the President of Liberia meet with while in Ghana, is the US\$50 million question Liberians are seeking answer to, which the authority has been unable to clearly address.

In a fruitless endeavor to provide some explanations, as speculations grew in Monrovia, Presidential Press Secretary Kula Fofana told the NEW DAWN last week Thursday, 15 February that things may change in the presidential space.

The Executive Mansion in a release on Wednesday, 14 February had announced, "His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., President of the Republic of Liberia returns home following a brief successful working visit to the Republic of Ghana. While away, he held talks with members of the Ghanaian Government. During his meeting with the Ghanaian team, the President extended appreciation for the support received prior to and during his inauguration as well as the visitation by the Ghanaian Leader, President Nana Akufo-Addo.

For his part, the Vice President of Ghana, Honorable Mahamudu Bawumia expressed excitement for the visit and assured the Liberian Leader of their continuous support and commitment to Liberia."

However, a NEW DAWN's independent investigation that has not been challenged established that President Boakai was flown from Monrovia to the University of Ghana Medical Center last week Tuesday morning for treatment, a place that he had frequently even proper to becoming President of Liberia.

In the first place, there was absolutely no need for the Executive Mansion to have misled the Liberian public about the real intent of the President's trip to Ghana that has created serious embarrassment for the country. Mr. Boakai is now President of the Republic of Liberia and Liberians deserve all rights to know or to be told clearly where he goes and who talks with other than feeding the public with something totally different from the actual happening, as was unfolded recently.

*Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!*

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

COMMENTARY

By Mirei Endara de Heras

Reducing Plastic Pollution Requires Local Remedies

PANAMA CITY - As the United Nations enters the final stretch of negotiations for a new treaty to end plastic pollution, governments must work to ensure that the agreement not only reduces plastic production, but also strengthens local initiatives to remove and recycle existing plastic waste.

Consider the Juan Díaz River, which runs through my hometown of Panama City. Tons of plastic - bottles and other detritus - bob in the river's currents, owing to poor waste management. Faced with this problem, Marea Verde ("Green Tide"), a non-profit organization that I co-founded, has installed a trash-trapping water wheel - dubbed the "Wanda" device - that now collects much of this waste before it reaches the ocean.

Local initiatives like ours are necessary to achieve global climate goals. This is especially true for eliminating plastic pollution, which is largely driven by local consumption decisions.

The new UN treaty, in my view, should thus balance top-down efforts to reduce plastic production and ban the use of toxic chemicals in these products with support for on-the-ground efforts to recycle, reuse, or transform in a sustainable way the billions of tons of plastic already clogging the world's waterways and harming the environment.

Otherwise, the ocean will contain more plastics than fish by 2050, and new diseases caused by microplastics - which have already been detected in human blood - could become commonplace.

So far, stakeholders are split on how best to proceed. During the latest round of treaty negotiations, held in Nairobi last November, the plastics industry and some oil- and petrochemical-exporting countries called for more emphasis on recycling and reuse, while environmental campaigners and other governments advocated curbs on production.

To reach a consensus by late 2024, the two sides must be brought into alignment and agree on an integrated approach that links global goals to local action.

Working in government and nonprofits, I have experienced first-hand how a disconnect between international plans and on-the-ground realities can thwart progress and breed cynicism. That is why we at Marea Verde adapt ideas that have been successfully implemented elsewhere - from the United States to Nigeria and Australia - to our context and culture.

For example, our Wanda device is based on Clearwater Mills' trash wheels, a clean-energy technology that debuted in the US but is customized for a tropical ecosystem. Over the past year, Wanda has collected more than 130 tons of trash from the Juan Díaz River - a more effective intervention than fishing plastics from the sea or beach cleanups.

Replicating this model worldwide could dramatically reduce land-sourced debris, which accounts for 80% of ocean plastic pollution.

Fortunately, many other organizations are focusing on river cleanup to prevent new plastic waste from entering the ocean. Eight of these groups - including Marea Verde - are participating in the Clean Currents Coalition, a network of projects that are piloting innovative waste-removal technologies in river communities around the world. Coalition members can share knowledge and work collaboratively while also encouraging and facilitating effective on-the-ground action.

The plastic crisis is a result of human activities, and solving it calls for behavioral change, which can be accomplished only through initiatives that engage local communities. For example, Marea Verde organizes and empowers residents in areas without recycling facilities by going door to door to collect plastic waste. As a result, many people have become aware of their ability to improve their surroundings, leading them to participate in neighborhood cleanups, reclaim green spaces, and lobby for better waste management.

Moreover, the lack of local data in many developing countries, including Panama, can make it difficult to design climate policies that are fit for purpose. That is why Marea Verde is also building databases on the volume and types of plastic trash in Panama's rivers, which will improve reporting, help urban planning, and demonstrate the scale of the crisis.

Efforts to counter plastic pollution must be equal to the size of the problem. To that end, the new UN treaty should include severe curbs on plastic production to choke off output and give clean-up efforts a fighting chance. But it must also support the local groups at the forefront of tackling the plastic problem.

These groups' innovative strategies, tools, and data-gathering practices can serve as a model for the global community. This is not an either/or decision: both international regulations and local action are needed. The latter is already underway and is making a difference, one community and one river at a time.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2023. www.project-syndicate.org

*Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!*

OP-ED

By Tom Achoki

What Corporations Need to Know About Public Health

NAIROBI - Corporations are increasingly moving into the public-health domain. Companies like Amazon, Google, and Microsoft are being “pulled” by market opportunities for non-traditional actors to “disrupt” health care. Others are being “pushed” by the imperative - highlighted by events like the COVID-19 pandemic - to act as responsible community stakeholders, such as by helping to address health inequities.

When such pull and push forces intersect, there are often important opportunities to align economic and social objectives. But if strategic corporate philanthropy is to improve public health, those charged with making decisions and allocating resources must have a deep understanding of the health system, including the institutions, organizations, and resources that comprise it, and the complex interactions among them.

According to a framework established by the World Health Organization, health systems have six pillars: service delivery; development and deployment of a health workforce; collection, analysis, and use of critical health information; provision of essential medical products, vaccines, and other health technologies; financing; and effective leadership and governance. To meet a population’s health needs, all six must work in harmony, in an elaborate process involving inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes, and impact.

Consider COVID-19 vaccination programs, which depend on inputs - including financial resources, workers, equipment, and the vaccines themselves - that are partly outputs from activities like medical-product development and service delivery, with all the logistics, infrastructure, personnel training, and supervision this entails. Together, all these factors lead to an outcome - getting a large enough share of the population vaccinated - with the impact being a reduction in mortality and morbidity from COVID-19.

As the WHO also explains, an effective health system is fair and equitable, both in the distribution of health goods and services and in the way it is financed. It emphasizes efficiency and cost-effectiveness as well, and responds to the legitimate non-health expectations of those seeking health care, such as respect and compassion. Ultimately, an effective system ensures that anyone in need of a specific health good or service can access it and derive the relevant benefits.

This framework should guide corporations - and all stakeholders - as they engage in the public-health domain. So should the principle that any direct investment in the health system must serve to strengthen one or more of the framework’s six pillars. To this end, a clear, data-based strategy for measuring health-system performance is crucial.

Only a comprehensive monitoring and evaluating plan - identifying not only what data need to be measured, but also how, when, and by whom - can ensure that decision-makers have the information they need to plan, organize, and implement effective public-health programs. For example, it can help to ascertain high- and low-priority areas, as well as areas where services are being duplicated, thereby improving the allocation of scarce resources. It can also show which public-health interventions are making the biggest difference, and be used to track progress in health outcomes, potentially revealing gaps between segments of the population.

Organizations seeking to engage in public health can use such data - together with a broader understanding of the health-system framework - to identify where they are best suited to make a difference, based on their competitive or comparative advantages. The better they know the terrain they are entering, the easier it will be to pinpoint unmet needs and anticipate their actions’ likely impact (including possible unintended consequences).

Health actors need to engage effectively with other stakeholders, because public-health programs often involve diverse groups with different priorities and objectives that must be harmonized to meet overarching health goals. For such engagement to work, however, trust and credibility are key. An effective impact-measurement strategy can help here, too, by supporting transparency and accountability.

For example, while basic principles of privacy and confidentiality must be respected, organizations should share the results, positive or negative, of any public-health investment or intervention - including relevant datasets, where feasible - with other stakeholders. Beyond fostering confidence, letting others know what works and what doesn’t would accelerate progress on improving health outcomes. Independent evaluations of programs would also help here.

All of this requires a set of key performance indicators to be established at different levels of the framework used to measure short-, medium-, and long-term changes resulting from any given program. There is no need to reinvent the wheel. On the contrary, KPIs should be aligned with global standards, as established in existing policy documents, so that stakeholders are all using the same language.

The final critical insight for companies entering the health-care domain is that not only are health systems highly complex, but they also operate within an environment in which they must continually interact with various political, socioeconomic, and sociocultural forces. All of these forces - not just interactions within the health system - shape public-health outcomes. The better newcomers understand these interactions, the more likely they will be to have a positive impact on public health.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2023. www.project-syndicate.org

Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!

OPINION

By Adeel Malik

Pakistan’s Middle-Class Rage Against Military Rule

OXFORD - Pakistan’s general election on February 8, marred by allegations of widespread voting irregularities, resulted in a hung parliament and the formation of a coalition government consisting of the country’s two major dynastic parties. Nevertheless, the outcome represents a stunning defeat for the country’s powerful military, as candidates backed by the imprisoned former Prime Minister Imran Khan’s Tehreek-e-Insaf Party (PTI) secured more parliamentary seats than any other political bloc despite a two-year crackdown on its voters and supporters.

Although PTI did not win enough seats to form a government on its own, its unexpectedly strong performance - the party was officially barred from participating in the election - underscores Khan’s popular appeal. In the run-up to the vote, PTI members and supporters have faced imprisonment, harassment, and the destruction of their businesses. On election day itself, cellular services were disabled in a last-ditch effort to disrupt turnout efforts. But despite these obstacles, Pakistani voters delivered a historic blow to the military, whose political interference met little resistance over the last three decades.

More than a competition between political parties, the Pakistani election represented a confrontation between those who oppose the military’s increasingly blatant political meddling and those who collaborate with it to gain personal and professional benefits. But the outcome raises an important question: Why has the regime encountered such widespread opposition now, particularly in regions long considered bastions of military support?

To be sure, PTI’s strong showing can be partly attributed to Khan’s popular appeal as Pakistan’s greatest-ever cricketer and his decision to challenge the military’s authority. This defiance led to his arrest and subsequent conviction on corruption charges, for which he is serving a ten-year prison sentence. But it also represents widespread anger among the country’s middle class, whose economic and political clout has steadily declined, despite its rapid growth over the past 20 years.

According to economist Durr-e-Nayab, roughly 40% of Pakistan’s population could be classified as middle class - a group that has accounted for most of the country’s income growth over the past few decades, spreading from urban centers to rural areas, where demand for middle-class goods like motorcycles and TVs has surged. At the same time, the number of private schools has increased dramatically, from 3,000 in 1982 to 70,000 in 2015. More than 34% of school-age Pakistani children currently attend these schools, including many from lower-middle-income households.

Pakistan has also experienced a higher-education boom over the past two decades, with universities sprouting even in remote areas, facilitated by the support of the country’s Higher Education Commission. While the quality of the education offered by these institutions is questionable, the surge in enrollment has given rise to what can be described as an “aspirational” middle class. Despite their lack of stable incomes, these households share the same dreams and ambitions as their middle-class counterparts.

Regrettably, the growth model supporting Pakistan’s middle class has been built on shaky foundations. The country’s economy runs on borrowed resources, relying heavily on regular financial support from the International Monetary Fund and key foreign allies, such as the oil-rich Gulf states and China.

Moreover, the Pakistani economy primarily benefits the country’s elites, who extract resources through subsidies, tax exemptions, and various other policies. Tax collection is inefficient and regressive, placing a disproportionate burden on the poorer and productive segments of the population. Meanwhile, the growth of large-scale manufacturing has stagnated, and exports have declined from 15% of GDP in 2003 to 11% of GDP in 2022.

Khan’s ouster via a military-engineered no-confidence vote in April 2022 exacerbated Pakistan’s already precarious economic situation, setting the stage for a prolonged period of economic and political turmoil. The World Bank estimates that real GDP contracted by 0.6% in 2023 as the economy struggled with rampant inflation and the devastating impact of the 2022 floods. With the economy stagnating and inflation hovering around 30%, a recent Gallup survey found that public pessimism is at an 18-year high. With roughly 70% of respondents reporting that their economic situation had worsened, widespread economic dissatisfaction helped fuel the electoral backlash against the military regime.

But Pakistan’s middle class is grappling not only with diminishing economic prospects but also with political repression. Once dismissed as a “chattering class” who preferred watching soap operas at home instead of voting, middle-class Pakistanis have become more politically engaged and now form the backbone of PTI’s base. As the military intensified its crackdown on Khan’s middle-class supporters - many of whom are women - the opposition has become more determined, largely owing to the enthusiasm of Pakistan’s tech-savvy youth.

In many respects, this was Pakistan’s first digital election. Two-thirds of the population is under the age of 30, constituting the “largest generation of young people” in the country’s history, according to the United Nations Development Programme. Confronted with a massive and predominantly unsympathetic cohort of new voters, as well as 73 million active social-media users, the regime found it increasingly difficult to shape public discourse.

With official repression raising the costs of collective action, social media has emerged as a powerful tool for mobilizing voters. Following a controversial Supreme Court decision that prohibited Khan’s party from using its traditional cricket-bat symbol, supporters flocked to social media to disseminate information about the new symbols assigned to PTI-backed candidates.

Moreover, in a country where rural politics has historically revolved around kinship networks and patronage systems, social media has made it possible for national issues to take precedence over parochial concerns. The longstanding notion that rural vote brokers could secure the support of entire clans is becoming obsolete. Similarly, the unified household vote has disintegrated, with family members now voting according to their own political preferences. Taken together, these shifts severely impede the military’s ability to control politics through local notables.

But while the results offer a glimmer of hope, Pakistan’s post-election landscape is marked by a volatile combination of diminishing resources, a growing number of stakeholders, and an authoritarian elite unwilling to make any concessions. The government’s effort to maintain the status quo through repression has resulted in a historic loss of legitimacy and trust in state institutions. The resulting institutional vacuum leaves middle-class grievances unaddressed, posing a grave threat to Pakistan’s stability. In the absence of institutional channels to resolve political disputes, conflicts are bound to be settled through violence. Pakistan’s foreign partners must use their influence to prevent further instability. In two months, Pakistan will have to turn to the IMF and external funders again. Those who control the purse should press the military to loosen its economic and political grip on the country. It is time to empower those who can provide the growth and stability Pakistan urgently needs.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2023. www.project-syndicate.org

ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

Liberian Aliens and Nationality laws-what are we protecting?

The sudden outburst of some Liberians, when it comes to debates surrounding the amendment of the country's Aliens and Nationality Law to be specific getting rid of Article 27 (b), of the 1986 Constitution leaves much to be desired.

Article 27 (b) of the 1986 Constitution, a clause retained from the 1847 Constitution states: "In order to preserve, foster and maintain the positive Liberian culture, values, and character, only persons who are Negroes or of Negro descent shall qualify by birth or by naturalization to be citizens of Liberia."

This law on our nation's statute books has become obsolete and is not in tune with current global reality it is nothing but a mere racist clause which is being used by a handful of people to foster their own political and economic agendas.

The law discriminates based on race; to say that only persons who are "Negro", (black) regardless of whether they were born on Liberian soil, jus soli, or abroad to Liberian parents, jus sanguinis, "shall qualify by birth or by naturalization to be citizen of Liberia," is racist- plain and simple.

Understandably, this Negro clause was inserted from the founding of the colony as a refuge for free people of color, and later former slaves, to prevent economically powerful communities from obtaining political power but same has no relevance today.

Today, the law appears to be "protecting" a privileged few, as it were in 1876 during the colonial and slave period, against being flooded by immigrants and even diaspora Liberians.

In 2022, the law was amended to remove discrimination in granting citizenship to children born outside Liberia. However, the amended law retained the statutory attribution of citizenship to every child born in Liberia (if of "negro descent"); the 1986 Constitution, meanwhile, provides explicitly for attribution of citizenship at birth only if either the father or mother is a Liberian citizen.

This law intends to prohibit dual citizenship for adults at all costs. A referendum to amend the Constitution to permit dual citizenship in all cases (among other propositions) failed in 2020, although many blame the past regime for not doing much to publicize the proposition.

The 2022 amendments to the law, albeit allow a Liberian citizen who acquires another citizenship to retain Liberian citizenship. This amendment comes on the heels of a 2019 Supreme Court decision which ruled that the statutory provision for automatic loss of citizenship was unconstitutional.

However, in the case of a person with one Liberian and one foreign parent, the Constitution requires the person to renounce the other citizenship when he or she turns 18 to retain his or her Liberian citizenship.

But who are we protecting?

Many of the arguments against getting rid of Article 27 (b), which when amended would permit persons of non-negro descent to acquire Liberian citizenship argued that indigenous Liberians are not yet economically empowered to compete with people of non-negro descent should they be allowed to acquire Liberian citizenship. But like it or not, the supporters of this race law are the same who are leasing land and properties all over the place to Lebanese, Indians, and other nationals of non-negro descent, lining their pockets under the protection of such law, while the entire country lieth in poverty and underdevelopment.

So, in reality, the law seems to protect the powerful few who parade with this assertion that granting people of non-negro descent citizenship will rob indigenous Liberians of their rights to own land in urban areas, etc, simply because they lack the economic muscle. But even as it stands, indigenous Liberians do not have such economic muscle to compete with the privileged few who are earning millions in property and land leases to these non-negros. If the law were to be removed and these non-negros were allowed to own land, these people will go out of business. This is what they are trying to protect not the impoverished indigenous people-plain and simple. Like NGOs who thrived in crisis, they thrived in abject poverty.

The Musa Bility bill to amend the Aliens and Nationality law.

So last week, Nimba County District #7 Representative Musa Hassan Bility, presented a bill to the House, seeking to amend certain provisions of the Liberian Aliens and Nationality laws of 2022.

According to Rep. Bility, the Bill undertakes a general revision and modernization of these laws that he says are needed and long overdue, particularly concerning citizenship, immigration, and naturalization, and seeks to provide a policy that is in tune with the current global realities. Rep. Bility is right, but only if his colleagues would see the importance and what the impact of such an amendment will add to the economic growth and development of Liberia, remains to be seen.

Rep. Bility's bill seeks an improved version of the 2022 Alien and Naturalization law but also frowns on the existing Article 27 (b) which discriminates on who becomes a Liberian citizen and it also seeks its amendment.

The Bility bill recognizes the domestic and international significance of Liberian citizenship, immigration, and naturalization policies, and takes a step to improve existing laws to alleviate the perpetuation of division that hampers efforts being made to rally support for unification and decrease the repressive and inhumane aspects of immigration procedures by removing restrictions on citizenship of natural born Liberians and their children, removing unnecessary barriers to immigration and naturalization, and proposing alternative immigration and migration requirements.

DATE WITH THE NATION
WITH D. WAHNE, JR.

The New Sheriff

Shortly after being sworn in as President of the Republic of Liberia, late President William Richard Tolbert Jr. authorized the audits of the Special Security Service (SSS) and the National Intelligence and Security Service (NISS) headed respectively by Directors James Bestman and C. Wellington Campbell under his predecessor President William V. S. Tubman.

During the investigations, the operations of both agencies became public knowledge and those agencies were demoralized. Reforms of the security arrangements and intelligence administration within the national security apparatuses were affected to such levels that weakened the security of the President and the State. In fact, the chief intelligence gathering agency NISS was expunged out of existence as well as others deemed not necessary by President Tolbert.

Knowledgeable statesmen like McKinley Deshield, Jonathan Goodridge, Harrison Grisby, and others were alleged to have advised President Tolbert to slow down in his reforms as many actions of his, which were designed to expose President William V. S. Tubman to public and international degradation, would haunt his administration disastrously.

President Tolbert was determined and his investigations of those agencies led to the incarceration of both Bestman and Campbell. C. Wellington Campbell died during the investigation and Bestman was required to pay every cent that he could not justify. He died later.

The security agencies under Tolbert became weak and careful in their operations and could not detect National security dangers to recommend early preventive actions. As President Tolbert advanced in his national reform agendas which included eradicating policies that prevented diplomatic relations with the communist and socialist blocs, national security problems heightened and there was an invasion of ideologies into the Liberia political space and the rise of militancy opposing the Western Bloc in favor of the Eastern Bloc at the time of the Cold War.

Liberia's security and intelligence systems were fragile and porous and could not handle the flood of operatives and as a result, President Tolbert was taken by surprise and met his untimely departure. During the era of President Doe, the agencies regained their strength and abilities. Unfortunately, at a time that Doe should have listened to intelligence information that would have prevented the Civil War, he was misled by politicians which rendered intelligence information gathered of no effect.

National security systems are protected by law and classified. It is therefore important to divorce political actions from national security networks for whatever purposes. That is why the Acts creating those agencies set their audit systems apart from other institutions of Government.

In the 1980s, the US Congress invited CIA Director William Casey for Congressional Hearing on the operations of the CIA. Casey known as controversial responded to every question with one or three words like "classified" or "I don't know". At a point, Congress asked, "what do you actually know"? He responded, "nothing". "Do you think you are qualified to hold such position as you do not know anything"? He responded, "Yes I am qualified". This narration is important to bring out the fact that National security is not only the prerogative of the President but the whole nation as peace, stability, and economic development rest on it.

Recently the President of Liberia Joseph Nyumah Boakai instructed the audits of two national security institutions, the EPS and the NSA. These audits, while intentional and good for accountability might expose national security secrets and be placed at the manipulation of politicians and external forces which could possibly operate at the disadvantage of the President at a time that he seeks to establish the controversial War and Economic Crimes Court which many are predicting could return Liberia to civil crisis once again. At this point, strong national security apparatuses are required.

President Boakai is reinventing the wheel manufactured by President Tolbert. If I am correct, he becomes the second President of Liberia that institute open audit of classified institutions which works and operations are covert and highly classified. Not only will Liberia's security information be exposed, agents, informers, and other lives could be endangered. The President must think about these.

For those aspiring for the Presidency, it is good that research is done on the presidency of Liberia, particularly reading presidential records of Liberia from Joseph Jenkins Roberts up to current administrations. There are important lessons to be learned. We must be very careful with extremities or extremities could cause us extreme predicaments.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2023. www.project-syndicate.org

Read the
NewDawn everyday
&
Advertise with us!

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Report cleared Boakai's police nominee

By Ethel A. Tweh

A special investigation into the 2011 election violence did clear President Joseph Nyumah Boakai's top police nominee Atty. J. Nelson Freeman of committing a crime in discharging his weapon.

November 7, 2011, Nelson Freeman shot and killed three CDCians and wounded several. This appointment is a repeat of November 7, 2011, when Boakai was Vice President," Gray posted to Facebook.

Contrary to Gray's assertion, an independent

shoot to kill anyone during that riot, contrary to reports that he was responsible for the killing that took place.

The review of the Special Independent Commission of Inquiry Reports by the independent review panel comprised Messrs Victor E. Helb, Chairman; Atty. Edwin Barquoi, CFE, member; and Cecil B. Griffiths, member.

The report found that Freeman, a Deputy Commissioner of Police at the time, entered the Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) compound amidst rioting and became involved in an altercation with United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) officers, who attempted to disarm him.

In response, the report said Freeman discharged his service weapon, purportedly in a bid to resist disarmament.

When questioned about his actions, Freeman cited fear for his safety, stating that he believed his disarmament would have exposed him to greater danger within the CDC headquarters compound.

After a thorough examination of the circumstances surrounding the incident and all available evidence and testimonies, the panel concluded that Freeman's weapon was not aimed at civilians or UNMIL personnel.

It noted that it was directed towards the ground, and no injuries were reported as a result.

review panel into the 2011 election violence stopped short of labeling Freeman's actions as criminal.

The panel concluded that Freeman's discharge of his firearm constituted a violation of the Liberia National Police (LNP) Firearm Policy.

However, the panel emphasized that Freeman's weapon was not aimed at civilians or UN peacekeeping personnel. It stated that it was directed toward the ground, and no injuries were reported because of the gunshot.

The investigative report showed that Freeman did not



Pres. Boakai

The former ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) is opposed to Atty. Freeman's nomination by President Boakai as Deputy Police Inspector General for Operations.

Following Freeman's nomination, Mr. Moses Acarus Gray who recently lost his district seat in Montserrado alleged that President Boakai deliberately appointed Freeman who allegedly shot and killed CDC members at their party headquarters.

"President Boakai intentionally appointed a death squad killer of CDCians.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

VP Koung addresses Parliamentarians in Morocco

Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung has urged members of South-south Parliament Corporation to work on tangible actions.

In a statement delivered at a two-day Parliamentary Conference on South-south Cooperation in Rabat, Morocco on February 16, 2024, the Liberian Vice President reminded the delegates that as the world navigates the economic landscape of the 21st century, it is imperious that South-South cooperation transcends mere rhetoric and transforms into tangible actions.

VP Koung encouraged South-South Parliamentarians to shift their focus towards facilitating the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge to promote trade and foster economic cooperation.

"In this regard, I urge all Parliamentarians present to

According to him, this can be done by promoting cross-border investment and trade, reducing transaction costs, eliminating trade barriers, and deepening integration within regions.

The Liberian Vice President noted that Liberia stands as a testament to the transformative power of South-South mechanisms.

Through the support of regional governments during the darkest times, Liberia emerged as a beacon of democracy in Africa VP Koung told the Parliamentary Conference on South-south Cooperation.

"As we confront the challenges of today, we must embrace emerging and non-traditional partners in our quest for economic and social transformation. I call upon global partners and nations from Africa, the Arab world, and Latin America to seize new opportunities and commit to partnerships that promote inclusive development. While trade liberalization remains



Vice President Koung addressing parliamentarians in Morocco

APM Terminals Liberia honors long-serving employees and interns

APM Terminals Liberia recently held an awards ceremony to honor and recognize employees who have dedicated 5 and 10 years of their expertise to the organization. Led by the People Function department, the event was a momentous occasion to appreciate the hard work and commitment of these outstanding individuals.

The honorees were commended for their exceptional contributions to the growth and success of APM Terminals Liberia. The organization takes pride in acknowledging the dedication and expertise of its employees, who play a crucial role in ensuring efficient operations at the Freeport of Monrovia.

In addition to certifying long-serving employees, the event also celebrated the

talented individuals will go on to achieve great success in their future endeavors. By nurturing and empowering these future leaders, APM Terminals Liberia is actively contributing to the development of a skilled workforce, which is vital for economic growth and prosperity in Liberia. Speaking at the ceremony, the Management expressed their gratitude to all the honorees and interns for their dedication and contribution to the organization. They emphasized the importance of recognizing and nurturing talent, as it plays a pivotal role in the growth and development of APM Terminals Liberia.



spearhead the formulation of a Unified Trade Agreement, aimed at enhancing economic incorporation among our nations. Concrete actions are essential to translate our vision of South-South cooperation into reality and improve the livelihoods of our people," a dispatch from Rabat, Morocco quoted VP Koung as saying during his address. The former Nimba Senator, now VP further reminded Parliamentarians of how Liberia guided by a foreign policy rooted in collaboration and cooperation, has consistently championed the cause of South-South dialogue.

"We firmly believe that our national interests are best served through collaborations, and we remain committed to forging strong political and economic ties with fellow developing nations," Vice President Koung noted.

The Vice President believes that South-South Cooperation holds immense potential as a catalyst for political consolidation, peace, and security.

crucial, we must complement it with coordinated policy actions. This conference presents an opportunity to align our policies and chart a course towards collective economic prosperity," he added.

Meanwhile, VP Koung has commended the efforts towards regional trade agreements including the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), the Greater Free Trade Area Agreement (GAFTA), and the Latin America Free Trade Association (LAFTA).

He also extended gratitude to the Government and people of Morocco for their leadership in advancing South-South cooperation.

VP Koung further said, "Liberia reaffirms its commitment to this noble cause and calls for concrete policy actions to drive the collective agenda forward.

South-South cooperation is based on the collective self-reliance of developing countries. It seeks to enable developing countries to play a more active role in international policy and decision-making processes, in support of their efforts to achieve sustainable development.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

LMDC ends awareness on CPD

By Naneka A. Hoffman

awareness at the Nyehn Health Center in Todee Statutory District #1, Montserrado County.

She said the CPD Dissemination started on 24

and it helps you give quality care to your patient.

According to her, they anticipate that the next two or three years to come, all of the health care providers will have practices at the level of the facility.

With this initiative, she stated that it means that Liberia is on par with the rest of the countries in the sub-region.

Meanwhile, Madam Fahnbulleh noted that they are expected to cover the entire Liberia, adding that they have 40 persons that participated in the training awareness at the Nyehn Health Center in Todee Statutory in District.

For his part, the Secretary General of Liberia Environmental Health Board Dave Wuo Kehnel, Jr., explained that CPD is the means by which members of the profession maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge, expertise, competence, and develop the personal.

He added that CPD is important because it is the means for updating professional practice to reflect the best available evidence.

Meanwhile, he stated that the process of developing the guidelines BRIDGE-U: Liberia project began working with six boards in February 2022.

The Liberia Medical and Dental Council (LMDC) in collaboration with the World



Health Organization (WHO), USAID, the University of Liberia College of Health Sciences (ULCHS) through the BRIDGE-U: Liberia project and other partners has ended an awareness on Continuing Professional Development (CPD).

The Coordinator of CPD BRIDGE-U Shirley S. Fahnbulleh spoke over the weekend at the end of the

January, adding that they have more than the 50 persons they prepared for in Montserrado County.

Madam Fahnbulleh added that the health care providers were all happy and they think that it is a good venture and they think that it is in their best interest.

Madam Fahnbulleh stated that the CPD helps improve your knowledge and your skills,

LNBA recommends non-violent dispute resolution

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Liberia National Bar Association over the weekend recommended to the Government of Liberia to ensure the consolidation of peace through commitment to non-violent dispute resolution.

Speaking at a one-day dialogue, LNB Secretary General Cllr. Bornor M. Varmah urged the government to apply the laws across all sectors and individuals irrespective of their status in society.

He believes that democracy entails that everyone is subject to the law, including government officials.

He recommended that the government must ensure that laws are transparent, consistent, and applied equally to all citizens.

"Democracy entails that everyone is subject to the law, including government officials. It ensures that laws are transparent, consistent, and applied equally to all citizens," he said.

"It provides a mechanism for the protection of rights, enforcement of contracts, and peaceful resolution of disputes," he continued. To strengthen the "weak and

dysfunctional justice system," he stated that there should be more support for the Ministry of Justice and all justice actors to enable them to discharge their duties. According to Cllr. Varmah will strengthen what he termed as the weak and dysfunctional justice system of Liberia.

He described the rule of law as one of the essential elements of democracy.

The LNBA on Thursday, 15 February 2024 ended a day-long engagement with political parties, religious

leaders, and the media on non-violent dispute resolution (ADR) and post-election democracy and peace consolidation in Monrovia.

The initiative is in fulfillment of the LNBA and the National Elections Commission Electoral Project which is supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and, the Europe Union (EU), among others.

The engagement dialogue brought to closure the UNDP Electoral Support Project (LNBAENP) that was launched on 19 September 2023.



LNBA President Cllr. Rennie

Unsafe abortion threatens women's health

--As CSOs seek a joint alliance to target the menace

By Lewis S. Teh

A 2023 report released by the Ministry of Health revealed that about 38,779 induced abortions took place in Liberia in 2021.

The Ministry released the report in partnership with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), and Gutmacher.

This translates to an induced abortion rate of 30.7 per 1,000 women of reproductive age and an induced abortion ratio of 229 abortions per 1,000 live births.

This alarming data has prompted an important conversation about the need for affordable and easily accessible sexual and reproductive health services in Liberia.

It also considers safe abortion practices to prevent women and girls from dying from unsafe abortion care.

Some people, especially religious and traditional leaders, believe that these practices are contrary to biblical teachings and African tradition.

The public health law is

They contend that to stop hazardous, covert operations that jeopardize women's lives and disproportionately affect underprivileged populations, access to safe and legal abortions is crucial.

The proposed amendment respects women's rights to safe abortion, contraception, and childbirth by allowing abortion under specific circumstances, such as when the mother's health is at risk due to the pregnancy or in cases of rape or incest.

These conditions are in line with the principles of the Maputo Protocol. The CSO advocacy working group is forming coalitions and networking to get the support of "pro-life" and "pro-choice" people to prevent women and young girls from losing their lives to this threat.

This is in addition to pressuring the national government to take this new public health law under consideration for passage.

The organization over the weekend concluded a four-day capacity-building workshop for journalists in this area to encourage them to report about Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and/or abortion



presently being reviewed by the Liberian Senate, with a particular emphasis on the legality of safe abortion.

Different sectors, including religious leaders, health professionals, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), have responded to this legislative measure in different ways.

The interplay of reproductive rights, moral issues, and women's and girls' health and well-being is the main topic of discussion.

Ms. Naomi Tulay-Solanke, a member of the advocacy working group leading the campaign on the passage of the new public health law said women's autonomy, equality, and health are all dependent on the recognition of reproductive rights, which is why CSOs and health professionals support them.

services using greater evidence.

The goal of the workshop according to Naomi Tulay, Executive Director of Community Health Initiative, is to improve moral and values-based behavior within the media organization.

She said it is intended to promote a responsible and constructive influence on public opinion about journalism and the reporting of topics on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women.

"We thought it wise that over the years in as much as we are advocating for a safe space as it relates to sexual reproductive health and rights, particularly women's rights to their body anatomy, we needed to partner with the media," she noted.

"We believe that women should have direction over their bodies

Français

Doutes sur la visite de Boakai au Ghana : voyage médical ou d'État ?

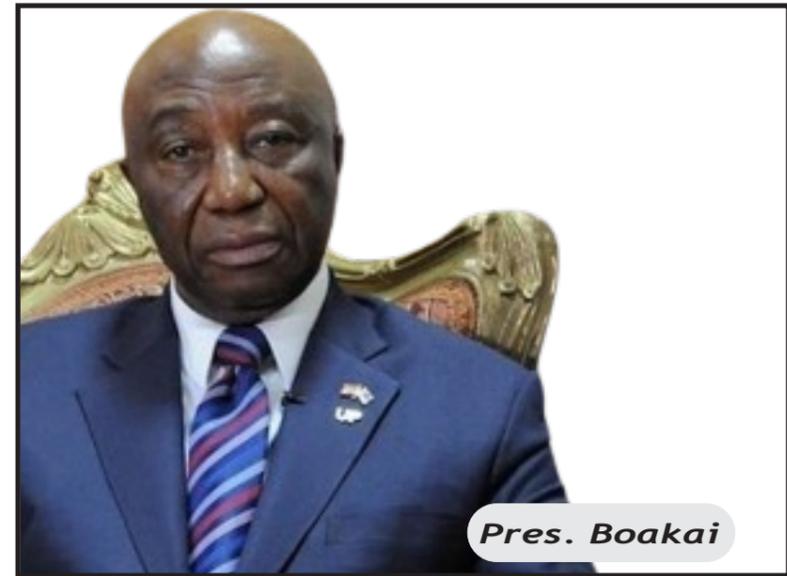
Le doute règne sur le véritable motif du récent voyage du président Joseph N. Boakai au Ghana. Des sources ghanéennes ont informé le

publié un communiqué indiquant que le président Boakai se rendait au Ghana pour une visite de travail de deux jours. Selon le communiqué, il devait rencontrer le président ghanéen

est rentré le mercredi 14 février. Son retour a été suivi d'un nouveau communiqué de la présidence indiquant qu'il avait rencontré le vice-président ghanéen Bawumia et d'autres hauts responsables du gouvernement ghanéen.

Le communiqué de la présidence du mercredi 14 février indiquait : "Son Excellence Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., président de la République du Liberia, est de retour après une brève visite de travail réussie en République du Ghana. Pendant son séjour, il s'est entretenu avec des membres du gouvernement ghanéen. Lors de sa rencontre avec l'équipe ghanéenne, le président a exprimé sa gratitude pour le soutien reçu avant et pendant son investiture, ainsi que pour la visite du dirigeant ghanéen, le président Nana Akufo-Addo. Pour sa part, le vice-président du Ghana, l'honorable Mahamudu Bawumia, s'est réjoui de la visite et a assuré le dirigeant libérien de leur soutien continu et de leur engagement envers le Liberia."

Toutefois, des sources proches du cabinet du vice-président Bawumia ont déclaré au journaliste, le jeudi 15 février, qu'elles n'étaient pas au



Pres. Boakai

journal que M. Boakai n'a rencontré ni le vice-président ghanéen Alhaji Dr. Mahamudu Bawumia, ni aucun autre officiel du gouvernement ghanéen. Il aurait plutôt été transporté par avion de Monrovia au centre médical de l'université du Ghana pour y être soigné, le mardi 13 février.

Le mardi 13 février 2024, la présidence libérienne a

Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo pour des consultations sur des questions d'intérêt mutuel.

Cependant, il s'est avéré que le président Akufo-Addo a quitté le Ghana le même mardi 13 février 2024 pour diriger la délégation ghanéenne à la Conférence de Munich sur la sécurité en Allemagne.

De plus, au lieu de rester deux jours comme prévu dans le communiqué de presse de la présidence, le président Boakai

Intrusion à nouveau au domicile de l'ancienne Juge Scott : plusieurs objets volés

Pour la quatrième fois en un an, la résidence de l'ancienne Juge en chef Gloria Musu Scott, située en Virginie, a été cambriolée par des inconnus. Cette fois-ci, plusieurs objets, dont un téléviseur à écran plat, ont été dérobés.

Mme Scott et trois membres de sa famille sont actuellement incarcérés à la prison centrale de Monrovia, en attendant l'examen d'un appel déposé devant la Cour suprême suite à leur condamnation pour meurtre par le Tribunal pénal "A" en novembre 2023.

Les intrus auraient été arrêtés grâce à l'intervention des habitants du quartier, qui ont appelé la police et conduit les individus au commissariat local de la zone 6 de Virginie.

Selon certains voisins, il y a eu plusieurs plaintes concernant des intrusions d'individus non identifiés dans la propriété, qui y dérobaient des objets et parfois même y dormaient.

La question de la possibilité d'intrusion dans

la résidence de l'ancienne Juge en chef a été un facteur important pendant le long procès pour meurtre. En effet, les enquêteurs de la police nationale libérienne avaient initialement exclu toute possibilité d'intrusion, conclusion contestée avec véhémence par les avocats de la défense, appuyés par des témoignages d'experts. Ils insistent sur l'existence de multiples possibilités d'intrusion et soutenaient que le meurtre avait été commis par un intrus dans la nuit du 22 février 2023.

Lors du procès devant le

tribunal inférieur, la défense a soulevé la question de la présence continue de personnes non identifiées dans la propriété, qui y dérobaient des objets. L'accusation, quant à elle, a soutenu qu'il s'agissait d'un membre de la famille, Anthony Musu, qui se rendait sur place sous prétexte de nourrir les chiens.

Le juge Roosevelt Z. Willie a donc interdit à tout membre de la famille de se rendre sur les lieux et a confié la propriété à la police.

▶ CONT'D page 9



Gloria Musu Scott

Éditorial

Le Liberia se lance sur une trajectoire démocratique irréversible

Le Libéria a emprunté un chemin historique de transition démocratique fluide suite à deux élections pacifiques. C'est une randonnée clairement irréversible.

L'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf a pacifiquement transmis le pouvoir à l'ex-président George Manneh Weah en 2018, et six ans plus tard, M. Weah a remis le pouvoir à son successeur, le président Joseph Nyumah Boakai, ce lundi 22 janvier.

Le pays peut actuellement se vanter de trois anciens présidents vivants : Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, George Manneh Weah et Charles Ghankay Taylor, qui, lui, purge une peine de prison en Grande-Bretagne. C'est une distinction remarquable par rapport aux anciens présidents William R. Tolbert, Jr., et Samuel Kanyon Doe, qui ont, tous deux, été évincés violemment lors d'un coup d'État sanglant et d'une guerre civile.

Le Libéria se joint progressivement au Ghana, au Nigeria et à d'autres nations démocratiques de la région qui souscrivent à des élections libres et équitables ainsi qu'à des transitions pacifiques d'un gouvernement à un autre. Tous les Libériens devraient s'efforcer de maintenir le pays sur cette voie enviable.

Les anciens présidents Sirleaf et Weah étant en retrait et disponibles, le président Joseph Boakai n'a aucune raison d'échouer. Il n'a qu'à consulter ses prédécesseurs, surtout étant donné qu'il a été vice-président pendant deux mandats sous la femme qu'il appelle son "ancienne patronne".

La génération actuelle de dirigeants doit cela à la nation et à son peuple pour maintenir la patrie sur la voie des élections démocratiques et de transitions pacifiques, si l'on veut le pays progresse, car c'est le moyen le plus sûr d'attirer et de maintenir l'attention de nos partenaires internationaux.

Tant Madame Sirleaf que M. Weah ont révolutionné la manière dont les Libériens devraient rechercher le pouvoir politique. La voie à suivre est de passer par les urnes et d'accepter les résultats suite à un scrutin transparent qui ne laisse aucune place à la contestation et à la violence.

Dans son discours d'investiture lundi, le président Boakai a souligné que son élection par les Libériens est un appel clair à un nouveau Libéria, un Libéria différent, un Libéria qui pratique véritablement la primauté du droit et adhère aux principes de la gouvernance démocratique dans l'intérêt de tous. Nous croyons que cela devrait être l'essence de la recherche d'une fonction politique - servir le peuple plutôt qu'un agenda égoïste qui est le terreau de la corruption.

Tous les Libériens devraient se féliciter du chemin démocratique que le pays a pris. Nous devrions être fiers de veiller à ce que le Libéria reste sur le chemin de la démocratie en exerçant toujours notre droit de vote.

Par leurs votes, les Libériens ont facilité la tâche du président Boakai, car il sollicitera l'aide des gouvernements et des nations amis. La crédibilité de notre démocratie est importante dans nos relations avec nos partenaires mondiaux.

Il n'y a pas de retour en arrière. Nous devons continuer ce voyage de transition en douceur, car nous le devons non seulement à nous-mêmes, mais aussi à la postérité.

Français

Starts from page 8

Doutes sur la visite de Boakai au

courant d'une telle rencontre entre le président Boakai et le vice-président Bawumia. Les principaux médias ghanéens ont également démenti en avoir connaissance.

Certains rédacteurs en chef de grands médias ghanéens tels que le Daily Graphic, le Ghanaian Times et le Daily Guide ont informé le journaliste qu'ils n'avaient reçu aucun article de leurs correspondants concernant la rencontre du président Boakai avec le vice-président Bawumia.

L'un des rédacteurs en chef a déclaré au New Dawn qu'une telle rencontre aurait fait la une du journal d'État Daily Graphic. Un autre a dit : "Non, je n'ai pas entendu parler de cela parce que si une telle rencontre avait eu lieu, mon correspondant au bureau du vice-président aurait envoyé l'article."

Visite médicale, pas visite de travail

Une source proche du centre médical de l'université du Ghana a déclaré au journaliste que le président Boakai avait été transporté par avion de Monrovia à l'établissement médical le mardi matin pour y

être soigné. La source a rappelé au journal que le président Boakai, alors candidat Boakai, se rendait fréquemment à l'hôpital pour y être soigné, et que sa dernière visite à l'établissement en était une nouvelle illustration.

Que dit l'attachée de presse ?

L'attachée de presse de la présidence, Kula Fofana, a déclaré au journaliste qu'elle ne pouvait fournir d'informations que depuis son bureau. Elle a expliqué que les choses pouvaient changer dans l'espace présidentiel. Elle a fait une comparaison entre le communiqué de presse publié à l'occasion de la Journée des forces armées indiquant que le président Boakai se serait rendu à la caserne militaire Camp Schieffelin sur la route Robertsfield, mais qu'il avait dû être redirigé vers la résidence du président en raison de problèmes de sécurité avec la visite au Ghana.

Pour toute question supplémentaire concernant les doutes sur la rencontre entre le président Boakai et le vice-président ghanéen Bawumia, l'attachée de presse a renvoyé le journal aux deux communiqués de presse, qu'elle considère comme sa déclaration officielle.

Starts from page 8

Intrusion à nouveau au

Les accès et intrusions continus dans la propriété sont désormais vus comme une autre validation de l'alarme d'intrusion soulevée par Mme Scott et sa famille, qualifiée par la police de "FAUX RENSEIGNEMENT AUX FORCES DE L'ORDRE".

Ces incidents d'invasion ou d'intrusion sont également considérés comme une confirmation que la propriété n'est pas aussi fortifiée que la police l'a laissé entendre, ce qui pourrait affaiblir davantage la théorie de l'absence d'intrusion du gouvernement, qui est la base principale sur laquelle Mme Scott et les membres de sa famille ont été accusés et

condamnés pour le meurtre d'un autre membre de la famille, Charloe Musu, le 22 février 2023.

Il convient de rappeler que le chef de l'équipe d'enquête de la police, le commissaire adjoint de police Monroe A. Dennis, a fait des révélations surprenantes il y a environ deux semaines sur une radio locale (Hott FM) depuis les États-Unis. M. Dennis a déclaré par téléphone, lors d'une émission radiophonique, que les conclusions de l'enquête ne correspondaient pas aux crimes mentionnés dans l'acte d'accusation, mais que des pressions importantes ont été exercées pour que Mme Scott et sa famille soient inculpées en conséquence.

Le Parti de l'unité conteste la certification de Thomas Goshua et saisit la Cour suprême



Mr. Goshua

Le Parti de l'unité (UP), le parti au pouvoir au Liberia, a déposé une requête devant la Cour suprême du pays contestant la certification de M. Thomas Goshua II en tant que représentant du district électoral n° 5 du comté de Grand Bassa.

Par le biais d'un "Writ of Prohibition" déposé devant la Cour, l'UP dénonce la certification de M. Goshua alors qu'un litige électoral est toujours en cours, ce qui constitue une violation de la procédure régulière.

"Le requérant déclare être le challenger et premier finaliste face au gagnant déclaré par la NEC, 2e défendeur, l'honorable Thomas Goshua", a déclaré le parti au pouvoir.

commissaires et une requête en "Writ of Mandamus" auprès du juge en chambre en février 2024.

Alors que ces plaintes et requêtes sont toujours en cours d'examen, l'UP dénonce la certification de M. Goshua par la NEC sans conclusion logique des affaires en cours.

"Le requérant affirme que l'acte du co-défendeur/NEC de certifier l'honorable Thomas Goshua est contraire à la doctrine de la procédure régulière, justifiant la présente requête en 'Writ of Prohibition'", conclut l'UP.

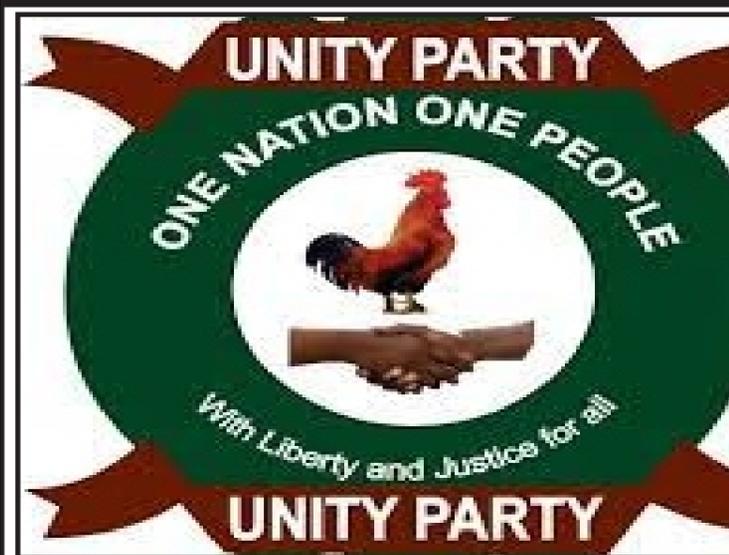
Il précise que le 26 janvier 2024, il a initialement déposé un "Bill of Information" auprès du Conseil des commissaires de la Commission nationale des élections (NEC) et l'a ensuite amendé en février 2024.

Cependant, l'UP affirme que le "Bill of Information" a été rejeté au motif que le Conseil des commissaires n'était pas compétent.

Mécontent de la décision du Conseil des commissaires, l'UP a déclaré avoir déposé un "Bill of Information" auprès de la Cour suprême le 2 février 2024.

Le requérant a ensuite déposé une plainte auprès du Conseil des

Des partisans du Parti de l'unité réclament un audit des fonds d'investissement



nommé unilatéralement Mme Harrisona Grimes comme responsable des moyens et des finances au sein du comité d'investissement du comté.

Le groupe déplore également avoir découvert que le samedi 20 janvier 2024, une réunion orchestrée par Mme Doe a été convoquée par le coordinateur du district n°2 de l'UP Margibi, M. Reuben Cooper.

Ils affirment que la réunion a été manipulée et que Mme Grimes et certains membres de sa famille faisaient partie du comité d'investissement. Le MUPPCMATA affirme que 100 dollars américains ont été retirés des 5 000 dollars déjà réduits pour le transport du maire de la ville et de la présidente.

En outre, les partisans de l'UP affirment que Mme Doe a reçu 3 500 dollars américains et a organisé un programme visant à présenter l'ambassadeur Boakai et les candidats de l'UP pendant la campagne, sans la participation du leadership du comté et des autres districts. Selon eux, Mme Doe et Alphanso Belleh de l'UP auraient reçu 3 100 dollars pour former les superviseurs de circonscriptions à Margibi. Cependant, ils affirment qu'elle a déclaré à la direction du parti dans le comté qu'elle n'avait reçu que 650 dollars et qu'elle n'en aurait pas rendu compte. Les partisans désabusés du Parti de l'unité affirment également que Mme Doe a reçu 1 200 dollars américains supplémentaires, somme faisant partie d'un montant présumé de 6 000 dollars envoyé à Margibi pour préparer la visite de M. Boakai et de M. Jeremiah Kung.

Des partisans du Parti de l'unité (UP) dans le comté de Margibi réclament une enquête pour dissiper leurs doutes sur l'utilisation de 5 000 dollars américains fournis à chaque district pour célébrer l'investiture du président Joseph Nyumah Boakai. Ce groupe de militants de l'UP, composé de motocyclistes et d'auxiliaires pour la transparence et la responsabilité (MUPPCMATA), porte des accusations de corruption présumée. Ils accusent la présidente de l'UP dans le comté de Margibi, Mme Cecelia K. Doe, et d'autres piliers du parti dans le comté de détournement présumé de fonds. Dans un document transmis à notre correspondant, le groupe affirme que Mme Doe a déduit 200 dollars américains des 5 000 dollars américains fournis à chacun des cinq districts électoraux du comté de Margibi. Le groupe allègue que Mme Doe a soustrait cet argent en s'engageant à organiser des activités pour l'investiture au siège du parti à Kakata, ce qu'elle n'aurait pas fait. Les partisans de l'UP affirment également que Mme Doe est apparue sur une radio locale du comté et aurait expliqué qu'elle avait utilisé l'argent déduit pour de l'essence et des cartes téléphoniques prépayées. Ils accusent cette responsable du parti dans le comté d'avoir

Read the
NewDawn everyday

&

Advertise with us!

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Grand Kru Technical College Praises Speaker J. Fonati Koffa

The Grand Kru Technical College (GKTC) has praised the Honorable J. Fonati Koffa for T. H. Bartekwa, Sr. for the numerous supports in shafting the new trajectory at the technical college.



Speaker Hon. J. fonati Koffa

his transparent and democratic election as the 55th Speaker of the House of Representative.

The Technical College administration has also commended Speaker Koffa for his continuous support to development and promotion of quality education in the country. The College has expressed confidence that Speaker Koffa will promote critical interventions in government pursuit of micro-economic development, particularly to support quality education across the country.

According to a Press release issued, the College administration further applauded the Grand Kru County Legislative Caucus and its Chairman, Senator Nimene

The Grand Kru Technical College, which was birth from the Grand Kru Technical and Vocational Institute in Barclayville, is playing a significant role in the educational heritage of Grand Kru County. The College was established by an Act of the National Legislature in 2019 to prepare students to lead lives of leaning, accomplishment, and service and to help them develop skills and attributes critical for success in a diverse and interdependent world.

The College is offering Associate of Arts Degree granting courses in six academic majors including Agriculture Technology, Education, Engineering and Technology, Business, Natural

Sciences, and Health Sciences. Courses offered under Agriculture Technology AA Degree granting program include: Agronomy, Animal Sciences, Fishery and Aquaculture Sciences and Agriculture Extension; For the Education program, courses offered include: Early Childhood, Primary, and Secondary Education, English and Math; Courses offered for the Engineering and Technology AA degree granting program are Mechanical, Computer Science, Information Communication Technology (ICT), Electricity and Building Construction.

Also, for the AA Degree Program in Business, courses required study are management, accountant, and public administration and under the Natural Sciences Degree program, courses required are Biology, Physical Sciences and Microbiology while for the Health Sciences AA degree Program at the GKTC, students are required to study Public Health. In the meantime, the College will commence offering degrees in Education, Agriculture and Engineering Technology as it strives to be among the most innovative academic institutions in the country. In the vision of the Grand Kru Legislative Caucus, it was expedient to raise the status of the Grand Kru Technical Vocational Training Institute to a college level to provide the graduates of high schools in Grand Kru County and its environs an opportunity to earn degrees in professional major fields.

Women stand in solidarity with Amb. Endee

-As she faces Prophet Key in Court

A conglomeration of over 55 women groups under the banner Citizens United For The Protection Of Women's Integrity and other women groups have rallied in solidarity with Liberia's Culture Ambassador, Juli Endee, as she engages with social media user, Prophet Key in court.

Prophet Key is notorious for his actions of verbal and psychological abuse toward women, as well as his act of cyberbullying. As hundreds of different women have suffered the wrath of his awkward behavior, Prophet Key has repeatedly made demeaning allegations against the Culture Ambassador, which have also been followed by verbal abuses.

Because of this, he was dragged to court mid-January of this year. Fortunately, hundreds of women, from diverse organizations have stood in solidarity with Amb. Ended, to ensure that Nayapougma

him for. Zoes unhappy with Prophet Key

Weeks ago, In a closed-door meeting with members of the National Council of Chiefs and Elders of Liberia (NCCEL) on Monday, February 5, 2024, traditional women from different parts of Liberia expressed their anger and dissatisfaction with controversial political commentator Nayabougua Olpa Yeazeahn, also known as Prophet Key, for what they proffered as consistent disrespect, and humiliation he has inflicted upon Amb. Juli Endee, their Traditional Queen. The meeting, which lasted for several hours, was held with regret, as the women frowned at how Prophet Key has wrongly utilized his platform to repeatedly attack and malign Amb. Endee. Ma Watta Fahnbulleh, the Head Zoe of Grand Cape Mount County, noted their disappointment and said an insult targeted at Amb. Endee is also intended for them (zoes). "All the zoes we are not satisfied, that's why we have not eaten. It's hard for us and it's hurting us, nobody is supposed to insult that woman, it's all the zoes they have insulted.



As Prophet Key's action has also been prompted by his interest in the Culture Ambassador post, she disagreed with concerns about the appointment or selection of a new Traditional Queen and said nothing can influence her (Juli) removal from the post/role. "When they change Ma Juli then they have changed us. She's not a Zoe but she's our Queen. Of all of the zoes, Juli is our Queen. We are not satisfied with it. Ma Watta:

Yeazeahn (Prophet Key) accounts for his actions. The women, who specifically represent the Citizens united for the protection of women's integrity. (CUPWI) WOMEN on the Move, Liftors, Traditional women, National Rural Women, Progressive Muslim Women, COPPWIL, Look up to God Women, Mothers of Liberia, Peace Time Women, Kukatornon Women, and NACCEL Women, have frowned at Prophet Key's unorthodox behavior.

Women representing other groups, including the Traditional Zoes, Liberia Women Mass Action for Peace, TREE, WIPNET, Shinning Stars, Bright Culture Stars Musical All Stars, Women United against Violence, Etta Tucker Foundation Aid, Nimba Women, Young Women In Action, Margibi district 5 women for peace believe an insult targeted at Madam Endee is also targeted at them. They want Prophet Key to be dealt with according to the law, to serve as a deterrence to others, and to end his uncivil behavior that some have hailed

"When you try that woman then you have tried us, and we won't be satisfied with it because we want she should be with us. That's the person that knows how to hold us good. We are known today because of that woman." The traditional women expressed concerns over Prophet Key's disregard for the decency of tradition. They viewed his repeated attacks on Amb. Endee as an affront to their entire community. Like scores of her other colleagues, Ma. Massah Kandakai, the Head Zoe of Montserrado County, told journalists, "The man is abiding our Traditional Queen, Ma Juli and that's what that's hurting us. When you insult our Queen, you insult us." Enraged in anger, Ma. Watta Kamara, the Speaker of the Zoes Council in Lofa County, and member of the Female Traditional Zoes of Liberia expressed her disappointment about the situation and said they would act accordingly. "We are not feeling fine the way our Queen was treated, and all of us. When we talk too much, we will say something.

Report cleared Boakai's police nominee

Starts from page 6

It can be recalled that on 7 November 2011, a large gathering of supporters of the Congress for Democratic Change convened at various spots in and around Monrovia, including their main headquarters, in response to a call from the party leadership.

They were rallying in solidarity with a planned boycott of the 8 November 2011 presidential run-off between the Unity Party and the Congress for Democratic Change.

The CDC supporters occupied sections of Tubman

Boulevard, erecting roadblocks to impede traffic flow, particularly towards the Catholic Hospital Junction.

Negotiations to persuade the demonstrators to disperse failed, leading to clashes with the Police Support Unit which then resorted to tear gas when some protesters attempted to breach the barricades.

The situation turned into violence as protesters threw projectiles at the police, resulting in damage to government vehicles, UNMIL assets, private property, and injuries to several individuals, including police officers and protesters.

To restore order, the Police Emergency Response Unit was deployed, and live ammunition was fired by the Liberia National Police. Tragically, one person was killed, and many others were wounded, with numerous arrests made. In response, then President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf established a Special Independent Commission of Inquiry to investigate the events of 7 November 2011 and the underlying causes of the violence. Two reports were subsequently issued by the Commission, the first on 25 November 2011, and a supplementary report on 8 March 2012.

Unsafe abortion threatens women's health

Starts from page 7

because they are the ones going through the situation and we are of the strong

conviction that the media is going to play a huge part," said Ms. Leila Precious Dolo, Executive Director of Help and Mother and Newborn

Initiative. She said if the media are aware of the issue, they can reach the message to thousands of people across the

CDC urges Senate to reject Nyumalin & Freeman

The Congress for Democratic Change expresses profound dismay at President Joseph Boakai's nomination of Mr. Francis S. Nyumalin as Minister of Internal Affairs and Mr. J. Nelson Freeman as Deputy Inspector General for

two suspects in the deaths, violence, and lawlessness against innocent citizens, it would be prudent for President Boakai or the Senate to take decisive action. This could help mitigate the impact of partisan biases that currently hinder patriotic thinking.

rose to infamy during recent elections in Foya, Lofa County for masterminding a systematic campaign of death, violence, and bloodshed against perceived political opponents. He openly proclaimed himself an 'Old rebel,' publicly expressing his intention to 'Mob' and eliminate a security personnel who had fled from his threats. Throughout the campaign, Nyumalin was armed with a single-barrel gun, assuming the role of an 'Old rebel' commander, and rallying numerous underprivileged youths to his cause, exploiting their fervent loyalty as ruthless instruments of death, violence, and disorder. These incidents exemplify the documented barbarism inflicted upon innocent citizens by the nominees, casting a shadow of moral failure upon the Honorable Senate should they receive confirmation.

As a party unwavering in its commitment to upholding the rule of law, the CDC calls for swift and decisive measures against the growing culture of impunity in Liberia, irrespective of the perpetrator's political affiliation, ethnicity, gender, or religion. Without a shared commitment to the rule of law, Liberia risks descending into the abyss of institutionalized violence, decay, and ruin.

Therefore, while continuing to be Liberia's foremost proponent of the rule of law, steadfast in offering constructive criticism and support for the collective welfare, the CDC reserves the right, as a last resort to safeguard the sanctity of institutional governance, to contemplate unspecified political actions within the bounds of legality.



Mr. Francis S. Nyumalin

Mr. J. Nelson Freeman

Operations of the Liberia National Police.

The appointment of these individuals, who have a reprehensible history of violence, death, and destruction perpetrated against innocent citizens, severely impedes the progress of the widely promoted 'Rescue Train,' which now appears completely derailed.

In urging President Boakai to remove the two instigators of violence and any others involved in harming innocent citizens, the Congress for Democratic Change also appeals to the esteemed Liberian Senate to reject these nominees if the President remains steadfast in his decision.

Given the overwhelming evidence implicating these

Driven by an excessive zeal to further political agendas, Mr. J. Nelson Freeman, on separate occasions, notably on November 7th, 2011, led a brutal special unit of the Liberia National Police. This unit trespassed onto the premises of the Congress for Democratic Change in Congo Town, where they subjected unarmed civilians to brutalization and point-blank shootings, resulting in fatalities. Despite these egregious human rights violations, Mr. Freeman evaded accountability, being absolved of wrongdoing by a partisan committee convened to ensure his innocence, while his victims continue to seek justice to this day.

Similarly, Mr. Francis S. Nyumalin, a former legislator,

Court hears final arguments

Starts from back page

January 16, 2024, listed the matter for final arguments between both the defendant and the plaintiff after at least three witnesses namely, Martha M. Thompson, head of the hotel workers union; Maria Meekie, a Liberian staffer and Reuben Twumasi, a Ghanaian, testified of exchange of words between Flomo and his former boss Torkornoo, but couldn't say there was physical assault. During recording of their statements in court, head of the workers union, Martha M. Thompson told prosecutors that complainant Flomo had complained Madam Torkornoo of hitting him in the chest while listening to his concerns. She continued that Madam Torkornoo had pointed her finger in the face of Daniel's as she tried to calm down the

situation, but there wasn't any hit between the two.

She told lawyers that the situation was resolved and Daniel returned to work. For his part, Witness Reuben Twumasi said Madam Torkornoo had asked for way to pass, as Daniel stood in the way to the kitchen, but she didn't witness any assault, only exchange of words between the two.

Earlier during the hearing, Madam Torkornoo claimed innocence but admitted there was heated exchange between her and Daniel. She admitted pointing finger at him for issuing her gross disrespect but didn't hit him his chest.

She alleged that Complainant Flomo was in the constant habit of

arguing with her, and exhibited actions that were inappropriate to the policies of the hotel, which may have led to his dismissal.

Meanwhile, during final arguments between both prosecution and defendant lawyers, the court asked series of questions to inform its ruling.

According to Section 14.21 of the penal law of Liberia, a person is guilty of a simple assault if he: (a) Purposely, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to another; or (b) Negligently causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon.

Section 14.22 which talks about offensive touching, says "A person who, with the purpose of offending another person not a member of his household, by any means strikes or touched such other person, is guilty of an infraction. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Grand Bassa District#5 Candidate cries injustice

By Kruah Thompson

Amidst the ongoing pulling and hauling in the Grand Bassa District #5 Representative Elections disputed, Representative candidate Christine Juah Settro, Dennis has denounced what she perceives as injustice in the electoral process. Addressing a press conference at Mamba Point Hotel in Monrovia, over the weekend, Mrs. Settro expressed frustration over what she described as "systemic obstacles," obstructing her certification, as winner of the district's seat during October 10, 2023 election. She accuses NEC officials of showing favoritism towards her opponents and disregarding pieces of evidence that support her eligibility. The October 10, 2023 election in the district was concluded amidst reports of malpractices and irregularities by NEC, prompting Ms. Settro to file complaint at the Commission's office in Grand Bassa. However, the NEC dismissed the complaint, which led her to file an appeal before the Board of Commissioners in Monrovia. Subsequently, a

town, additional three persons voted, but after the recount, the ballots increased by three hundred and fifty-one votes, lamenting "So the number in the different polling places was like rising and falling after the recount."

During the conference, the aggrieved candidate emphasized that these concerns were raised during the process, but NEC officials attributed them to bad road conditions and proceeded with the recount, despite objections from her team. "They even went ahead to open additional counting areas without proper staffing, further complicating the situation for us," she notes, indicating that NEC initially informed them of five counting areas, but there was a sudden increase to ten, leaving her team unprepared. "During the recount, NEC transferred some of these boxes to additional areas for recount without notifying us. This led to tensions and objections when boxes from previous polling centers where problems were noted, were brought back into the recount despite our initial agreement to quarantine them", she explains. According to her, total number of persons who voted in the October 2023 election was 20,931, but she further claimed that after the recount, the number increased to 20,951, something, she says raises concern. She says despite



hearing was granted, but despite evidence indicating the need for an automatic recount, NEC denied such opportunity.

Ms. Settro and her team then sought relief before the Supreme Court, and on January 17, 2024, the Supreme Court ordered the National Elections Commission to conduct a recount of results from all 78 polling centers within the disputed district, but they did only 70 centers, leaving out 10.

In a statement issued to local media outlets, during the weekend, Madam Settro expressed deep disappointment in the NEC handling of the process, emphasizing that during the recount, numerous irregularities were discovered, including broken boxes and discrepancies in sealed numbers, further noting that at polling place number 1, three thousand people voted, but after the recount, the number reduced to 259, indicating a shortage of 41 votes in the box.

Besides, she revealed that in Paystown, she had an additional five votes, while in Koko David

these challenges, the recount continued unabated, leaving a sense of unease among those present. Immediately after the recount on

January 26, Candidate Dennis filed a Bill of Information before the NEC Board and subsequently amended same on February 1. However, the Board of Commissioners declined to entertain the Bill of Information on grounds that they lacked jurisdiction.

Not being satisfied, she announced an appeal to the Board's decision but later withdrew it and filed a Bill of Information before Associate Justice in Chambers Jamesetta Wolokollie at the Supreme Court. The full Bench of the Supreme Court declined to issue a writ against NEC, prompting the complainant to subsequently file a writ of mandamus. In her complaint filed before NEC, Candidate Dennis argued that NEC did not successfully implement the Supreme Court's mandate as it was required to do. She also highlighted that the recount team refused to reconcile the closing seal numbers of October 10, 2023, ballot boxes with those of the opening seal on January 23, 2024, and that most of the seals came broken from the boxes.

Court hears final arguments

-In RLJ Kendeja Hotel's physical assault case

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Prosecutors at the Paynesville Magisterial Court have concluded final arguments in the inhumane treatment and malpractice

Paynesville Magisterial Court, after he suffered inhumane treatment and was allegedly dismissed illegally by the Management without benefits, after nearly 14 years of service, dating from 2009-2023.

Torkornu, before his subsequent dismissal.

In the lawsuit, Flomo accused Manager Roberta Torkornu of Simple Assault and Disorderly Conduct, inflicting severe pain on his body, specifically in his chest, which caused him to have have series of medical examinations.

However, in a writ of summon and statement of claims dated 18th December 2023, issued by the Clerk of Court, Hector M. Dolo, Flomo, alleged that his former boss, defendant Roberta Torkornoo was in a constant habit of assaulting him at the workplace.

The plaintiff whose service with the RLJ Kendeja Hotel ended on December 2, 2023, narrates in the Writ of Summon that "On the 1st day of December 2023 at the Kendeja Community, the defendant, with criminal intent, intentionally and illegally hit him in the chest for which he is going through severe pain as a result of the hit, thereby committing the crime of Simple Assault in violation of Section 14.21 of the law.

The Paynesville Magisterial Court during trial on Tuesday,



case between the operational manager of the RLJ Kendeja Beach Resort and Villas Hotel, Roberta Torkornoo, and one of its former employees, Daniel Fallah Flomo, who alleges that he was illegally dismissed by the management in December 2023.

He is among more than 300 workers who were illegally redundant between 2022 and 2023 by the Hotel Management.

He had initially complained of bad labor practices and malpractices by the management, but his vocal stance against management led to physical assault allegedly by the RLJ operation and policies manager Roberta

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11

Pay with MoMo!

Dial *156*3#

GET IN ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN

The New Dawn

TRULY INDEPENDENT

PRESS

WE DO GENERAL PRINTING SERVICES:

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

DIGITAL & OFFSET Printing

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