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

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French Version Inside

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Cummings breaks silence as EPP folds up

Boakai urges corrective measures against fire outbreaks



Front View of Speaker Koffa's House after the fire and back view

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Continental News

Macron says donors pledge \$2.1 billion in aid for Sudan

French President Emmanuel Macron said Monday that world donors have pledged \$2.1 billion to help relieve the humanitarian crisis in war-ravaged Sudan. Macron spoke in Paris at the end of an

thousands maimed for life," he told reporters at the U.N. in New York. "It is a war on the 18 million people facing acute hunger, and the communities now staring down the terrifying threat of famine in the months ahead."

Fighting erupted in the capital,

people - in need of humanitarian assistance.

Guterres raised the alarm on escalating hostilities in North Darfur on the outskirts of its capital, El Fasher. He said RSF-affiliated militias attacked and burned villages in the past few days west of the city, causing further displacement and endangering the city's only water source.

"Let me be clear: Any attack on El Fasher would be devastating for civilians and could lead to full-blown intercommunal conflict across Darfur," the U.N. chief warned. He said it would also disrupt aid operations, as El Fasher is a humanitarian hub. The U.N. chief put little hope in mediation to bring a swift conclusion to the war.

"The two parties have made a bet and the bet is to win militarily," he said. "And for that, mediation is irrelevant." Guterres spoke as top diplomats and international aid groups met in Paris seeking to raise money for the humanitarian effort. Both the \$2.7 billion U.N. humanitarian response plan for Sudan and the \$1.4 billion regional refugee response plan are underfunded at 6% and 7% respectively. France, Germany and the European Commission hosted the conference.

Watching my country fall apart day-by-day

I'm not supposed to cry as a journalist when I am covering stories, but I have been crying a lot lately.

Before December, when I travelled on a reporting trip from my home in the Sudanese city of Omdurman - just across the river from the capital, Khartoum - the only people I would see from my window were those carrying the dead bodies of loved ones on their shoulders.

They were looking for a roadside space to bury the corpses as going to a proper cemetery was too dangerous. The dead civilians, many killed by bullets and shells, were the collateral damage of a war that began exactly a year ago, when Sudan's two leading military men fell out over the country's political future, after seizing power together in a coup in 2021.

I have lost many friends and acquaintances. The bustle of my close-knit, working-class

war. While many others decided to leave the city, my family and I stayed put. We were hoping that the war would end soon, believing that maybe the international community would intervene to stop this madness, but the suffering of the Sudanese people was seemingly ignored.

Residents not only feared the street combat that was taking place, but also the armed men - from both sides - coming to loot. They stripped homes, taking everything from cars to spoons. I have been back to Omdurman but have not been able to reach my home. I have received reports that even its doors and windows have been taken off and carried away.

As the conflict wore on, people began to look thinner and paler, due to the scarcity of food and drink as little aid was reaching the city. The only small market in my neighbourhood was hit by airstrikes as the army tried to flush out the RSF. The remaining hospitals were only treating the war wounded, those with other



European leaders attend a meeting as part of an International Humanitarian Conference for Sudan and Neighbouring Countries

international conference designed to drum up financial support for a severely underfunded aid effort.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged the world not to forget about the people of Sudan, as he called for an end to the fighting on the one-year anniversary of the African nation's civil war.

"It is a war on the many thousands of civilians who have been killed, and tens of

Khartoum, a year ago between rival generals who lead the Sudanese Armed Forces, or SAF, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, the RSF. Hostilities quickly spread across the country. The United Nations says more than 8 million people have fled their homes in search of safety - 1.8 million of them to neighboring countries.

he U.N. says the conflict has killed more than 14,000 people, injured 33,000 others and left half the population - around 25 million

Three Nigerian sisters killed after car hits them

A Nigerian father has told the BBC about his grief after his three little daughters were killed by a car that crashed into them on Saturday. The girls - aged 10, eight and six - were in high spirits when they left home as they were enjoying the Eid festive season, Abu Uwais said.

"They wore the new clothes and shoes I bought them and they were so happy to go out," he added.

The driver has been arrested and is due to appear in court, police said.

He will be charged with reckless driving following the fatal accident in the small town of Toto in central Nasarawa state, police added. The vehicle he was driving was burnt by an angry crowd that had gathered at the scene of the accident.

Mr Uwais told the BBC that he and his wife, Fatima, had lost their only children. Muslims in Nigeria celebrated Eid last Wednesday, but festivities continued into the weekend for many families - including the Uwais', until they were hit by the tragedy. The girls had just

visited their uncle's home and were standing outside "when this driver on high speed knocked them down after hitting two electric poles", Mr Uwais told the BBC. He was at home when he got a call telling him to rush to the hospital.

"I was just told to come to the hospital. It was on arrival that I saw what happened and was devastated," Mr Uwais said.

Ten-year-old Nusaiba died in hospital, while eight-year-old Rumasa'u and six-year-old Nana Maryam died on-the-spot.

Nusaiba was one of the

smartest in her class, while her younger sisters were also doing well in school, Mr Uwais said. "She [Nusaiba] was always either first or second best and she had also memorised a good part of the Holy Quran.

"Their school sent a delegation to our house to console us over what has happened," Mr Uwais added.

Road safety is a major concern in Nigeria. More than 1,300 people died in road accidents in the last quarter of 2023, official statistics show. BBC



The girls were the only children of Abu and Fatima Uwais



A year of conflict has devastated life in large parts of Sudan

neighbourhood was replaced by silence, sometimes interrupted by the sound of a military plane foreshadowing an airstrike as the army would be targeting an area controlled by fighters from the rival Rapid Support Forces (RSF) paramilitary group.

People would flee their homes fearing that they would be hit. On 15 April last year, I remember looking forward to breaking the Ramadan fast in the evening with some fellow journalists. I was planning later to reunite with a long-lost childhood friend.

We never met and I have not seen him to this day. He left the country while I remained. I began to feel uneasy that morning when I started seeing social media posts about RSF attacks near the city. Then I read about clashes at the international airport. I still thought that the violence would stop. But when a third friend posted that there was fighting at the presidential palace, I knew that this was

conditions were not being seen. My diabetic grandmother died as she could not get treatment.

I too got very sick because of a lack of food. The only clinic that was functioning was a 30-minute walk away. My cousin accompanied me and I had to stop in the shade every two minutes as my energy was spent. The one doctor on duty prescribed me some medicine which, thanks to friends in Europe, I managed to get my hands on. While things have been bad in Omdurman and Khartoum, the worst-affected area is the western region of Darfur, where the conflict has assumed an ethnic dimension.

I came here just over three months ago to report what was going on, following last year's mass killings in cities like Geneina, the capital of West Darfur state. The UN said that more than 10,000 people died in the city during two massacres. People have told me of ethnically targeted killings and sexual violence. They remain traumatised, months afterwards. Everybody cries when I ask them about their experiences.

GUEST EDITORIAL

The Importance of Respecting Authorities: A Adda Study of Liberia

In every society, across all strata and societies worldwide, there lies a fundamental tenet that is the very bedrock of societal coherency and order, respect for authorities.

This notion, however, is multifaceted.

Not only does it entail public reverence and deference to those in power, but it also necessitates a reciprocal conduct from the authorities themselves.

The public's display of respect is contingent upon the quality of conduct exhibited by the authorities.

Integrity, dignity, and professionalism must underscore their actions, both in public and private spheres.

It is within this virtuous cycle of respect that societies can thrive towards enlightened discourse and progressive development.

This principle is not only crucial to the direct participants but also instrumental in instilling the values of respect in the succeeding generations. A probing look into the current Liberian society will illuminate this assertion. Liberia, a small country on the West African coast, offers a compelling adda study to elucidate this point.

In recent times, it has become apparent that exhibitions of disrespect among some members of the Liberian National Legislature have resulted in a pervading public alarm.

This unfortunate development vividly illustrates the implications of an authority that appears to disregard respect, leading to a detrimental ripple effect on the public's regard for them.

Those in positions of power in Liberia, particularly those holding constitutional authority, have a cardinal role to play in shaping public attitudes.

They have a moral obligation to demonstrate high professionalism, dignity, and integrity at all times - the vanguard of public respect and trust.

Any failure to uphold these values, as is witnessed in certain quarters, can lead to a significant erosion of public confidence, which in turn could undermine the very fabric of societal order.

The evidence and implications of such defiance to professionalism and respect are rife in Liberia, and they are captivating.

Take, for instance, the growing public alarm around the conduct of some members of the National Legislature.

Whatever the causes might be, such behavior is contributing to a disquieting public perception.

It sows the seed of mistrust and disrespect in the hearts of the public, subsequently affecting vital aspects such as cooperation between the populace and the government, social harmony, and national solidarity.

If we are to consider that respect breeds respect, then it stands to reason that any deviation in the conduct by those in authoritative positions presents an alarming precursor to societal discord.

For this reason, it is paramount for these individuals to encapsulate the ethos of respect in their engagements and leadership style.

By doing so, they model a pattern of respectful interaction that is integral to societal functionality, imprinting a lasting impression on future generations.

Public figures' adherence to this principle is not just a matter of expectation but a sacrosanct commitment that bolsters the entire societal edifice.

Instances of its non-adherence, as seen in Liberia, provide a cautionary tale that underscores how this neglect could chip away at societal respect for authority.

It also affirms that this respect is a reciprocal responsibility: authorities must first exhibit respect to earn it.

The dynamics of respect between the authorities and the society they serve is a delicate equilibrium that would do well to hinge on the principle of respect begets respect.

Through the lens of the unfolding scenario in Liberia, it is clear that any neglect of this symbiotic relationship poses a profound threat to societal harmony and, consequently, the proviso for development.

The country's situation emphasizes the paramount importance of upholding respect for authorities and, in turn, the authorities' obligation to act respectably for societal well-being.

It serves as a strong reminder that we must be mindful of the values and lessons that we impart to future generations, who will one day hold the reins of authority themselves.

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COMMENTARY

By Lawrence H. Summers
and N.K. Singh

The World Is Still on Fire

CAMBRIDGE/DELHI - The world is facing the worst five-year span in three decades. Higher interest rates have left developing countries crushed by debt, and half of the poorest economies haven't recovered to where they were before the pandemic. Growth is weak across large swaths of the world, and inflation remains persistently high. And behind it all, the thermometer keeps inching up. Last year was the warmest on record, as is true of nearly every month.

For the last several years, world leaders have made big promises and laid out bold plans to mitigate the climate crisis and help poor countries adapt. They pledged that the World Bank would transform itself to work on climate change, and that the multilateral system would get new money and lend more aggressively with the resources it has, including to meet concessional needs. An agreement between creditors would provide debt relief to countries that most needed it. And where public money was insufficient, the multilateral system would be able to catalyze private investment in developing countries.

Despite the bold rhetoric, 2023 was a disaster in terms of support for the developing world. As the chart below demonstrates, the private sector collected \$68 billion more in interest and principal repayments than it lent to the developing world. Amazingly, international financial institutions and assistance agencies withdrew another \$40 billion, and net concessional assistance from international financial institutions was only \$2 billion, even as famine spread. "Billions to trillions," the catchphrase for the World Bank's plan to mobilize private-sector money for development, has become "millions in, billions out."

[Chart]

It is little wonder that World Bank shareholders have not raised capital, substantially changed financing practices, or taken other bold steps. The International Monetary Fund is on net withdrawing funds from the developing world; the idea of comprehensive debt relief has gone nowhere; and financial defaults have been avoided only by the moral default of slashing health and education spending.

Setting aside the complex problem of climate change for a moment, world leaders haven't even been able to tackle the simplest, most straightforward challenges. War, inflation, and poor governance have brought some of the poorest people - including in Chad, Haiti, Sudan, and Gaza - to the brink of famine, yet the international response has been slow and muted. This is both a humanitarian disaster in its own right and a symbol of our broader inability to act in the face of a crisis.

If the world can't even get food to starving children, how can it come together to defeat climate change and reorient the global economy? And how can the poorest countries trust the international system not to leave them behind if that system can't address the most basic challenges?

This week, finance ministers, central bankers, and economic leaders are gathering for the Spring Meetings of the World Bank and the IMF in Washington, DC, where they will discuss the global economy and lay out plans to strengthen it. But these efforts will fail if rhetoric falls as flat as it did during 2023 in terms of concrete action. Here are four big ideas as to what is necessary:

First, reverse the capital flows, so that the lowest-income countries are receiving more support than they are paying out to private creditors. In the short term, that means expanding the multilateral development banks' use of innovative financial tools such as guarantees, risk-mitigation instruments, and hybrid capital. In the slightly longer term, it means stepping up with new money from shareholders - a capital increase for the World Bank and regional development banks, which will require legislative approval in shareholding countries.

Second, transform MDBs into big, risk-taking, climate-focused institutions. Development banks have tinkered around the edges with bolder approaches to lending, but it is time for them to scale up those efforts. The wealthy countries that are the biggest shareholders in the multilateral system need to provide the political support for that risk-taking.

Third, fully fund the International Development Association, a highly effective institution that provides much-needed resources to the lowest-income countries. The World Bank's president has called for the largest-ever IDA replenishment from donors; given the challenges ahead, the world cannot afford to deliver anything less.

Fourth, tackle food security. Last year, the United Nations was able to raise from international donors only about one-third of what it sought for humanitarian relief, and it had to slash its goals for 2024. Stepping up with funding for the several hundred million people without enough food to eat would alleviate a humanitarian disaster and provide evidence to skeptical countries that the international system still can work.

Half the world goes to the polls this year, from the United States and the United Kingdom to India and Mexico. Pervasive distrust of governments and their promises is a ubiquitous issue, and we see every day that the idea of an international community is becoming an oxymoron. The conventional wisdom is that foreign policy falls by the wayside as politicians turn their focus to campaigning and to domestic issues that will win them votes.

We dare to hope that historians will look back at this week's meetings as a moment when global leaders seriously addressed global challenges. The problem is not primarily intellectual. Blueprints like that of the G20 expert group we chaired on strengthening the MDB system abound. It is a problem of finding the political will to take on the most fundamental issues facing humanity.

Lawrence H. Summers was US Secretary of the Treasury (1999-2001), Chief Economist of the World Bank (1991-93), and Director of the US

OP-ED

By Mariana Mazzucato
and Fausto Gernone

Governments Must Shape AI's Future

LONDON - Last December, the European Union set a global precedent by finalizing the Artificial Intelligence Act, one of the world's most comprehensive sets of AI rules. Europe's landmark legislation could signal a broader trend toward more responsive AI policies. But while regulation is necessary, it is insufficient. Beyond imposing restrictions on private AI companies, governments must assume an active role in AI development by designing systems and shaping markets for the common good.

To be sure, AI models are evolving rapidly. When EU regulators released the first draft of the AI Act in April 2021, they hailed it as "future-proof," only to be left scrambling to update the text in response to the release of ChatGPT a year and a half later. But regulatory efforts are not in vain. For example, the law's ban on AI in biometric policing will likely remain pertinent, regardless of advances in the technology. Moreover, the risk frameworks contained in the AI Act will help policymakers guard against some of the technology's most dangerous uses. While AI will develop faster than policy, the law's fundamental principles will not need to change - though more flexible regulatory tools will be needed to tweak and update rules.

But thinking of the state as only a regulator misses the larger point. Innovation is not just some serendipitous market phenomenon. It has a direction that depends on the conditions in which it emerges, and public policymakers can influence these conditions. The rise of a dominant technological design or business model is the result of a power struggle between various actors - corporations, governmental bodies, academic institutions - with conflicting interests and divergent priorities. Reflecting this struggle, the resulting technology may be more or less centralized, more or less proprietary, and so forth.

The markets that form around new technologies follow the same pattern, with important distributive implications. As the software pioneer Mitch Kapor puts it, "Architecture is politics." More than regulation, a technology's design and surrounding infrastructure dictate who can do what with it, and who benefits. For governments, ensuring that transformational innovations produce inclusive and sustainable growth is less about fixing markets, and more about shaping and co-creating them. When governments contribute to innovation through bold, strategic, mission-oriented investments, they can create new markets and crowd-in the private sector.

In the case of AI, the task of directing innovation is currently dominated by large private corporations, leading to an infrastructure that serves insiders' interests and exacerbates economic inequality. This reflects a longstanding problem. Some of the technology firms that have benefited the most from public support - such as Apple and Google - have also been among those accused of using their international operations to avoid paying taxes. These unbalanced, parasitic relationships between big firms and the state now risk being further entrenched by AI, which promises to reward capital while reducing the returns to labor.

The companies developing generative AI are already at the center of debates about extractive behaviors, owing to their unfettered use of copyrighted text, audio, and images to train their models. By centralizing value within their own services, they will reduce value flows to the artists whom they rely on. As with social media, the incentives are aligned for rent extraction, whereby dominant intermediaries amass profits at others' expense. Today's dominant platforms, such as Amazon and Google, exploited their position as gatekeepers by using their algorithms to extract ever larger fees ("algorithmic attention rents") for access to users. Once Google and Amazon became one big "payola" scheme, information quality deteriorated, and value was extracted from the ecosystem of websites, producers, and app developers the platforms relied on. Today's AI systems could take a similar route: value extraction, insidious monetization, and deteriorating information quality.

Governing generative AI models for the common good will require mutually beneficial partnerships, oriented around shared goals and the creation of public, rather than only private, value. This will not be possible with redistributive and regulatory states that act only after the fact; we need entrepreneurial states capable of establishing pre-distributive structures that will share risks and rewards ex ante. Policymakers should focus on understanding how platforms, algorithms, and generative AI create and extract value, so that they can create the conditions - such as equitable design rules - for a digital economy that rewards value creation.

Mind Your History

The internet is a good example of a technology that has been designed around principles of openness and neutrality. Consider the principle of "end-to-end," which ensures that the internet operates like a neutral network responsible for data delivery. While the content being delivered from computer to computer may be private, the code is managed publicly. And while the physical infrastructure needed to access the internet is private, the original design ensured that, once online, the resources for innovation on the network are freely available.

This design choice, coordinated through the early work of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (among other organizations), became a guiding principle for the development of the internet, allowing for flexibility and extraordinary innovation in the public and private sector. By envisioning and shaping new domains, the state can establish markets and direct growth, rather than just incentivizing or stabilizing it.

It is hard to imagine that private enterprises developing the internet in the absence of government involvement would have adhered to equally inclusive principles. Consider the history of telephone technology. The government's role was predominantly regulatory, leaving innovation largely in the hands of private monopolies. Centralization not only hampered the pace of innovation but also limited the broader societal benefits that could have emerged.

For example, in 1955, AT&T persuaded the Federal Communications Commission to ban a device designed to reduce noise on telephone receivers, claiming exclusive rights to network enhancements. The same kind of monopolistic control could have relegated the internet to being merely a niche instrument for a select group of researchers, rather than the universally accessible and transformative technology it has become.

Likewise, the transformation of GPS from a military tool to a universally beneficial technology highlights the need to govern innovation for the common good. Initially designed by the US Department of Defense to coordinate military assets, public access to GPS signals was

OPINION

By Hippolyte Fofack

The Way Out of Africa's Debt Doom Loop

CAMBRIDGE - "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others," George Orwell famously wrote in *Animal Farm*, his allegory of Stalinism. But Orwell's maxim could just as easily apply to the sovereign-debt crisis in Africa. Low-income African countries have the smallest share of global public debt but are more likely to be in debt distress or at high risk of it.

This paradox reflects a dysfunctional international financial system. Unlike advanced economies, which have highly developed local-currency bond markets, African countries are subject to prohibitively high interest rates and often cannot borrow from international investors in their own currency (the "original sin" of sovereign-debt markets). Instead, over 80% of African countries' external debt is denominated in dollars or euros, which heightens their vulnerability to monetary-policy changes by a handful of systemically important central banks - and thus to a "debt doom loop" that only exacerbates their debt burdens.

Unless the policymakers convening next week for the annual Spring Meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund pursue reforms that address the inequities in the global financial system, a few privileged countries will continue to be more equal than others. Inaction would have negative consequences for macroeconomic stability, debt sustainability, global growth, and income convergence, and could undermine the World Bank's institutional credibility as it embarks on a new mission "to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet."

Amid increasing financial volatility, supply-chain vulnerabilities, and inflationary pressures, many African countries have already adopted difficult and unpopular policies - including removal of government subsidies and aggressive interest-rate hikes, despite widespread poverty and Great Depression-levels of unemployment - in a bid to escape the debt doom loop and foster macroeconomic stability.

For example, in Nigeria, where unemployment currently hovers around 30%, the central bank recently raised its main lending rate by 400 basis points, to 22.75%, to bolster the naira and tame inflation, stoked by exchange-rate pass-through resulting from the naira's sharp depreciation against the dollar. This exchange-rate depreciation - which increases debt-service costs - has been further exacerbated by capital outflows, with investors chasing higher relative returns following interest-rate hikes by the US Federal Reserve. The sub-investment grade of African sovereigns has further heightened the challenges of managing the debt doom loop. In fact, most African countries suffered large-scale procyclical downgrades at the height of the pandemic, which only further curtailed their access to global finance, considering the cliff effect. This, in turn, has raised refinancing risks and increased the likelihood of default.

The few African countries that could still tap capital markets faced significantly higher borrowing costs. An analysis of bond yields in 2022-23 shows that the borrowing rates for African countries (11.6% on average) are almost twice as high as rates for countries in Asia and Oceania (6.5%), nearly four times higher than in the US (3.1%), and eight times higher than in Germany (1.5%). These growth-crushing and default-driven borrowing rates set unrealistic expectations for return on investment. Given these figures, it is unsurprising that Africa has suffered from financial repression for decades.

Africa's most recent debt doom loop began at the end of the commodity super-cycle in 2014-15, which led to widening fiscal and current-account deficits and rising external liabilities. Emergency government relief measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated this trend, pushing debt levels to new highs. From 2019 to 2020, the number of African countries with public debt exceeding 60% of GDP - considered to be a threshold for sustainability - increased sharply, from 18 to 27, while public debt on the continent (both domestic and external) reached \$1.8 trillion in 2022, up 183% from 2010.

But that still pales in comparison to the total debt of advanced economies such as France and Italy, both of which owe more than \$3 trillion each. The European Union's combined national government debt stood at \$14.6 trillion in September 2023, while the US owes \$34 trillion. Africa's debt-to-GDP ratio was 62.5% at the end of 2022, far below the global average (92.4%) and well below that of the US (121.4%) and Japan (261.3%). Moreover, Africa's interest payments-to-revenue ratio - a key metric for assessing debt-servicing capacity - has doubled since the early 2010s and is now around four times the ratio in advanced economies, largely because of default-driven interest rates. Debt service has become the largest item in many governments' budgets, with interest payments projected to consume nearly 40% of Nigeria's revenue this year.

These shifts in the composition of public spending have reduced fiscal space, preventing governments from addressing critical social and environmental challenges and expanding growth-enhancing public investments. This is especially damaging for Africa, given that the continent has immense development needs and is already contending with widespread poverty and unemployment, escalating climate emergencies, and conflict and insecurity.

Moreover, the region has long suffered from a chronic infrastructure deficit that has impeded structural transformation to sustain heightened exposure to global volatility and narrowed governments' capacity to crowd in private capital to diversify the sources of growth and reduce the imbalance between debt and exports.

Ethiopia - the latest African country to default on its debt - illustrates how the massive inequalities built into the international financial architecture have subjected African sovereigns and corporate entities to punishing borrowing costs. Although Ethiopia has one of the lowest post-pandemic debt-to-GDP ratios (33.8%), the combination of prohibitively high interest rates and the sharp currency depreciation has dramatically increased its external debt burden.

Given Africa's remarkably small share of global public debt, the continent's mounting debt crisis attests to the underlying problem: the lack of affordable financing. Providing African countries with the fiscal space to meet growth and development objectives requires fixing the global financial system. Although urgent, this is hardly a new idea: French President Emmanuel Macron made the case for "fairer financing rules" for African economies at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, while recent summits and initiatives have called on multilateral development banks to increase financing capacity.

But the big question remains: Are all countries equal, or are some countries more equal than others? Whether the World Bank can fulfill its new mission will largely depend on the answer.

COMMENTARY

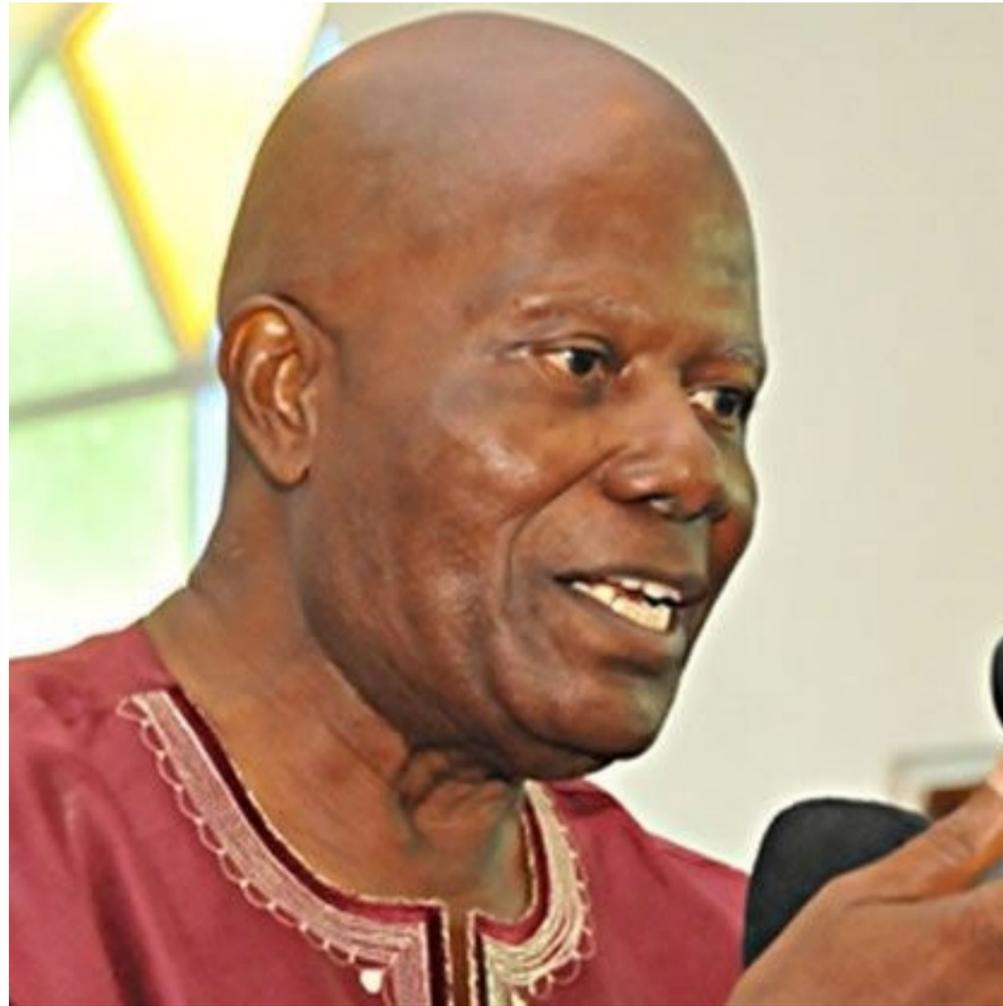
By: Togba-Nah Tipoteh

Help People You Do Not Know

On Friday, April 12, 2024, National Fast and Prayer Day in Liberia and the day of the unconstitutional change of government in Liberia, the Memorial Service for Cllr. Emmanuel Berry was held in the Fendall Community where he lived and built a school and a church. Cllr. Berry was eighty-seven years of age, having been born in 1937 and passed away in 2024.

The true story is told about the freeing of a prisoner from the Monrovia Central Prison by Cllr. Emmanuel Berry, who did not know the prisoner. On one of his usual visits to the Monrovia Central Prison to attending to the problems of the prisoners, one of the prisoners held on to the attire of Cllr. Berry tightly. pleading with him to secure his release from the prison. Cllr. Berry went to the Court and secured the release of the prisoner through the Rule of Law.

The true story goes on to point out that during the Civil War in Liberia, a Son of Cllr. Berry was about to be executed but one of the executioners, a rebel group leader, recognized the Son and said that he, the rebel leader, would execute him because the Son had killed many innocent people. So, the rebel leader took the Son away to be executed. On the way, the rebel leader



whispered into the ear of the Son and told him to run away as fast as he could because his Father, Cllr. Berry, was a good man who released him from the Monrovia Central Prison although he did not know him.

The freed Son is alive and well today as you can see him and hear him speaking on behalf of the Cllr. Berry Family at the Memorial Service. Although Cllr. Berry has passed away, his works shall not pass away. From the Tributes of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Liberia and other Churches in Africa, the Supreme Court of Liberia, the Liberian National Bar Association, the Movement for Justice in Africa (MOJA), the Liberian People's Party (LPP) and global entities, one can observe that the works of Cllr. Emmanuel Berry shall not pass away. His works are characterized by his honesty. humility and integrity. His works remain protected by his Darling Wife Martha and the Berry Family who continue the Berry Tradition of serving people although they do not know the people.

It is through this service to people that the prevailing unfair electoral system is being transformed into the enduring fair electoral system. It is only through this transformation that persons with good records can get elected to bring in the system of Justice, the indispensable ingredient for Peace and Progress in Liberia and in any other country.

SUP urges intensification

Starts from page 7

suffering", he said.

Speaking on the celebration of the Martyrs Day, Mr. Kanneh stated that be it known to all, however, that the declaration of Progressive Martyrs Day by the leadership of the Liberian progressive community was not meant to be a mere anti-government activity.

Rather, he argued it was intended to remember and appreciate progressive martyrs' commendable contribution to democratic struggles and continually build a platform for educating, informing, directing, and guiding progressive struggles for democratic change in Liberia.

He also pointed out that it is meant to organize activities for building awareness so that the Liberian society could no longer witness the massacre of well-meaning fighters for progressive social change, and it's also meant to encourage governments to

perform in accordance with the wishes of the masses.

"So, as we carry the historical scars of struggle on our backs and bear the pains of struggle in our hearts, we will never get unnecessarily angry. Yet, we memorialize and celebrate the progressive martyrs because we want Liberia and the world to know our struggle's singular most important position. That is, our vow is strongly pillared in the unwavering commitment that, in prosecuting our people's struggle for genuine and authentic democracy, we shall remain unapologetically uncompromising", he concluded. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Margibi Superintendent

Starts from page 7

She supported Boakai on one of the parties that collaborated with the UP in 2023.

She is criticized by some UPists in the county who accuse her of doing nothing during the run-off elections in Boakai's interest but abstained completely from the campaign after losing.

There are currently folks in the county who have been expressing opposition to her appointment and threatening to protest.

She is yet to be confirmed by the Liberian

Senate but still some Margibians think that her confirmation is delayed due to issues related to her that are being handled behind the scene. Immediately following her nomination, there was debate about her temperament. Some said she may have a lot of people incarcerated for speaking against her, while others think she would not do such a thing. Editing by Jonathan Browne

SURVEY NOTICE

April 8, 2024

The Public is hereby notified that, the undersigned Registered and Licensed Surveyor has been duly authorized by Administrator Vaani O. Baker of the Intestate Estate of the Late Christian Baker to conduct a re-survey of a parcel of Land containing one lot.

The Land in question is situated opposite the John F. Kennedy Medical Center, 22nd St., Sinkor, Montserrado County, Liberia.

Said survey will commence on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the hour 10:30 AM.

Therefore, all adjacent property owners and persons interested in the said survey should be present with his/her Deed(s), Diagram(s) and any relevant legal document(s) they may have, accompanied by their Technical Surveyor(s) to substitute their claims to avoid future land dispute.

This Notice should claim the attention of the following individuals:

1. Her Honor Jamesetta Howard-Wolokolie, Associate Justice, Supreme Court of Liberia
2. Madam Mercy Mulbah
3. The Roland Family
4. The Scott Family
5. Mr. Alfred G. Troyah
6. Mr. Ben Gartay
7. The Russia Family
8. The Late William Howard
9. The Community Chairperson
10. The Nearest Police Station.

Signed: 
Kempson S. Murray, Sr.
Reg. & Lic. Land Surveyor

Contact: 0777-750-002

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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Police arrest man for chopping nephew

The Bible has been emphatic about the rage of a jealous man when it questions who can stand his rage. This is the case with a Man who chopped his nephew after accusing him of loving his wife.

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

Pleebo, Liberia, April 16, 2024 - Police in Pleebo, Maryland

an affair with his wife, Esther Taylor, but he dismisses the allegation as untrue.

According to him, he sees the woman as his aunt and

accusation, which left him with no option but to chop Prince's arm with a sharp cutlass.

The victim was rushed to a local health center but laments that he is not receiving proper medication because of financial difficulty and lack of drugs at the only government hospital in his area.

However, he expresses gratitude for support received from community dwellers.

Meanwhile, Esther Taylor, the suspect's wife, says she regrets the incident and reveals that jealousy is her husband's usual habit, which needs serious attention.

She also discloses this is not the first time her husband has accused her of having extramarital affairs, adding she got injured by her husband on such basis that took him to jail for almost seven months in River Gee County.

"My husband and I have been together since 2001, and we had nine children, but unfortunately, one passed away. But he doesn't trust me at all because he has accused me several times. I'm calling on the Liberia National Police to investigate and place him in jail so that he will learn from his mistakes," Madam Taylor explains.

Suspect Francis Taylor is currently in police custody, awaiting investigation. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Suspect Francis S. Taylor

County Electoral District #2 mother and would never have arrested a suspect believed to be in his early 40s, for allegedly chopping the arm of his nephew, Prince G. Nyemah in Barraken town.

The suspect, identified as Francis S. Taylor, was arrested on Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Narrating the entire ordeal to The NEW DAWN, Victim Prince Nyemah says he was gruesomely attacked by his uncle, Francis Taylor, who had accused him (Prince) of having

harbor such thoughts about her.

"I am innocent of all these allegations; I have always seen her as a mother, and I can't have any romantic feelings toward her," he says.

Victim Prince continues that despite his explanations, his uncle, Suspect Taylor, insists that he (Prince Nyemah) is guilty, disclosing that he (Taylor) has evidence in his possession to substantiate his

AMEU Pres. lauds U.S. Government for supports

Americans' support for the African Methodist Episcopal University has been recognized, as the University recently applauded America for continuous support.

Monrovia, Liberia, April 16, 2024 - The President of the African Methodist Episcopal University, Alvin E. Attah, has lauded the United States Government, through the U.S. Embassy here, for its continuous support of the University and the education system in Liberia.

President Attah recounted the construction of Hatcher Hall, which was funded with a grant of 1.6 Million United States Dollars provided through the instrumentality of an American, James Clyburn; the installation of Wi-Fi in the building housing the College of Education; and AMEU's partnerships with several US-based tertiary learning institutions as contributions made by the U.S. Government and People to Liberia.

At the same time, he named the US support for the Institute of the Blind through the Rotary Club of Monrovia and the USAID TESTS Project as testaments to the U.S. Government's commitment to Liberia's education system.

According to him, the USAID TESTS Project has led to a hundred percent increase in enrollment in the College of Education, something he indicated is a boost to improving the quality of learning in Liberian schools.

Also speaking, Catherine Rodriguez, the Charge D'Affaires of the US Embassy in Monrovia, said the dedication of the shelf is a great opportunity for students to acquire

knowledge that they would not otherwise acquire in classrooms.

She said the installation of the Internet will ensure students have unhindered access to information on different cultures and societies from the World Wide Web.

They spoke on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at the formal dedication of the American Shelf. The American shelf is a space created at select institutions worldwide and contains a collection of books and Literature that offer access to resources about the US and its culture. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Functioning supply chain key to healthcare delivery

-Deputy Finance Minister Brunson

Liberia's deputy minister for budget, underscores need for a functional supply chain for effective healthcare delivery here.

By Lewis S. Teh

Monrovia, Liberia, April 16, 2024 -Deputy Minister for Budget at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Madam Tanneh G. Brunson has told stakeholders in Liberia that a well-functioning supply chain is the backbone of healthcare delivery system.

"A well-functioning supply chain is the backbone of our healthcare delivery system, and improving its efficiency and effectiveness is paramount to achieving better health outcomes for our people", she said.

Minister Brunson spoke at the launch of a "Campaign to Improve Supply Chain for Donated Medicines" organized by USAID Liberia Civil Society

in the fact that donation of medicines for treatment represents one of the largest public health initiatives globally.

She reported that between 2011 and 2023, over 27.7 billion tablets and vials of medicines have been delivered to countries for the implementation of treatment interventions such as mass drug administration and case management, through different donation mechanisms.

She noted that Supply Chain Technical Support Mechanisms are designed to fortify supply chains, and aligning this initiative with best practices, will not only enhance delivery of critical preventive medicines but also significantly reduce wastage, and ensure timely availability for mass drug administration.

She described the launch as a



Madam Tanneh G. Brunson

Activity (CSA) Project in collaboration with the Civil Society Health Coalition in Monrovia.

Deputizing for Finance Minister Boimah Kamara, she thanked USAID Liberia for their unwavering dedication and commitment to enhancing healthcare delivery system in Liberia.

"Your collaborative efforts underscore the power of partnership in driving positive change and improving the lives of our citizens", she said.

"Ladies and gentlemen, we are aware of the challenges we face in providing quality healthcare services to our citizens, particularly in the context of limited resources and infrastructure."

Minister Brunson disclosed that the availability and accessibility of medicines play a crucial role in determining success in healthcare interventions, stressing that addressing gaps in the supply chain is imperative, for overcoming these challenges.

According to her, the significance of this initiative lies

significant milestone in their collective efforts to strengthen Liberia's Healthcare System and ensure equitable access to essential medicines for all.

At the same time, she emphasizes that this strategic partnership between government institutions, civil society organizations, and international donors exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and shared responsibility in tackling complex healthcare issues.

By working together, we can leverage our respective strengths and resources to address systemic barriers and drive sustainable change in our healthcare system, she added.

Today, as we launch the "Campaign to Improve Supply Chain for Donated Medicines," I call upon all stakeholders to rally behind this important initiative to maximize efficiencies of medicine donation programs."

She called for a joint collaboration to streamline supply chain processes, strengthen accountability mechanisms, and ensure efficient distribution of medicines to those who need them most. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

SUP urges intensification of struggle

Margibi Superintendent holds consultation in U.S.

-for economic democracy

By Lincoln G. Peters
Monrovia, Liberia, April 16, 2024 Dozens of Progressive devotees, particularly veterans and non-veterans, of the University of Liberia campus-based Student Unification Party (SUP) are calling on Liberians to intensify

economic justice is nothing but a mockery of the masses," he urged.
Martyrs Day is an appreciation and celebration of the infamous April 14, 1979, Rice Riot, which became a turning point in a new dawn in Liberia's political, economic, and social history.

ARREST Agenda. In that spirit, we celebrate the progressive martyrs, bearing in mind that in the struggle for political freedom and economic justice in Liberia, the greatest price has been paid by the progressives," he stated.

He noted that as newer forms of struggle are taking shape, 2024 is a year in which the conservatives are getting into formation while the liberal opportunists are designing new plans of deception to cajole the suffering masses.

The former student activist added that unity and more cooperation in the progressive community have become urgent calls and matters of national obligation.

"We, the progressives, remain committed to the struggle for Liberia's political, economic, cultural, and social betterment. We remain committed to the struggle for environmental protection and effective natural resource governance."

He reminded Liberians that they remain committed to the struggle for equality, social justice, and fair play for all men and women under the rule of law.

"We remain committed to the promotion of Pan-African solidarity. Basically, these sum up the ideological blueprint or plan of our struggle for national transformation and the redemption of our people from poverty, illiteracy, disease, marginalization, and mass



Student militants commemorate Martyrs' Day with firing speech.

the struggle for economic democracy and freedom in celebration of what they describe as Martyrs Day and Month 2024.

Reading a press statement at Palm Grove Cemetery in Central Monrovia, where they laid a wreath in memory of fallen veterans on Sunday, April 14, 2024, former Student Leader Mustapha Kanneh said it's time for Liberians to rise to address the economic situation affecting them and the nation.

"We contend that the time has come to intensify the struggle for economic democracy and social justice, as political freedom without

Kanneh noted that after close to five decades of painstaking efforts, gains of the progressive struggles for democratic change in Liberia have become irreversible.

According to the former SUP chairman, political democracy without economic democracy amounts to deceiving the people that they are participants in the democratic process when, in actual fact, they are not beneficiaries of the gains in the process.

"Thus, the progressive community welcomes and urges the 'Rescue' government to implement the people-centered content of the

▶ CONT'D page5

Starts from back page

Ballots for Nimba and Grand Gedeh arrive

while training for electoral supervisors in all locations ended on Monday, 15 April 2024.

She also reveals that Polling and Counting training for poll workers starts today, 16 April, and ends on 21 April 2024.

The Commission says the political campaign for the 2024 Senatorial By-Election in Nimba County and District #1 Representative By-Election in Grand Gedeh commenced on April 4, 2024, and is progressing peacefully so far. The NEC Boss revealed that the campaign will end on 20 April 2024 at midnight, adding that the Commission reminds all candidates to continue to conduct their campaigns peacefully and follow the Campaign Guidelines regulated by the NEC. The NEC says accreditation tags for party agents will be issued at the Commission's offices in Nimba and Grand Gedeh beginning Wednesday, 17 April 2024. All observer institutions, including the media, wishing to observe

the by-elections have until Thursday, 18 April 2024, to request accreditation.

On March 22, 2024, the Commission formally launched civic and voter education activities for the by-elections simultaneously in both counties, which coincided with the distribution of CVE materials to citizens. However, prior to the launch, all nine CVE Cells in Nimba and the One Cell in District #1 Grand Gedeh were activated to educate and inform citizens in both counties about the by-elections. More CVE and Gender outreach materials (posters, flyers, t-shirts, caps, banners, etc. and NEC personnel continued to be deployed to the two counties to support outreach activities.

In Nimba, the Commission is organizing the polls for 307,254 registered voters at 262 precincts, comprising

736 polling places. It requires 3,846 polling staff to man the polls. District#1, Grand Gedeh, has 20,407 registered voters and 11 precincts comprising 46 polling places. This requires 243 polling staff poised for deployment immediately following training.

Madam Browne Lansanah indicated that there are four senatorial candidates in Nimba, all of whom are males, and Grand Gedeh District#1 has fifteen candidates (12 males and 3 females).

The Commission says it continues to work with all stakeholders, candidates, observer groups, and security apparatus to ensure the successful conduct of the by-elections and to update Liberians regularly.

The government has provided US\$ 2,026,588.50 to conduct both polls, according to the NEC Boss. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Superintendent-designate Victoria Worlobah Duncan is said to be mending fences in America to consolidate position before her confirmation hearing.

Margibi, Liberia, April 16, 2024 - A report reaching the NEW DAWN says that while she is yet to be confirmed, the recently designated Superintendent for Margibi County, Attorney Victoria Worlobah Duncan, had gone to meet some top supporters and influencers of the Unity Party based in the United States, who oppose her appointment by President Joseph Boakai.

According to an insider speaking on anonymity, the purpose of her trip is to calm things down with individuals who also have a serious interest in and a say in who becomes the county's next superintendent.

Rev. Alexander Bango Collins, a prominent Liberian from

was centered on how she and folks in America associated with the UP can cordially work together, considering their interests from both sides (Liberia and America).

The NEW DAWN also learns that she fears the same people will influence the President to withdraw her nomination.

Meanwhile, following their meeting, which was also attended by the former Mayor of Isanti City in the U.S., Jeff Johnson, who signed a sister city relationship with Unification City in Lower Margibi, Rev. Collins posted that the meeting was requested by Attorney Duncan, but provides no detail; instead, he describes their gathering as "Great, patriotic, development-oriented, and spirit-led conversations."

On his official Facebook page, where he posted photos from the



Rev. Alexander Bango Collins (right) Madam Duncan (middle) and former mayor Jeff Johnson of Isanti City (Left).

Margibi who currently lives and works in the United States, is the head of the folks Madam Duncan met with.

He contested the 2020 special senatorial election in Margibi but lost and subsequently supported President Boakai's presidential bid.

Our investigation also discovered that he and others in the US had contacted a trusted person in Margibi to do background checks on certain individuals that they were considering recommending to the President, but their expectations didn't work.

The person also recommended the name of the country's gender coordinator to them as someone who is not controversial or associated with corruption in public service.

Rev. Collins and his team clarified that anyone with a corruption record should not be appointed to the post. However, this paper has not discovered any corruption linking Attorney Victoria Worlobah, a former assistant superintendent for development.

The discussion, as gathered,

meeting, he writes: "Elder Rebecca and I honored Attorney Victoria Worlobah Duncan's request to meet with us in our home. President Joseph N. Boakai has nominated attorney Worlobah Duncan to serve as Superintendent of Margibi County.

We had Rev. Dr. Francis and Pastor Christine Tabla join us for the meeting. Also, Isanti City's former mayor, Jeff Johnson, who signed a sister-city relationship with Unification City, Maribi County, attended the meeting. Great patriotic, development-oriented, and spirit-led conversations." She has just returned to the country following the meeting in the U.S.

However, there have been so much of controversies and attacks among some of the folks who expressed interest in becoming superintendent, prior to her nomination as superintendent.

Madam Duncan is a former representative candidate, who once served as a magistrate in Margibi and as an assistant superintendent for development under former President Sirleaf.

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Français

Le meurtre de Tolbert continue de nuire au développement du Liberia, selon le fils de l'ancien président assassiné

Éditorial

Le gouvernement libérien doit agir pour stopper l'extraction de sable noir

Cela fait plus de quatre décennies que le président de l'époque, Tolbert, et certains de ses responsables ont été assassinés le 12 avril 1980 pour corruption et abus

«Cela fait exactement 44 ans que ce grand mal a été infligé à l'État. Assurément, ceux qui ne peuvent pas le voir, à part ceux qui ne veulent pas le voir, savent qu'un nuage noir s'est abattu sur nous», a-t-il déclaré au

été renversé sur des accusations de corruption endémique et d'abus de pouvoir, entre autres.

À la suite du coup d'État, le sergent-chef Samuel Kanyon Doe des Forces armées du Liberia (AFL) a pris le pouvoir.

Mais une dizaine d'années plus tard, en septembre 1990, Doe sera assassiné de manière horrible par d'autres rebelles opposés à son régime, plongeant à nouveau le pays dans des années de carnage.

«En fait, le 22 avril 1980, c'était littéralement un nuage très sombre qui planait sur ce pays depuis le 12 avril 1980, date de l'assassinat du président Tolbert», a-t-il raconté en larmes.

Pour de nombreux Libériens, le coup d'État du 12 avril 1980 a été un changement de garde nécessaire et une occasion indispensable de rectifier les erreurs du passé.

Pourtant, cette journée historique continue de rappeler aux Libériens, en particulier aux familles des défunts, le meurtre barbare de ces responsables. Le Dr Tolbert a lu une déclaration spéciale sur la tombe lors de leur visite du week-end au cimetière de Palm Grove. Il a déploré que

Le gouvernement libérien, par l'intermédiaire du ministère des Mines et de l'Énergie, semble garder le silence sur l'extraction, l'exportation ou la contrebande de sable noir du Liberia par une compagnie d'extraction de sable chinoise.

Des images vidéo récentes obtenues par le NEW DAWN montrent des centaines de sacs de sable noir collectés par des mineurs chinois de Virginia, dans le comté de Montserrado, prêts à l'exportation.

Dans la vidéo, un habitant de la communauté de Waterside, en Virginie, tire la sonnette d'alarme : des tonnes de sacs de sable noir sont exportées du Liberia chaque mois par des mineurs chinois. Ces derniers se livrent également à l'extraction de sable de plage, destiné à la vente aux personnes et aux institutions du secteur de la construction.

Or, l'extraction de sable noir à des fins d'exportation soulève des questions au sein de la population quant à savoir si les autorités du ministère des Mines et de l'Énergie sont au courant et ont donné leur accord pour une telle exportation.

Les autorités du ministère des Mines et de l'Énergie affirment enquêter sur la question. Cependant, on observe des lenteurs ou un manque total d'enthousiasme, alors que les plaintes des riverains se font de plus en plus pressantes.

Le sable noir, également appelé sable de magnétite ou sable de minerai de fer, est un minéral lourd que l'on trouve couramment dans les zones côtières. L'exploitation du sable noir, qui peut sembler banale à première vue, a de nombreuses applications importantes dans de nombreuses industries.

Les experts soulignent l'importance du sable noir dans l'industrie de la construction. En raison de sa teneur élevée en fer, il est utilisé comme additif dans la production de béton et d'asphalte. L'ajout de sable noir améliore la résistance et la durabilité de ces matériaux, les rendant plus résistants à l'usure. De plus, ses propriétés magnétiques le rendent utile pour la fabrication d'aimants utilisés dans les projets de construction.

Le sable noir joue également un rôle important dans la production d'acier car il contient des quantités importantes d'oxyde de fer. Le minerai de fer extrait du sable noir est une matière première essentielle pour la sidérurgie.

Grâce à des techniques de fusion et d'affinage, le minerai de fer est transformé en acier, largement utilisé dans le développement des infrastructures, la construction automobile et de nombreuses autres industries. Les propriétés uniques du sable noir en font un excellent milieu pour les systèmes de filtration de l'eau.

Les riverains et les propriétaires des terrains sur lesquels les Chinois opèrent illégalement qualifient ces agissements de désastreux et appellent le gouvernement à se «réveiller» et à protéger la zone du pillage. Les ravages environnementaux causés par l'extraction de sable noir suscitent de graves inquiétudes économiques parmi les populations locales.

Selon eux, les activités de ces mineurs illégaux ne font pas seulement détruire leurs terres, mais ont également un impact dévastateur sur l'environnement, ce qui, déplorent-ils, constitue une parodie de l'État, car le dragage sillonne la mangrove, zone humide pourtant préservée pour le bénéfice environnemental du Liberia.

Nous pensons que cette situation est importante et nécessite l'attention immédiate du gouvernement afin d'éviter que notre population ne se fasse voler ses richesses naturelles en plein jour, pendant que quelques fonctionnaires assis quelque part en profitent aux dépens de la majorité.



de pouvoir. Monrovia, 15 avril 2024 : Le Dr Richard V. Tolbert, fils du président libérien assassiné, le Dr William Richard Tolbert, déclare que l'assassinat de son père a provoqué un nuage noir qui continue de nuire à la croissance et au progrès du Liberia.

cimetière de Palm Grove le 12 avril 2024. Le 12 avril 2024, les familles de Tolbert et des 11 autres responsables tués lors du coup d'État de 1980 se sont rendus sur leurs tombes pour leur rendre hommage.

Le 19e président libérien a été assassiné de sang-froid dans son appartement au Palais exécutif, et son gouvernement a

▶ CONT'D page 9

L'USAID accuse les pharmacies libériennes

Selon l'USAID, 90 % des pharmacies vendent des médicaments volés.

L'Agence des États-Unis pour le développement international (USAID) a indiqué que la vente de médicaments donnés par les pharmacies signifie que les médicaments ne sont disponibles que pour les patients qui ont assez d'argent pour les acheter.

L'évaluation 2023 de l'Agence des États-Unis pour le développement international (USAID) a inculpé la plupart des pharmacies ici pour avoir prétendument vendu des médicaments volés.

Dévoilant le scandale à Monrovia ce week-end, le directeur de la mission de l'USAID, M. Jim Wright, a déclaré que l'évaluation avait révélé qu'environ 90 % des pharmacies vendaient des médicaments volés qui étaient donnés au Libéria.

M. Wright a déclaré que cela signifiait que les médicaments n'étaient disponibles que pour les patients qui avaient assez d'argent pour les acheter. « En fait, une évaluation menée l'année dernière a montré

que bien plus de 90 % des pharmacies au Libéria vendent des médicaments volés », a déclaré M. Wright.

« C'est inacceptable. Cela signifie que les médicaments ne sont disponibles que pour les patients qui ont assez d'argent pour les acheter », a-t-il déclaré. M. Wright a pris la parole lors du lancement de la « Campagne pour améliorer la chaîne d'approvisionnement des médicaments donnés », organisée par le projet d'activité de la société civile (ASC) de l'USAID Liberia, en collaboration avec la Coalition de la société civile pour la santé.

En raison de la vente présumée de médicaments volés par les pharmaciens, le chef de la mission de l'USAID a expliqué que les patients qui n'ont pas assez d'argent souffrent.

« C'est injuste et immoral. L'USAID s'est engagée à mettre fin à la corruption et à la mauvaise gestion au sein de la chaîne d'approvisionnement du secteur public pour les médicaments donnés et à stopper les ruptures de stocks de médicaments », a-t-il poursuivi. Selon lui, l'USAID ne

▶ CONT'D page 9



Français

Starts from page 8 **Le meurtre de Tolbert continue**

ce soit il y a exactement 44 ans qu'un grand mal ait été perpétré non seulement contre la famille Tolbert, mais aussi contre le destin et le peuple du Liberia.

Il a déclaré qu'à ceux qui n'ont pas encore reconnu le grand mal qui a été fait, "je ne peux que dire, je vous laisse à Dieu."

Aussi douloureux que ce jour ait été et soit encore pour beaucoup, il a dit que chaque minute est fraîche dans leurs mémoires, comme si c'était hier.

"Nous disons que nous ne gardons aucune rancune dans nos cœurs contre nos ennemis passés ou présents", mais nous prions plutôt le Tout-Puissant avec toute la sincérité pour la levée de son jugement, s'il en existe un, contre les auteurs de ces actes iniques et cette nation", a souligné le Dr

Tolbert. En tant que famille, il a dit qu'ils demandaient pardon à Dieu pour ceux-là et pour tous les péchés et les péchés de ceux qui ont orchestré ces actes diaboliques. Il a prié pour que l'âme du président Tolbert et de tous ceux qui ont été tués avec lui lors du coup d'État du 12 avril 1980, y compris A.B. Tolbert et Varney Dempster ... trouvent un véritable repos et une paix perpétuelle dans la lumière. Il a également rappelé comment, le 12 avril 1975, le ministre des Finances Steve Tolbert est mort mystérieusement dans un accident d'avion.

"Et depuis 1980 environ, lorsque A. Benedict Tolbert et l'ancien directeur de la police Varney Dempster ont été sortis de leur cellule de prison la nuit et assassinés, leurs corps n'ont jamais été retrouvés", a-t-il déclaré.

Starts from page 8 **L'USAID accuse les**

peut pas à elle seule mettre fin à la corruption dans le secteur de la santé publique.

Au contraire, M. Wright a déclaré que les partenariats sont la clé pour surmonter ces défis, et chaque partie prenante a un rôle à jouer.

Il a indiqué que la Coalition de la société civile pour la santé avait déjà identifié les problèmes, ce qui les aide à comprendre ce qu'ils doivent faire pour améliorer le système de chaîne d'approvisionnement.

« Nous soutenons fièrement ces efforts par le biais de l'activité de la société civile de l'USAID. En fait, je voudrais prendre un moment pour reconnaître les organisations libériennes extraordinaires qui forment la Coalition », a déclaré M. Wright.

Les six OSC comprennent l'éducation sanitaire et les services sociaux communautaires, l'Institut de recherche et de développement efficaces et la Fondation Humanité Avant Tout.

Les autres sont l'Initiative de santé publique du Libéria, les Volontaires unis pour le développement et le Réseau des jeunes pour le changement positif.

M. Wright a déclaré au public que ces OSC avaient travaillé sans relâche pour surveiller les distributions, résoudre les problèmes, plaider pour des améliorations

du système et sensibiliser le public au fait que les médicaments donnés sont gratuits et ne doivent pas être vendus. M. Wright a qualifié le lancement de la campagne de moment pivot dans leurs efforts collectifs pour aborder un problème critique affectant la santé et le bien-être de chaque Libérien.

Il a profité de l'occasion pour remercier le gouvernement, soulignant la nécessité de reconnaître les efforts considérables des travailleurs de la santé libériens.

M. Wright a salué le travail inestimable des agents de santé communautaires au Libéria, ajoutant qu'ils jouent un rôle crucial dans la détection et le traitement de maladies comme le paludisme. Ils ont contribué au succès du Libéria en réduisant de moitié les cas de paludisme infantile, avec le soutien des États-Unis.

M. Wright a indiqué que dans le cadre de l'Initiative présidentielle contre le paludisme l'année dernière, des médicaments vitaux et d'autres fournitures médicales d'une valeur de 14 millions de dollars américains avaient été donnés au peuple libérien par l'USAID et le Fonds mondial de lutte contre le sida, la tuberculose et le paludisme.

Il a souligné que ces produits de santé essentiels réduisaient considérablement les décès évitables.

COMMENTAIRE

Par Daron Acemoglu

Sommes-nous préparés à la destruction créatrice de l'IA ?

BOSTON - L'antique concept chinois de yin et de yang témoigne de la tendance humaine à interpréter le monde qui nous environne par des archétypes de contraires imbriqués ; cette prédilection a inspiré diverses théories des cycles naturels appliquées aux phénomènes sociaux et économiques. Tout comme, Ibn Khaldoun, le grand philosophe arabe du Moyen Âge voyait s'inscrire dans l'essor d'un empire sa chute ultérieure, l'économiste Nikolai Kondratiev, au XXe siècle, affirmera que l'économie globale moderne se déploie sur des cycles longs, où la récession succède à l'expansion.

Mais aucune autre théorie n'a connu une aussi grande fortune que celle qui relie la destruction d'un ensemble de rapports de production à la création d'un autre, et qui remonte à Karl Marx. En 1913, l'économiste allemand Werner Sombart note : « De la destruction surgit un nouvel esprit de création. »

C'est à l'économiste autrichien Joseph Schumpeter qu'il revient d'avoir divulgué et étendu l'idée selon laquelle les innovations viennent sans cesse remplacer les technologies qui dominaient avant elles et renverser les vieux béhémoth industriels. L'idée schumpétérienne de « destruction créatrice » a beaucoup été utilisée dans les sciences sociales pour expliquer le procès de l'innovation et de ses conséquences. Ces analyses identifient aussi les tensions inhérentes au concept. Par exemple, la destruction porte-t-elle en elle la création ou bien n'est-elle que l'inévitable sous-produit de la création ? Ou encore, plus pertinemment peut-être, la destruction est-elle inévitable ?

En économie, les idées de Schumpeter forment le socle des théories de la croissance économique, du cycle de vie des produits et du commerce international. Mais au cours des dernières décennies, deux évolutions connexes ont propulsé la destruction créatrice à une gloire plus grande encore. La première revient au succès de librairie fulgurant du Dilemme de l'innovateur, de Clayton Christensen, professeur à la Harvard Business School, qui lance, dès 1997, l'idée d'« innovation disruptive ». Les innovations disruptives viennent d'entreprises qui adoptent des modèles économiques que les entreprises en place ont jugés sans intérêt, souvent parce qu'ils visent exclusivement les segments inférieurs du marché. Comme ces entreprises demeurent fidèles à leur modèle économique établi, elles passent à côté de la nouvelle « vague » technologique.

La seconde évolution tient au développement de la Silicon Valley, dont, dès le départ, les entrepreneurs ont fait de la « disruption » une stratégie de développement explicite. Google a entrepris de « disrupter » le modèle des moteurs de recherche sur internet, et Amazon, celui de la librairie, avant de s'étendre à presque tous les autres secteurs de la vente de détail. Puis est venu Facebook, avec son mantra : « Va vite et casse les codes » (« move fast and break things »). Les réseaux sociaux ont transformé tout d'un coup nos rapports sociaux, en un raccourci saisissant des deux termes : destruction et disruption.

L'attrait intellectuel de ces théories réside dans leur pouvoir de transformer en bénéfiques évidents les coûts apparents de la destruction et de la disruption. Mais si Schumpeter reconnaissait que la destruction était douloureuse et potentiellement dangereuse, les innovateurs disruptifs d'aujourd'hui n'y voient que des gagnants. Ce qui fait écrire à Marc Andreessen, capital-risqueur et ingénieur de la tech : « La croissance de la productivité, nourrie par la technologie, est le principal moteur de la croissance économique, de la croissance des salaires et de la création de nouvelles entreprises et de nouveaux emplois, à mesure que de la main-d'œuvre et du capital sont continuellement libérés pour faire des choses plus importantes et mieux valorisées qu'auparavant. »

Aujourd'hui, alors que les espoirs suscités par l'intelligence artificielle sont encore plus vifs que ne l'étaient ceux qu'avait permis le Facebook des débuts, nous ferions bien de réévaluer ces idées. Certes, l'innovation est parfois intrinsèquement disruptive, et le procès de création peut être aussi destructeur que le pensait Schumpeter. L'histoire montre que la résistance obstinée à la destruction créatrice mène à la stagnation économique. Mais il ne s'ensuit pas qu'il faille encenser la destruction. Nous ferions mieux, au contraire, de la considérer comme un coût, susceptible, parfois, d'être réduit, notamment grâce à l'action d'institutions rajeunies afin d'aider les laissés-pour-compte et, de temps à autre, d'encadrer le procès de changement technologique.

Prenons l'exemple de la mondialisation. Si elle génère d'importants bénéfices économiques, elle détruit aussi des emplois, des entreprises et des sources de revenus. Dès lors que nous magnifions ces coûts, nous n'allons pas envisager de les atténuer. Et nous pourrions pourtant faire beaucoup plus pour aider les entreprises touchées (qui peuvent investir pour se diversifier dans de nouveaux domaines), pour secourir celles et ceux qui ont perdu leur emploi (grâce à la formation continue et à la protection sociale), pour venir en aide aux collectivités dévastées.

Faute d'avoir émis ces nuances, nous avons ouvert la porte à un excès de destruction créatrice et de disruption, tel que nous l'a imposé la Silicon Valley au cours des dernières décennies. Si l'on considère l'avenir, trois principes devraient guider notre ligne de conduite, eu égard, notamment, à l'intelligence artificielle (IA).

En premier lieu, comme pour la mondialisation, il est de la plus haute importance d'aider celles et ceux qui en pâtissent, et cela ne saurait être considéré comme contingent. En deuxième lieu, nous ne devrions pas poser que la destruction est inévitable. Comme je l'ai déjà soutenu, l'IA ne conduit pas nécessairement à une destruction massive de l'emploi. Si elle n'est déployée qu'au nom de l'automation (comme le souhaitent nombre des géants de la Silicon Valley), la technologie ne fera que créer encore plus de misère pour les travailleuses et les travailleurs. Mais elle pourrait emprunter des voies différentes et plus séduisantes. Car il y a dans l'IA un immense potentiel de croissance de la productivité de la main-d'œuvre, à qui elle peut fournir une meilleure information et permettre d'exécuter des tâches plus complexes.

Le culte rendu à la destruction créatrice ne doit pas nous masquer ces scénarios plus prometteurs ni occulter que nous nous sommes engagés sur une route incertaine. Si le marché ne peut canaliser les énergies innovantes dans une direction socialement bénéficiaire, le procès démocratique et les politiques publiques peuvent y parvenir. Exactement comme on a vu de nombreux pays consentir des aides afin d'encourager encore plus d'innovation dans les énergies renouvelables, il est possible d'en faire plus pour atténuer les effets dommageables de l'IA et des technologies numériques.

Troisièmement, nous devons nous souvenir que les rapports sociaux et économiques sont excessivement complexes. Quand ils sont disruptés, toutes sortes de conséquences imprévues peuvent s'ensuivre. Facebook et les plateformes de réseaux sociaux n'ont pas eu l'intention d'empoisonner le discours public avec l'extrémisme, la désinformation et l'intoxication. Mais dans leur course à la disruption de nos modes de communication, elles sont demeurées fidèles à leurs principes de vitesse avant de chercher à se faire pardonner.

Nous avons instamment besoin d'accorder plus d'attention à la façon dont la nouvelle vague d'innovation disruptive pourrait affecter nos institutions sociales, démocratiques et civiques. Pour tirer le meilleur - et même le maximum - de la destruction créatrice, il nous faut établir l'équilibre idoine entre les politiques publiques d'encouragement de l'innovation et l'apport démocratique. Si nous confions la sauvegarde de nos institutions aux entrepreneurs de la tech, nous risquons une destruction plus importante que nous ne l'avions acceptée.

Traduit de l'anglais par François Boisvion

Daron Acemoglu, professeur d'économie au MIT, est co-auteur (avec Simon Johnson) de Power and Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle Over Technology and Prosperity (PublicAffairs, mai 2023, non traduit).

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LIBERIANS

DEBATE

Topic: Frequency of fire disasters

By Naneka Hoffman

The wave of fire disasters in homes and communities is drawing attention of many ordinary Liberians who government to intervene to save lives and property, as you may read below from a random view sampling.



Emmanuel Grauzian

people will connect their lines for four or five years before getting to LEC, and LEC current is very strong. To connect people on LEC, they need to do assessment. I believe that fire disaster is often caused by those illegal wires and improper connection of wires, so the issue of fire disaster LEC needs to see how best they can solve it. Moreover, some of the causes can be people leaving their Meters and electronic appliances on, while going to work or school, so when LEC comes with force, it leads to some of these causes. The government needs to put measures in place by doing public awareness in communities to educate people on how it is not good to leave Meters and electronic sets on with children in the home. This will help to cease frequent fire disasters in the country.

“For my own observation, the issue of fire disaster in Liberia is that LEC needs to be involved in community awareness, because we observed that many homes are being involved in illegal connections, which isn’t sometimes suitable. So I call LEC the last time that they should go in the community before connecting someone to assess the place, because if you observe, sometimes

“The fire disasters could be due to ignorant or carelessness of owners of property. It could be due to electrical shocks. Some ordinary people will light candles unattended, at the end of the day the house burns. The country needs more fire extinguishers. One awareness the National Fire Service should embark on is to ensure every home has one or two fire extinguishers, and to make it a law just the way every Liberian has national ID card. Every Liberian should have fire extinguishers in their home, whether it is a zinc house or concrete, they should have it there. Fire Service will also generate money and at the sometime save lives and



David N. Targbe

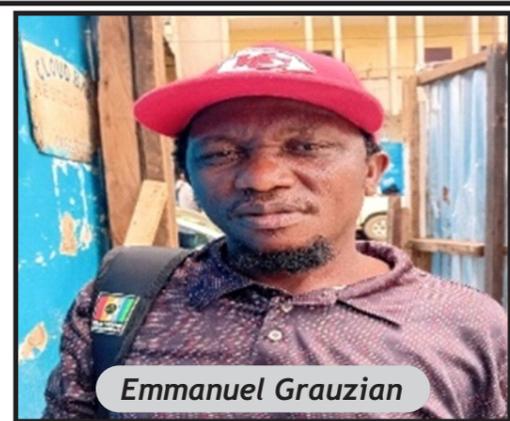
properties. Fire Service needs to do awareness on why it is important to have fire extinguishers in homes. Parents should also educate their children how to take care of electricity at home and about its danger. All these things should be taught to citizens and families at home then we will control the number of fire incidents we hear about.”



Emmanuel Tamba

Liberia has only three fire trucks in the entire country, so it is unfortunate and they need to be proactive with more programs to halt frequent fire disasters in the country. Looking at causes of fire in the country is due to high poverty rate, leading to illegal connections in communities. All of these illegal connections today are causing fire in the country; some people buy appliances they don’t know how to use. So LEC and the government need to do more awareness in communities, on the radio and even in schools to stop this frequent fire disasters.”

“The incident is an issue and I think the government needs to stress on more budget allocation for the Fire Service. I listened to the Director on Okay FM; he said the Fire Service in



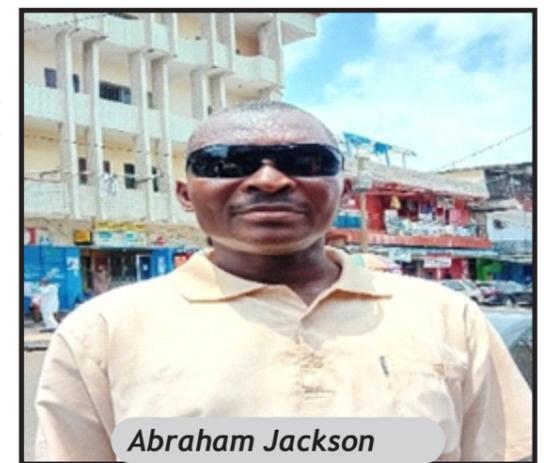
Emmanuel Grauzian

“I think fire disaster in the country is getting serious now. It isn’t one or two times; it has occurred on several occasions, seeing the fire going to high areas because when the fire disaster was taking place in other areas, I think people weren’t looking at it, but the way it is now, it is going to make more people concern, because it has become something uncontrollable. We don’t think about this thing in our whole life, to see it happening, is a serious issue for us to look at. Some of the causes have to do with the on-and-off current we are using. There are no Meters being given to householders for people to have access to the own Meters to control in their houses, so at the end of the day, you will see other people going for illegal wires just to get current, because if you don’t do that, you will not have current. And the heat is all over, so at the end of the day,

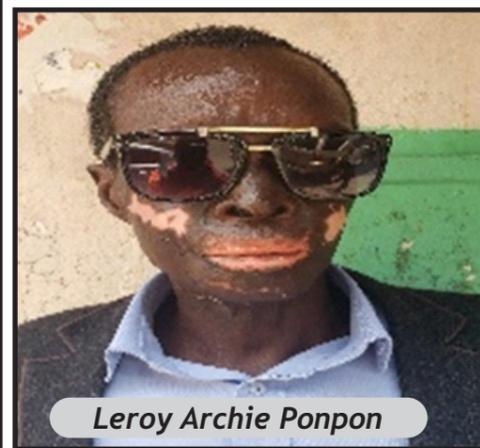
they don’t know the types of wire to use and when current comes, the wire starts to burn, causing serious problems for the various communities. I think the government should give people Meters, but if we don’t do it, we will continue with this fire disaster thing.”

“Some of the causes of fire disasters in the country, I will blame LEC because LEC will allow people to run their own wires, connecting to the pole. We are using substandard materials in our country without them being tested by LEC and Fire Service. The managements of Fire Service, LEC and the Monrovia City Corporation need to work together in different capacities that water trucks will be able to in alleys to help fight fire. Fire Service and the government need to do awareness on the radio every day and even on Facebook, because some people burned coal and leave the ashes and when the breeze blows, the fire catches in the house; they don’t know and blame it on LEC. So, the government needs to do more

awareness to educate our people in the community and on the radio, because some of the houses that burn, it cannot be attributed to LEC. We just need to educate our people on so many issues.”



Abraham Jackson



Leroy Archie Ponpon

“The issue of fire disaster has become a situation now that we all need to look at. This gone Friday, seven houses got burned, but what needs to be done is strong awareness in terms of

early warning to people. I want to believe that illegal connections could be a driving force behind most of the fire outbreaks in many of the communities, and it’s coming mainly from poor communities. Poor community is where illegal connections take place. In the absence of professional electricians doing their job, poor people are the ones that are getting this kind of huge victimization. LEC must be able to step up her game with respect to enforcement and illegal connections. If that is not done, there will be more weeping in terms of fire victimization, and those who suffer are mainly poor people. If LEC isn’t providing Meters, of course, we find solution, which is illegal connection. Illegal connection is harming and causing fire outbreaks. The government should step in.”

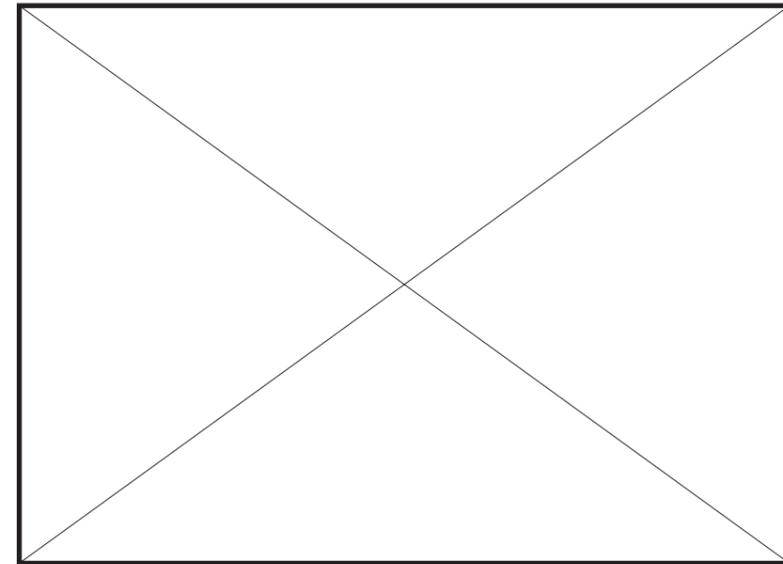
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Cummings breaks silence as CPP folds up

Mr. Cummings has expressed hope that the Unity Party-led government would work to stop corruption, and division, and unite the nation which has suffered at the hands of corrupt leaders for decades.

By Lincoln G. Peters
Monrovia, April 16, 2024: Liberian opposition politician Alexander B. Cummings said the government will stop the corruption, and division, and unite the nation. "I am hopeful that we will stop dividing our people and



Cummings has vowed to hold the Unity Party (UP)-led government's feet to the fire in a quest to end corruption and division among the citizenries.

A two-time defeated presidential candidate, Mr. Cummings headed the opposition Alternative National Congress and the erstwhile Collaborating Political Parties (CPP) during the just-ended 2023 presidential and legislative elections.

Addressing a major press conference on Monday, 15 April 2024 at the ANC headquarters in Congo Town, Mr. Cummings vowed to hold President Joseph Nyumah Boakai's feet to the fire to ensure that there is accountability and check and balance in government. Mr. Cummings said Liberia is too rich for its people to be poor, saying he hopes that the

unite our nation. As leaders and citizens, we can do more to be law-abiding and to respect and care for each other," said Cummings. The ANC leader suggested that Liberia is also too connected to be poor. "As the CPP draws the curtains today, this is my hope for our country and people. And therefore, I will continue to be engaged and involved in espousing these hopes, holding the Unity Party-led government to account," said Mr. Cummings. "From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank the Liberian people for allowing... us into their homes and lives." "We will never forget the welcoming spirit of our people and their pleas for change in the condition of their lives and conditions," Mr. Cummings stated.

He pointed out that corruption does not have to continue to be the pathway to success and prosperity.

The corporate executive-turned-politician believes that government doesn't have to continue to be the biggest employer.

"We can and must act more meaningfully to stop the explosive drug epidemic ongoing in our country that is killing our children and undermining the future of Liberia," Mr. Cummings urged.

He argued that more can be done to improve schools and hospitals so that Liberian children can do more to compete for jobs at home and globally. As Cummings thought, Liberians don't have to continue to die from preventable and treatable illnesses, and the country can provide basic services to its people.

Under these conditions, he suggested that whoever chooses to live in Liberia can experience living in the twenty-first century like everyone else. The erstwhile CPP former leader noted that the government can negotiate better deals for the country so that the natural resources benefit the people rather than only a few of the leaders.

"The truth of our country today is that into the 177th year since we declared independence, we are still far from the nation we are capable of becoming," Cummings lamented.

"But, I'm still hopeful. I'm hopeful that we will put our country over party and national interest over self-interest," Mr. Cummings stated. However, he said he is hopeful that they will commit to changing not only the financial conditions of government officials and their families but also the economic and social conditions of the Liberian people.

Boakai urges corrective measures against fire outbreaks

Liberia's National Fire Service appears to be largely incapacitated to respond to fire outbreaks, and the incident at Speaker Koffa's residence and other recent cases could point to the realities.

By Emmanuel wise Jipoh
Monrovia, April 16, 2024: President Joseph Nyumah Boakai, has called for corrective measures to tackle the rising fire disasters across the country, barely a day after House Speaker Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa's house was destroyed.

While visiting Speaker Koffa on Monday, 15 April 2024 at his Rehab Community residence in Paynesville, Mr. Boakai pledged his government's commitment to implement collective measures to tackle recurring fire

"I think we need to build systems in this country across all sectors. The Fire Service Department is one of those departments," said Mrs. Yekeson-Koffa. "I think we don't take [it] seriously in this country and need to take [it] very seriously because it is one that's having devastating results, and must be taken with urgency," said Mrs. Yekeson-Koffa.

She lamented the inability to immediately tackle fire disasters here due to a lack of resourceful equipment, among other things. "They [were] here and there was nothing really much done after 45 minutes upon their arrival, but we couldn't appreciate anything really being done



Front View of Speaker Koffa's House after the fire and back view

outbreaks in the country.

His visit was to empathize with the Speaker and his family following the Sunday fire disaster that shocked the country. President Boakai expressed regret about the rooming fire incident across the country and stated that his government attached serious importance to the fire outbreaks across the country.

He assured that the government will enhance corrective measures to tackle the fire outbreaks.

There was no casualty reported from the fire incident at Speaker Koffa's residence.

There is no official account of the cause of the fire outbreak, but some members of the public are speculating that there might be an electrical fault, among others. Liberia's National Fire Service appears to be largely incapacitated to respond to fire outbreaks, and the incident at Speaker Koffa's residence and other recent cases could point to the realities.

Mrs. Dama Reter Yekeson-Koffa, wife of Speaker Koffa, has described the fire incident at their residence as devastating.

But she appreciated God because there wasn't a life lost. At the same time, Mrs. Yekeson-Koffa pointed out that there are unproductive firefighters and rescuers due to the lack of a systematic approach to dealing with fire situations here.

as the blazing increased," she narrated. "We were left devastated and I think the fire service was really much unproductive and worthless. You can not have a service like this here," Madam Yekeson-Koffa intoned. Until a system is built in Liberia across every sector, she suggested that Liberia will continue to endure such a catastrophe.

"Liberia must build its system to rely on and in the instance where there is a fire, everyone will understand ... what needs to be done," she argued. Speaking further, Madam Koffa told reporters that the fire may have erupted in the theatre of her home and the Liberia National Fire Service had no answer to the tragedy. "We were in our room getting prepared to retire for the evening, and I had gone downstairs getting some food to eat. In the midst of that, one of our guys came alerting us [that] there was a fire in the theatre," Mrs. Yekeson-Koffa explained.

She said there was so much smoke everywhere coming out and they couldn't see anything. She added that there was uncertainty about where that fire was. For his part, House Speaker Cllr. Jonathan Fonati Koffa expressed gratitude to President Boakai for his visit and for consoling his family. Speaker Koffa also thanked his colleagues including neighbour's and others for their support. He told reporters that most of the documents at his residence were safely kept and there wasn't any damage done to them.

Ballots for Nimba and Grand Gedeh arrive

-NEC announces here

Ballots for two by-elections in Nimba and Grand Gedeh arrive here, seven days before the polls on 23rd April, amidst vigorous campaigns to fill vacancies left behind by Vice President Koung and the late Rep. elect Erol Madison Gwion.

By Naneka A. Hoffman

Monday, April 15, 2024, at the Monrovia, Liberia, headquarters of the National Elections Commission (NEC) in Monrovia, Chairperson

Airport arrived in the country on Saturday, 13 April 2024.

Madam Browne Lansanah details that ballots for the Nimba Senatorial By-Elections are Four Hundred Thirteen Thousand and Fifty (413,050), while ballots for the Grand Gedeh District #1 Representative by-election are Twenty-six Thousand and four Hundred (26,400).

She says the ballots arrived along with other materials, including Record of the Count forms and Tactile Ballot Guide, which are currently stored securely under the watch of state security.

She adds that packaging of materials in NEC Central Warehouse is on course and nearing completion.

The NEC reveals that the ballots, deployment, and other sensitive and non-sensitive election materials to Nimba County and Grand Gedeh District #1 commenced on Monday.

Chairperson Browne Lansanah notes that Cascade training for temporary staff for the By-elections is ongoing



Composite photos of Chairperson Davidetta Browne Lansanah and ballots

Commission (NEC) announces the arrival of ballot papers for the senatorial by-election in Nimba County and Grand Gedeh District #1 Representative by-election, respectively, slated for 23rd April 2024.

Davidetta Browne Lansanah said that ballot papers for both by-elections are ready in keeping with the commission's operational plan and electoral timeline.

She explains that the ballots from the Republic of Ghana via the Roberts International

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