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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2024	L\$192.1640/US\$1.00	L\$194.0088/US\$1.00

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

The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

Attention! Attention!

Read GOL Audit Report for June 30, 2015 inside.

VOL. 14 NO. 58 FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2024 PRICE LD\$40.00

US\$83M OR US\$32.8M

MINISTRY OF STATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS
THE EXECUTIVE MANSION
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

Office of the Minister & Chief of Staff to the President

GWB/M-1/MOS/624/2023/RL

December 11, 2023

Hon. J. Aloysius Turlue, Jr.
EXECUTIVE GOVERNOR
Central Bank of Liberia (CBL)
Monrovia, Liberia

Dear Executive Governor Turlue:

I present my compliments and herewith inform you that His Excellency President Dr. George Manneh Weah has directed me to request the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) to work out collaborative arrangement with the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) to exclusively pay salary for civil servants for the month of December 2023 with the aim of preventing national security risk to the transitional process and allow government employees to happily celebrate the festive seasons with family members and friends.

Mr. Executive Governor, this request is based on information from the Minister of Finance and Development Planning regarding fiscal challenges, including unanticipated decline in revenue due to global uncertainties coupled with domestic financing of the electoral process in Liberia and the constraints of inadequate revenue in the consolidated account of the Government to pay salaries for the month of December 2023. The **CBL** and **MFDP** should design a resolution strategy to settle obligation ensuring from payment of the salary for aforementioned period.

Please accept, Honorable Executive Governor, the assurances of my highest esteem.

Kind regards,

Faithfully yours,

G. Wessah Blamoh
G. Wessah Blamoh
MINISTER & CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT



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Continental News

Nigerian army rescues schoolgirl abducted by extremists 10 years

The Nigerian army says a girl who was seized from her school along with hundreds others during a raid by extremists ten years ago in northeastern Nigeria has been rescued together with her three children.

Simon and her children, who appear to be aged between 2 and 4. She is yet to be reunited with her family.

Simon was among 276 girls seized from their school in Nigeria's Chibok village in April 2014 at the height of the extremist

she was rescued in a hotspot known as Ngoshe, 130 kilometers (74 miles) north of the Borno state capital of Maiduguri.

Some Chibok parents and security analysts have said there is little evidence to show there is a special military operation to free the women. Those who returned in recent years were mostly found abandoned in the forests.

Some of the recently freed women were either raped by the insurgents or forced into marriages, according to Chioma Agwuegbo, an activist who was part of the #BringBackOurGirls campaign.

"We have heard their stories about the amount of trauma and violence they have faced. Somebody who was kidnapped 10 years ago is not returning as the same person," Agwuegbo said.

Lydia Simon, who is five months pregnant, was rescued by Nigerian troops in the Gwoza council area of Borno state, where the 15-year insurgency by Islamic extremists is concentrated, according to a statement from the army.

The statement was accompanied by a picture of

violence in the region. About 82 of them are still in captivity. The first of a series of mass school kidnappings in the West African nation, the Chibok abduction shocked the world and triggered a global social media campaign tagged #BringBackOurGirls.

The Nigerian army did not say how she was freed other than that



Sculptures created by French artist Prune Nourry, represent the remaining 108 Chibok still in captivity are displayed in Lagos, Nigeria, December 13, 2022.

Burkina Faso's pro-Russia junta expels French diplomats

Burkina Faso's military junta has expelled three French diplomats, accusing them of "subversive activities".

France said there were "no grounds" to expel the diplomats.

The expulsions are the latest sign of worsening relations between the two nations since Captain Ibrahim Traoré seized power in a coup in 2022.

He has pivoted Burkina Faso towards Russia, ending its close ties with France, the former colonial power.

Russia reopened its embassy in Burkina Faso in December after it was shut more than 30 years ago, while the French ambassador was expelled by the junta the following month.

Russia is also helping the West African state to strengthen its military capabilities to fight jihadists after the junta forced France to shut its military base.

In a letter dated 16 April, the junta gave the diplomats 48 hours to leave after declaring them persona non grata.

It did not give details of their alleged subversive activities, but reports say the diplomats

met members of civil society. In its response, France's foreign ministry said it rejected the "unfounded" accusations made against its embassy staff.

"There were no legitimate grounds for the Burkinabé authorities' decision. We can only deplore it," spokesman Christophe Lemoine was quoted by AFP news agency as saying.

Rights groups say the junta has become increasingly intolerant of dissent, going as far as punishing

its critics by forcing them to go to the front lines of the battle against jihadists.

Last year, four French nationals were detained after being accused of being intelligence agents.

French sources denied the allegation and said they were IT experts. In December 2022, two French nationals working for a Burkinabé company were also deported for alleged espionage. BBC



Burkina Faso's military ruler Ibrahim Traoré has been hostile towards France

Gen Francis Ogolla: Kenya helicopter crash kills country's military chief

Kenya's military chief, Gen Francis Omondi Ogolla, has died after a military helicopter crashed in the west of the country, the president said.

Gen Ogolla - Kenya's highest ranking military officer - was in the helicopter alongside 11 other military personnel. Only two people survived.

In a news conference, President William Ruto said it was a "moment of great sadness" for the country.

He had earlier convened an urgent security council meeting.

Mr Ruto said the crash happened at 14:20 local time (12:20 BST). The Kenya Air Force has dispatched an air investigation team to establish the cause of the crash, the president said.

The helicopter came down in Elgeyo Marakwet county, some 400km (250 miles) northwest of the capital Nairobi. "Unfortunately, the aircraft crashed shortly after take off,"

one of her most valiant generals, gallant officers, service men and woman," Mr Ruto told the nation.

The nation will observe a three-day period of mourning, commencing on Friday 19 April. The flags in the Republic of Kenya and in Kenyan missions abroad will fly at half mast, Mr Ruto said.

Gen Ogolla first joined the Kenya Defence Forces on 24 April 1984, according to the Kenyan defence ministry's website.

He was due to mark 40 years in the military next week.

He began his career as a 2nd Lt in the country's air force, where he trained as a fighter pilot with the US Air Force, the ministry says. In 2018, he became Commander of the Kenya Air Force - a role which he held until becoming the country's military chief.

Nine others killed in the crash were senior military officers: Brig Swale Saidi, Col Duncan Keittany, Lt Col David Sawe, Maj George Benson Magundu, Capt Sora Mohamed, Capt Hillary Litali, Snr Sgt John Kinyua Mureithi, Sgt



President Ruto is seen with the chief of the Kenya Defence Forces General Francis Ogolla in this photo on 28 February

Mr Ruto said.

Gen Ogolla was appointed by Mr Ruto in April last year, after serving as the Commander of the Air Force and Deputy Chief of Defence Forces.

Mr Ruto described Gen Ogolla -who was also the chief military adviser to the president - as a gallant officer who died in the line of duty.

"Our motherland has lost

Cliphonce Omondi, and Sgt Rose Nyawira.

The two survivors are in critical condition and undergoing treatment. The officers had travelled to Kenya's North Rift region, which has been plagued by banditry. They were on a mission to reopen some of the schools closed following bandit attacks. They had also visited military officers deployed to stabilise the region. BBC



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EDITORIAL

Boakai's budget downplays education

The first national budget submitted by the Executive to the 55th Legislature for FY2024 leaves much to be desired with education relegated under agriculture, roads, health, and energy.

This means the nation's badly challenged educational system will remain so for a long time. It is quite unfortunate for a President that campaigned with a promise to rescue Liberia in totality.

As we write, Liberia is still hugely indebted to the West African Examination Council (WAEC), the sub-regional body that administers annual exams for students in Liberia, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Ghana and Nigeria. The country has defaulted in paying its dues, which is in the tone of several hundred thousands, if not millions.

This liability is negatively impacting the country's representation at the subregional level with adverse effects on decisions being made for the body.

This is happening so when public universities, colleges and tertiary institutions across the country are beset with serious financial challenges that are negatively impacting not only their operations and programs, but students' learning processes.

For instance, junior lecturers at the State-run University of Liberia refused to return to class at the beginning of the current academic semester in demand of salary and benefits, which delayed resumption of classes.

As if being insensitive, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai's first draft national budget to the legislature prioritizes agriculture, roads, health, and energy, instead. The government is mute on whether it will maintain payment of WASSCE fees for 12th graders across the country, initiated by its predecessor.

Besides, thousands of volunteer teachers in public schools are yet to be placed on by payroll by the Ministry of Education that runs schools in dilapidated structures all over Liberia with students sitting on bare floors to write lessons.

Such poor learning environment, especially public schools are no doubt, some of the contributing factors to dismal performance of students besides dissatisfied and unqualified teachers.

Many Liberians had anticipated thought that the "Rescue Government" would have given equal priority to the nation's education, as it is doing for other key sectors. Unfortunately, this seems not to be the case, as evidence from the draft national budget indicates.

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COMMENTARY

By Daoud Kuttab

The Middle East Needs a Ceasefire Now

JERUSALEM- It is hard to imagine that anyone in the Levant or the broader Middle East managed to sleep on Saturday night, as Iran launched hundreds of drones and ballistic missiles toward strategic sites in Israel and Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank.

Almost all of the drones and missiles were intercepted before reaching their targets, as a result of a coordinated effort by the United States, Israel, Jordan, and the United Kingdom. The trigger for Saturday's attack was Israel's bombing of the Iranian consulate in Damascus on April 1, which killed 13 people, including several high-ranking members of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. This act, a clear violation of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, compelled the Islamic Republic to respond.

Iran chose to strike Israel directly, a decision likely driven by a desire to defend its national pride following the attack its consulate, which, according to the Vienna Convention, is the Islamic Republic's sovereign territory.

Paradoxically, this dangerous escalation presents a unique opportunity for a regional ceasefire - potentially ending the war between Israel and Hamas, preventing a direct military showdown between Israel and Iran, and stopping the Yemeni Houthi attacks on commercial vessels in the Red Sea. With both sides having demonstrated their military capabilities, and assuming that Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu heeds US President Joe Biden's warning not to retaliate against Iran, the region could revert to an uneasy equilibrium. As the Cold War showed, a balance of terror can act as a powerful deterrent, fostering peace and stability.

But to capitalize on this narrow window of opportunity, the United Nations Security Council must pass a robust, binding resolution calling for a regional ceasefire. In addition to Israel and Iran, this resolution should apply to all the countries of the region and third-party combatants.

Moreover, this binding resolution must address

the central issue driving the current bout of regional instability - the war in Gaza. In line with its previous March 25 resolution, from which the US abstained, the Security Council must demand an immediate cessation of Israel's ongoing bombardment of Gaza and the release of all Israeli hostages and detainees. By requiring both parties to "comply with their obligations under international law in relation to all persons they detain," the resolution could also facilitate a release of Palestinians detained by Israel.

Contrary to the claims of some US representatives, the March 25 resolution was binding. But given the risk of an all-out war, the Security Council must immediately draft and vote on a new resolution, under Chapter 7 of the UN Charter, covering the entire region. The new resolution should aim to facilitate a permanent and just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, providing a detailed roadmap for establishing an independent Palestinian state based on the 1967 borders. As Saudi Arabia has stated, a credible "pathway to a solution" is a precondition for normalizing relations with Israel.

Over the past six months, the Biden administration has backed Israel unreservedly, even at the cost of losing political support among progressive and Arab-American voters. Now, US policymakers must make the Israeli government understand that they will not tolerate further delays or gamesmanship when it comes to pursuing peace.

To be sure, rebuilding Gaza will take years and require a significant international effort. But achieving an effective, enforceable regional ceasefire is a crucial first step. Anything short of that risks perpetuating an endless cycle of war and suffering that benefits no one, especially not the Palestinians and Israelis, who are tired of this decades-old conflict.

The bombing of the Iranian consulate and Iran's retaliatory attack on Israel underscore the potential cost of a regional war. Failing to seize this critical opportunity for de-escalation could hold the region back for decades. Securing an immediate regional ceasefire must be the international community's top priority.

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OP-ED

By Emmanuel Nyirinkindi,
Jessica Schnabel

Gender-Neutral Fintech Isn't Working for Women

WASHINGTON, DC - Financial technology (fintech) has often been touted as a powerful enabler of financial inclusion. And over the past several years, the fintech industry has enabled important advances in access to financial services - including digital savings, credit, insurance, payments, and remittances - for previously underserved populations. But when it comes to women's inclusion, we have a long way to go.

To find out how fintech firms are delivering on the promise of women's financial inclusion, and which practices work, we asked industry experts. A new study by the International Finance Corporation, based on a survey of 114 fintech firms from 17 countries, captures what they had to say. The findings are telling.

Although 59% of the fintech firms included in the study collect sex-disaggregated customer data, only 32% of firms use this information to tailor the design and delivery of financial services for women. Instead, firms tend to take a "gender-neutral" approach, which does not directly address how to reach women at scale. Perhaps it should not be surprising, then, that for a majority of fintech lenders, women constitute less than 25% of their business customers.

Paradoxically, the report also found that executives in the majority of fintech firms considered women to be valuable customers: more loyal, less risky, and with better repayment rates compared to men. The IFC study results affirm this assessment: while only a small percentage of the surveyed fintech firms tailor products and services to women, most of those who do (63%) said that women customers generate higher customer lifetime value than men.

These firms can offer valuable models for others. Consider the Colombian digital lender Juancho Te Presta: recognizing that women have higher loan-approval rates and lower delinquent-loan rates, the company began using data analysis to tailor products and credit conditions to meet women's needs and preferences. For example, it piloted women-only credit products that cut installment costs by about 15%.

Similarly, mFarmPay - a fintech firm operating in Ghana and Kenya - noticed that women farmers display better loan-repayment patterns, and that their involvement in agriculture over time tends to be more consistent than that of men, who might switch to other activities. So, the company began to consider gender-related factors alongside geodata in credit scoring, thereby narrowing the lending gap between financial institutions and smallholder farmers. The strong presence of women in mFarmPay's management team helps the firm to identify gender-related constraints and informs product design and features.

The India-based firm Indifi developed short-term small loans to help women-led micro, small, and medium-size enterprises to build credit histories. An Egyptian fintech firm has developed a mobile wallet solution that enables the secure and instant delivery of monthly social transfers, thereby helping women to save time and travel costs - and avoid possible harassment.

There are also fintech firms that use alternate data sources to generate credit histories for women customers. Others are providing digital literacy and business training to women alongside financial services, hiring gender-diverse cohorts of agents, and working with telecoms companies to provide targeted financial services to women farmers. And yet, overall, the fintech industry is still missing the opportunity to accelerate financial inclusion for women.

The business case for action is clear. Women comprise an enormous market segment with growing economic and social power. Moreover, they tend to show higher customer loyalty, more financial discipline, better loan performance, and stickier deposits. Women's financial inclusion leads to job creation, higher productivity, and faster GDP growth. There are even links between women's inclusion and climate-conscious business and investment decisions.

When it comes to understanding, valuing, and investing in women's inclusion, the fintech industry is not moving fast enough. And speed is essential: without drastic acceleration of women's financial inclusion, gender bias may become hard-coded into the digital financial-services industry.

The good news is that, as a relatively nascent industry, fintech can still build gender inclusion into its design and delivery. As our study shows, a number of fintechs have already discovered the potential of gender-inclusive design. That must become the norm, not the exception.

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Lord, so dis whole money bisnay wah happened na?

By Othello B. Garblah

Dear Father,

Da whatin we hearing so? Is it true da de people say ley money weh Kountry Giant say him lee inside our village cash box da lie? Hmm, ley people mon look inside da cash box good, good oo.

What you mean my son, you wan tell we say de people lie?

Ah, Father da orlor one too big for my mouth oo. Me I only say de people who can be looking behind dis stealing bisnay and be telling people who do wah mon look inside good, good. Aaa my name oo.

Wait oo, you ay look leh you know something, bor you na wan talky. Bor Father you too ya. You na hear de thin de people talking here. They say on dis day de Kountry Giant say dis amount of money was in leh cash box. From da time to de time de Papy too came plenty can happen between there.

Um, ay look leh you making small sense there oo my son.

Look leh me put it dis way Father. Leh say leh man geh 100 dollar in him cashbox. Few days before him travel, him tell him manager meaning him wife da him geh 100 dollar in him cash box on da day him told him wifey. Two days later, him pekin go to the cashier and take five dollar there to pay for candy. The next day him daughter go and take ten dollar to buy shoes, so on and so on.

Imagine de day de manager go look inside de cashbox na, de money na correct. Him woman go to de cashier and asked say on dis day how much my husband lee in de cashbox?

De cashier too loka de record and say, on dis day da de money weh wor in de cashbox. She na ask him between de time my husband say dis money here wor in de cashbox and de time I com ask you, anybody come take money from inside? She na ask. Then ley people say her husband lie, him na lee da kina money inside him cashbox.

So, Father, da de whole story behind dis money bisnay here oo. So whatin make de Village elder them who wor judging de case between de man and him woman first, first na ask de cashier if somebody take money from de place after her husband told her about de balance in de cashbox?

You see whatin i talking here Father, becus dis thin da law bisnay na com inside na. The Kountry Giant say on dis day da de money we had inside. De Papay too com say few days later, da dis one me I see inside.

Then de chief them too instead of them asking de cashier people what happen from da time to dis time, dey just go ask say how much wor inside on dis day?

Hmm, my son, de thin you talking make plenty sense becus, it possible that after ley man fini talking somer him people could go behind him and do their own thin. Ehn you know they able to do da one there.

So, da leh thin there so, Kountry Giant talk him own, de Papay talked him own. Bor de chief them na ask de cashier them de righ question. Da de thin da bring dis long hauling here and there. I see...

Yes, Father. If de chief them wor coming to ask de people them dis question long time we fini catching de doer of dis act. My son, ley thin sef hard to talk.

Yes, ooh Father. Da de thing me I say, ley man talked him own, de Papay talked him own, so, we mon ask de cashier them what happened. They mon talk something, they na innocent.

Auditor General's Report



Promoting Accountability of Public Resources

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT



REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

On The Government of Liberia Consolidated Fund Financial Statements

For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015

Yusador S. Gaye CPA, CGMA
Auditor General, R.L.

February 2017

Auditor General's Report On The Government Of Liberia Financial Statement Of The Consolidated Fund Account For Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015

Table of Contents

Independent Auditors Report	2
Statement of Responsibility.....	2
Report of the Comptroller and Accountant General.....	3
Statements of Cash Receipts and Payments.....	21
Comparison of Budget and Actual Amount.....	23
Explanatory Notes and Elaboration Relating to the Consolidated Fund Account.....	25
Supplementary Disclosures.....	42

1 Promoting Accountability of Public Resources 



Promoting Accountability of Public Resources

Audit of the GOL Consolidated Fund Financial Statements

February 10, 2017

Hon. Boima S. Kamara
Minister
Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Monrovia, Liberia

Dear Minister Kamara:

Report of Independent Auditors on the Government of Liberia (GoL) Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Government of Liberia Consolidated Fund Account for the year ended 30 June 2015. These financial statement comprise the Statements of Receipts and Payments for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the GOL Consolidated Fund Financial Statements in accordance with the Public Financial Management Act and Regulations of 2009 and the International public Sector Accounting Standards cash basis of Accounting as adopted by the Government of Liberia in 2009, and for such internal controls as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the GOL Consolidated Fund Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on conducting the audit in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institution (ISSAI). Because of the matters described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraphs, however, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

Trial Balance

The Trial Balance produced from IFMIS for FY 2014/2015 was unbalanced by **US\$4,538.60** which was traceable to Real Estate Tax payable. As at the time of our audit report, Management did not provide reason for the imbalance. We were unable to determine the completeness of transactions recorded in the Financial Statements.

Old Executive Mansion, Ashmun Street, P.O. Box 10-9026 Monrovia-Liberia: www.gac.gov.lr

Hon. Boima S. Kamara
Minister
Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
Page 2
February 10, 2017

Presentation of Financial Statements

The Comptroller and Accountant General did not consolidate the financial statements of all Ministries and Agencies because he did not receive financial statements of forty-four (44) Ministries and Agencies that form part of the GOL Consolidated Fund Financial Statements. We were therefore unable to satisfy ourselves by alternative means concerning the completeness of amounts reflected in the Consolidated Fund Financial Statements.

Revenue

The Management of the Liberia Revenue Authority did not provide supporting documents to enable us validate the accuracy of tax revenue. The population from which we drew our sample amounted to US\$381.77 million representing 59 percent of all revenue. We were unable to obtain appropriate audit evidence about the accuracy of this amount because we did not have access to the source documents used as the basis for determining the tax obligations. Consequently, we were unable to determine whether the tax revenue generated was accurately assessed.

Non-disclosure of Bank Accounts

Cash balances in four (4) bank accounts (Liberia Macroeconomic Policy Analysis Account, FY2014/2015 Obligation Escrow Account, Treasury Bills Account and T-Bond Account) totaling L\$3,695,381,816.74 were not disclosed in the GOL Consolidated Fund Financial Statements as at 30 June, 2015. Outstanding check listings and other reconcilable items for the above accounts were not provided to validate the GoL Financial Statements balances as at 30 June 2015. We were unable to ascertain by any other means the correctness of the cash balance disclosed in the Financial Statements.

Disclaimer of Opinion

Because of the significance of the matters described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraphs, we have not been able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the Government of Liberia Consolidated Fund Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June, 2015.


Yusador S. Gaye, CPA, CGMA
Auditor General, R.L.

Old Executive Mansion, Ashmun Street, P.O. Box 10-9026 Monrovia-Liberia: www.gac.gov.lr

GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA
Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30^h2015

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED FUND ACCOUNT

The Annual Consolidated Fund Account, as set out on pages 16 to 22 has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act, 2009 and its attendant Regulations, and in compliance with Cash Basis International Public Sector Accounting Standards (Cash-IPSAS) as adopted by the Government of Liberia.

In accordance with the provisions of the Public Financial Management Act, we are responsible for the control and accounting of the Consolidated Funds and all other public funds received, held and expended on behalf of the Government of Liberia.

Under the provisions of the same Act, we are required to prepare unaudited final accounts of the National Budget to be submitted to the Auditor General, four months after the end of the financial year to which it relates.

Accordingly, we are pleased to submit the required Annual Consolidated Fund Account, in compliance with the PFM Act and its attendant Regulations. We have provided, and will continue to provide, all of the information and explanations as may be required in connection with Consolidated Fund Accounts herein.

In preparing the Annual Consolidated Fund Account, the most appropriate accounting policies have been consistently applied and supported by reasonable and prudent judgment and estimates. To the best of our knowledge and beliefs, the Annual Consolidated Fund Account agrees with the books of accounts, which have been properly kept.

We accept responsibility for the integrity of the financial statements, the financials presented therein, the financial information they contain and their compliance with the provisions of the Public Financial Management Act (PFM) of 2009 and its attendant Regulations.


Amara M. Konneh
Minister
Ministry of Financial and Development Planning (MFDP)
Government of Liberia
October 30, 2015

GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA
Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30^h2015

REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER AND ACCOUNTANT GENERAL R.L.

1. Introduction

This Report provides commentary and analysis of the cash receipts and payments (as well as financial performance) of the Consolidated Fund of the Government of Liberia for the Financial Year ended June 30, 2015.

The accompanying Annual Consolidated Fund Account provides useful information on the Government's financial performance for the Year ended June 30, 2015 and of its financial position as at that date.

The Annual Consolidated Fund Account of the Government of Liberia for the Financial Year ended June 30, 2015 has been prepared in accordance with Section 37 of the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act of 2009 and its attendant Regulation 1.12. Furthermore, the Annual Consolidated Fund Account has been prepared in compliance with Cash Basis International Public Sector Accounting Standards (Cash Basis IPSAS) adopted by the Government. The Cash Bases IPSAS was introduced by the Government of Liberia in FY2009/10 to be used for the preparation of financial statements of applicable institutions for the Financial Year July 1, 2009 —June 30, 2010 and onward.

Additional Financial Statements have been prepared using the modified cash basis of accounting. This was done mainly to capture investments and outstanding public debts of the Government as part of its financial assets and liabilities in order to provide a Statement of Assets and Liabilities or Statement of Financial Position, required by the PFM Act (2009).

2. Summary

Table 1 shows a comparative snapshot of financial performance of the Consolidated Fund for the financial year ended June 30, 2015, and June 30, 2014. Total expenses including interest payment is US\$598.24 million. This amount excludes total Loan Repayments of US\$22.75 million.

Table 1: Financial Performance FY14/15 vs. FY13/14

Account Line	Actual		Change		Variance %
	FY2014/15	FY2013/14	US \$'000	US \$'000	
Total Revenue	643,215	517,197	126,018	24%	
Total Expenses	598,244	504,369	93,875	19%	
Surplus/(deficit) from Operating Activities	44,971	12,828	32,143	251%	
Finance costs	(4,752)	(4,752)	4,752	-100%	
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	44,971	8,076	36,895	457%	
Total Assets	211,017	175,985	35,032	20%	
Total Liabilities	(788,465)	(681,207)	(107,258)	16%	
Net Assets/Equity	(577,448)	(505,222)	(72,226)	14%	

3. The FY2014/2015 National Budget

In accordance with Section 8.1 of the 2009 PFM law, the FY2014/15 Approved Budget was formulated for implementation in the third year of the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF).

The total approved budget for the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 was US\$635.24 million or an equivalent of L\$53359.82 billion against revenue projection of the same amount to reflect Cash Basis Budgeting. The projected exchange rate was US\$1.00 to L\$84.00 against revenue projection of the same rate.

The Approved budget of US\$635.24 million comprised the recurrent budget, which made up 82.81% or US\$526.06 million, and the Public Sector Investment (PSIP) component made up 17.19% or US\$109.17 million.

The budget was broken down into eleven (11) Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) sectors as depicted in Table 2.

Table 2: Budget Appropriation by MTEF Sectors

CONT'D page 7

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

OGP, partners to track budget performance & implementation

Monrovia, Liberia, April 19, 2024 - Liberia's Open Government Partnership Secretariat capacitates local journalists for effective budget performance monitoring.

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Open Government Partnership Secretariat with support from the United Nations Development

participation and advocacy for responsive governance enhanced."

It has a duration of six months with expected outcome to ensure responsive, transparent and open



Programme (UNDP) and funding from the Governments of Luxembourg and the Republic of Korea begins capacity building of journalists to ensure responsive, transparent and open governance through an open legislature and track government's budget performance and implementation.

The project, which kickoff here on Thursday, April 18-19, 2024, is title: Space for political

governance through an open legislature.

Also, the initiative which is climaxing today in Monrovia, basically aims to develop and strengthen the capacity of journalists on budget formulation and performance with a focus on analyzing the budget and its impact and implementation of the budget and its effectiveness and workability on the lives of ordinary Liberians.

It also seeks to educate participants on allocation allotment, and the Public Financial Management Law, International Monetary Funds and other international instruments for improved open governance and financial fiscal transparency and accountability.

During the program, participants were trained by the Ministry of Finance Budget Dissemination and Fiscal Transparency Department on budget formulation and performance. The initiative was also graced by several stakeholders from the civil society.

Giving the overview of the project, G. Ralph Jimmeh, head of the Secretariat said the project will be tracking performance, and allocation made to four strategic sectors that are aligned with the Government of Liberia's ARREST agenda and how allocations are performing over the one-year period.

"Under this project, basically, we are going to be looking at three areas, because the budget is a huge document, we will not be looking at every sector. The four sectors are parts of the ARREST agenda of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, which include the rule of law, education, health as a subset under sanitation and tourism", Mr. Jimmeh said.

EISA-IEOM urges security coordination

-Ahead of by-elections

Monrovia, Liberia, April 19, 2024 - Joint Security urged to improve coordination ahead of pending by-elections in Nimba and Grand Gedeh counties.

By Lincoln G. Peters

The Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa International Observation Mission (EISA-IEOM) is urging Liberia's Joint Security to improve its communication, coordination and information sharing, regarding security arrangements to safeguard the integrity of upcoming by-elections. Liberia is on the verge of conducting pivotal by-elections, scheduled for April 23, 2024, for a Senatorial seat in Nimba County and a Representative seat for District#1 in Grand Gedeh

electoral process by international and regional benchmarks. The IEOM is implemented in close coordination with the financial support of USAID/Liberia and will complement the efforts of other electoral stakeholders. EISA is a continental not-for-profit organization located in Johannesburg, South Africa, and Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire with field offices in Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Madagascar, Niger, Liberia Chad, and Sudan. EISA-IEOM in its election perspective series named "navigating Democracy: Challenges and Opportunities in Liberia's 2024 Legislative By-elections in Nimba and Grand Gedeh Counties under



the signature of acting Country Representative and Chief of Party Antonetta Hamandishe, said it's important that the security affairs are properly coordinated to improve public trust. Accordingly, the election perspective adds that Liberia's democratic strength lies in the resilience of its citizens and institutions against violence and divisive rhetoric, urging that as the upcoming by-elections serve

County, respective.

In Nimba, the April 2024 by-election is necessitated by the election of former Nimba County Senator Jeremiah Koung as Vice President of Liberia in 2023.

In Grand Gedeh, the District#1 by-election is meant to replace the late Representative Erol Madison Gwion, who died in November 2023. EISA has continental and sub-regional programs in the field of elections and democracy throughout Africa. It strives for excellence in the promotion of credible elections, domestic participation, and the strengthening of political institutions for sustainable democracy in Africa. The USAID-funded EISA International Election Observation Mission (EISA-IEOM) Activity seeks to enhance the integrity of the 2023 Liberia Presidential and Legislative elections through the deployment of an independent international election observer mission (EOM) to monitor, assess and report on all phases of the

as another test for Liberian democracy and tolerance, addressing significant threats and vulnerabilities is crucial to consolidate electoral gains.

"Efforts by security forces and other groups should be directed towards monitoring and mitigating acts of violence and political provocation and collecting data for future analysis. The Liberian security forces are requested to improve communication, coordination, and the sharing of information regarding security arrangements to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process and instill confidence among voters, building upon the commendable efforts of the Joint Security Councils (JSCs) during the 2023 general elections" they urged.

They further stated that the steps by the National Elections Commission (NEC) and security forces should be taken to ensure that officials and officers are paid their due wages timely and accurately to apply lessons from the 2023 electoral experience.

Rep. Mensah seeks Legislative inquiry

-Into judge's ruling

Monrovia, Liberia, April 19, 2024 - Bong County Lawmaker wants court's verdict review.

By Bridgett Milton

Bong County district#6 Representative Moima Briggs Mensah, has written members of the House of Representatives, seeking legislative inquiry into the case involving an American missionary Lucas Richards and his Liberian fiancé Jessica Llyod. Rep. Menseh recalls that President Joseph N. Boakai noted in his annual message in January that the justice system in Liberia, which is meant to protect the innocent and punish the guilty, has been marred by inefficiency, corruption, and lack of public trust.

of Liberians across the country and many around the world. The Bong lawmaker stresses that it is the responsibility of the Legislature to conduct oversight across the entire government, and where justice is derailed or denied.

Rep. Moima Briggs Mensah, who chairs the House Committee on Gender, Children, and Social Protection, criticizes the court's decision, suggesting that it reflects a troubling bias in favor of foreign nationals within Liberia's legal system.

Speaking before full plenary in Thursday, April 18, 2024, she told her colleagues that it is time they further look into the matter and bring those responsible to plenary to ask them more questions to really know what went wrong.

She observes the decision by the court is a sad one believes that it was not

done the right way, so as the people's deputy, they cannot keep quiet.

Also speaking, Rivergee county district #1 Representative Alexander Paul, says if he can recalled according to their rules and the Constitution, he doesn't see any provision of the law that give them the oversight responsibility to invite or investigate the decision of judges, rather, he notes, it gives them the mandate to impeach them for a cause.

Nimba County district#7 Representative Musa Bility, bluntly reminds his colleagues the House of Representatives has no authority to question the decision of the judiciary, but what they are questioning is the process that saw justice denied and abused in such a manner that is so sad.



Rep. Mensah

Candidates boycott debate in Ganta

Starts from back page

(27) years as Senator for vote-rich Nimba County.

Former President Weah never showed up at any debate during his bid for the Presidency.

However, Liberia's first female

President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is on record for attending several debates that took place during her candidacy before becoming President and after. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

Auditor General's Report

GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA

Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30, 2015
Table 2: Budget Appropriation by MTEF Sectors

MTEF SECTORS	TOTAL BUDGET US\$'000	% OF BUDGET
Agriculture	5,926	0.93%
Education	65,617	10.33%
Energy and Environment	21,118	3.32%
Health	78,729	12.39%
Industry and Commerce	15,353	2.42%
Infrastructure and Basic Services	55,196	8.69%
Municipal Government	30,620	4.82%
Public Administration	237,799	37.43%
Security and Rule of Law	83,682	13.17%
Social Development Services	9,845	1.55%
Transparency and Accountability	31,350	4.94%
Total Approved Budget FY2015	635,236	100%

4. Revenue Estimates for FY2014/2015

The approved estimated revenue to support the operations of the GoL was US\$635.24 million. Domestic revenue accounts for US\$401.73 million (63%) while external sources account for US\$233.49 (37%). The core envelope is US\$511.09 million (80.6%). Borrowing accounts for US\$108.63 million (17.1%). Of the US\$511.09 million in core revenue, tax revenues amount to US\$339.17 million (53.39%); Non-tax revenue, US\$62.56 million (9.85%); Grants, US\$109.3 million (17.22%); and contingent revenue, US\$15 million (2.44%), as shown in Table 3 below.

Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30, 2015
Table 3: Revenue Estimates FY14/15

ACCOUNT TITLE	TOTAL REVENUE ESTIMATES US \$'000	% OF REVENUE ESTIMATE
Core Revenue	511,099	80.46%
Tax Revenue	339,171	53.39%
Non-Tax Revenue	62,567	9.85%
Grant	109,361	17.22%
Borrowing	108,637	17.10%
Contingent Revenue	15,500	2.44%
Total Revenue Estimates FY14/15	635,236	100%

Revenue Receipts

The budgeted revenue as legislated for FY14/15 was US\$635.23 million, comprising a core envelope of US\$511.09 million and borrowing of US\$108.63 million. During the budgetary period, core revenue was revised to US\$489.93 million, due to risks attached to their collectability, and the Ebola epidemic. The assessed risk amounted to US\$21.1 million. The assessed risk indicators were tax revenue in the amount of US\$25.2 million, of which US\$10.96 million was on account of taxes on income and profits. Non-tax revenue experienced a shortfall of US\$1.3 million, and US\$15.7 million was on account of property taxes, positive US\$2.90 million administrative fees, and negative US\$1.3 million fines and interest as shown in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Actual Revenue Performance vs. Budget (FY2014/2015)

Account Title	Actual	Revised Estimate	Approved Budget	Assessed Risk	Actual Risk
	US \$'000	US \$'000	US \$'000	US \$'000	US \$'000
Tax Revenue	381,765	364,463	339,171	(25,293)	(42,594)
Non-Tax Revenue	49,861	63,952	62,567	(1,385)	12,706
Grant	60,140	61,516	109,361	47,845	49,221
Total Revenue	491,767	489,931	511,099	21,168	19,332

Comparative Analysis of Total Revenue receipts

Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30, 2015

Total revenue collected in FY14/15 was US\$643.22 million, including Core Revenue of \$491.76, and borrowing of US\$146.15 million. The source of the borrowing was external, US\$18.99 million from the World Bank International Development Association, US\$93.55 million from the International Monetary Fund, US\$28.61 million from the African Development Bank and US\$5.00 million from The Central Bank of Liberia for Ebola related expenses which was not recorded in the Tax Administration System (TAS), but was directly deposited into the Ebola Trust Fund. Revenue collected showed an increase of US\$126.02 million (24.37%) when compared to FY 13/14 collection of US\$517.197 million. The increase was primarily due to increase in grant and loans that were frontloaded (IMF-Rapid Credit Facility) due to the Ebola virus. The amount borrowed increased by US\$135.80 million (1312%) as compared to FY2013/14. Grant increased by US\$23.78 million (65%). International Organizations were the source of the grant: the African Development Bank (AFDB), European Union (EU) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Fixed Amount Reimbursement Arrangement (FARA).

The total Grant was not realized because the Government of Liberia did not meet all the triggers to access the total amount of funding. However, non-tax revenue of US\$49.86 million shows a US\$24.70 million (33%) decrease below FY2013/14 (US\$74.56 million); and tax revenue in the amount of US\$381.76 million constitutes a decrease of US\$14.16 million (4%) from FY2013/14 (US\$380.06 million), as shown in Table 5 and Figure 1 below.

Table 5: Comparative Analysis of Total Revenue Receipts for FY2014/15

	US\$'000'	US\$'000'	US\$'000'	%
Tax Revenue	381,765	395,926	(14,161)	-4%
Non-Tax Revenue	49,861	74,563	(24,702)	-33%
Grant	60,140	36,358	23,782	65%
Borrowing	146,148	10,350	135,798	1312%
Contingent Revenue	5,300		5,300	
GRAND TOTAL REVENUE RECEIPTS	643,215	517,197	126,018	24%

Figure 1: Actual Revenue 2014/15 against 2013/14

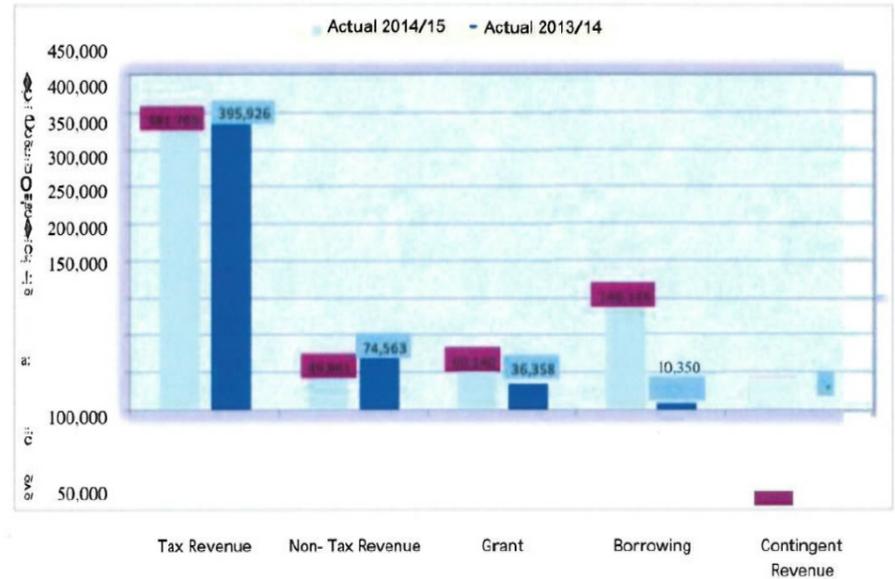
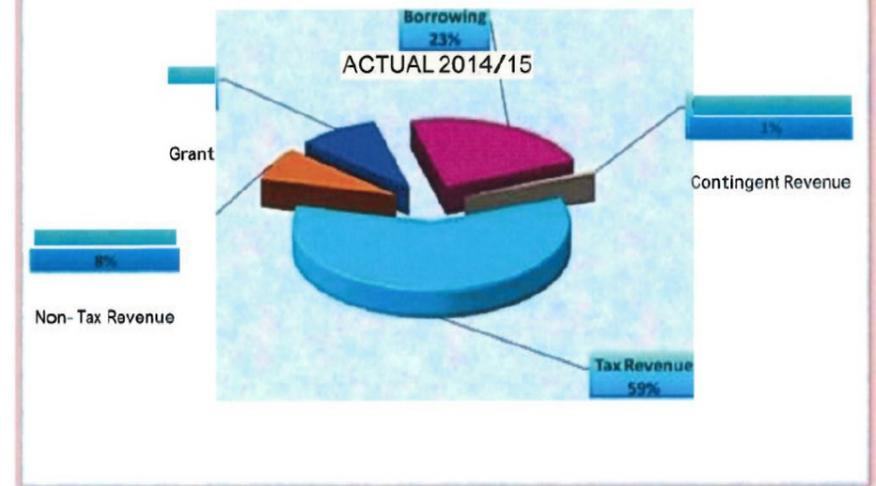


Figure 2: Share of each revenue Source to Total Revenue Receipts in FY 2014/15



Revenue performance shows that domestic revenue mobilization still constitutes a significant proportion of the resource envelope. Total domestically generated revenues; tax and non-tax revenues when combined accounted for 67% resource generated. Borrowing and grants as shown in figure 2 represented the next major sources of receipt, accounting for about 23% and 9% respectively.

s. Total Expenditure

Total Expenditure made during the Fiscal Year 2014/15 amounted to US\$621.67 million, representing a 17.14% or US\$90.99 million increase from US\$530.68 million in FY2013/14. The increase in expenditure was mainly driven by increases in operation expenses and capital expenditures. Operation expenses increased by US\$70 million, and capital expenditure increased by US\$30 million.

Total operation expenses accounted for 70.67% of the total expenditure made during the period under review in the amount of US\$439.32 million. This amount excludes foreign currency translation loss of US\$0.67 million. Of the Operation expenses, wages and salaries accounts for US\$239.60 million or 54.54% and US\$199.72 million or 45.46% for goods and services, which exclude the foreign currency translation loss. Operation expenses increased by 20.86% or US\$75.82 million from US\$363.50 in FY13/14 US\$363.50 million. Grant expended or transfers made to other governmental or private entities amounted to US\$94.6 million representing a reduction of 14% or US\$15.69 million from \$110.35 million in FY13/14. Capital expenditure also recorded incremental growth when compared to FY13/14. Interest and loan repayment decreased by US\$0.01 million as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Actual Disbursements FY14/15 against FY13/14



Français

Le Dr. Tipoteh rejoint la campagne pour la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre et économiques

Un homme politique libérien renommé se félicite des efforts actuels visant à légiférer la création de tribunaux pour les crimes de guerre et économiques au

économiques afin de mettre fin à l'impunité, notant que le Liberia se dirige vers la pauvreté, l'anarchie et la corruption.

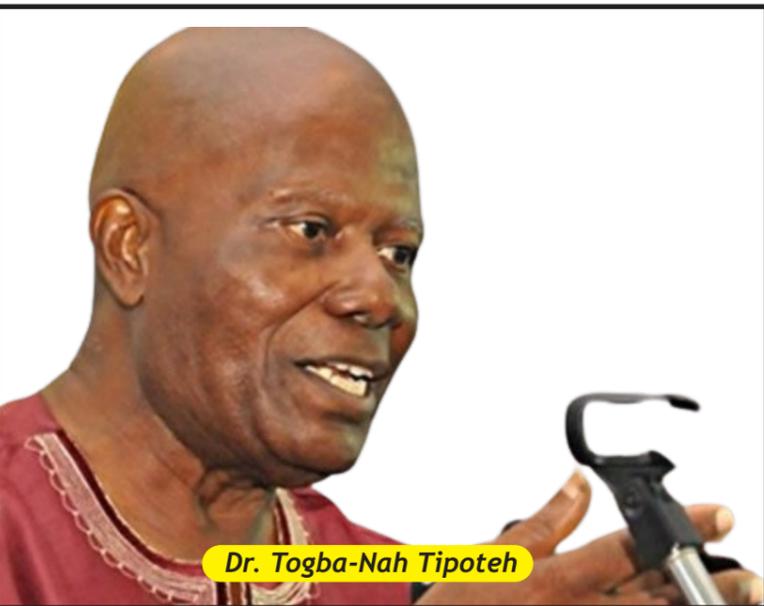
Lors d'un entretien exclusif accordé au NEW DAWN, l'ancien candidat à la présidence note

population libérienne a au plus trois cents dollars libériens par jour.

L'éminent économiste déplore que le pays se complaise actuellement dans une culture de "règne des hors-la-loi" au milieu d'une impunité généralisée, en utilisant l'expression "C'est ainsi que ça se termine maintenant, oh parce que c'est ainsi que ça a été construit."

Dr. Tipoteh : "Maintenant, quelle est la mauvaise direction ? La mauvaise direction, c'est la pauvreté, la corruption et l'anarchie. C'est cette situation qui a conduit à la violence. La violence est illustrée par le coup d'État et la guerre civile. La guerre civile a tué plus de trois cent mille personnes, et de nombreuses autres ont été blessées et déplacées."

Un membre de la classe progressiste révèle que pour empêcher le Liberia de retomber dans son sombre passé, il a exercé un leadership en partageant des informations sur ces questions afin de motiver les gens à travailler plutôt par le biais de l'état de droit, et que ces informations commencent à porter leurs fruits.



Dr. Togba-Nah Tipoteh

Liberia afin d'empêcher le pays de retomber dans son passé sanglant.

Monrovia, Liberia, le 18 avril 2024 - Le Dr Togba-Nah Tipoteh, homme politique libérien chevronné, économiste et érudit, se joint à l'appel pour la création de tribunaux des crimes de guerre et

que les recherches menées par AfroBarometer en 2022 ont révélé que le peuple libérien pense que son pays va dans la mauvaise direction.

Selon lui, le corps législatif libérien a accès à deux cent mille dollars libériens par jour. En revanche, ses amis étrangers ont accès à soixante-trois cents millions par jour, et le reste de la

▶ CONT'D page 9

HPX achève la diligence technique sur les permis pour l'exploitation de fer du fleuve Saint-Jean au Liberia

*Monrovia, le 18 avril 2024** - La société américaine High Power Exploration Inc. (« HPX ») a annoncé aujourd'hui qu'elle a achevé la diligence technique sur les permis de minerai de fer du fleuve Saint-Jean au Liberia. Ces permis font l'objet d'un accord d'acquisition avec Intra Ferrous Pte. Ltd., signé en décembre 2023.

Début février de cette année, l'équipe technique de HPX a effectué un examen approfondi des dossiers et une visite du site pour évaluer les actifs. Le communiqué de presse daté du 17 avril 2024 explique que lors de la visite du site, l'équipe géologique de HPX a identifié des affleurements importants de formations de fer rubanées (BIF), ce qui confirme l'avis de la société sur le potentiel des permis.

Les permis de minerai de fer du fleuve Saint-Jean sont situés stratégiquement dans le corridor de développement du Liberty Corridor, et des travaux antérieurs menés par l'United States Geological Survey (« USGS ») ont identifié

une cible d'exploration potentielle de 650 millions de tonnes de minerai de fer titrant jusqu'à 58 % de fer.

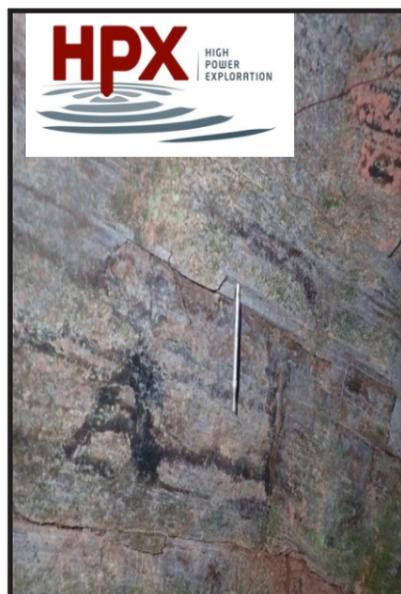
Le communiqué indique que HPX se réjouit de mettre en œuvre un programme d'exploration actif pour faire avancer les projets du fleuve Saint-Jean. Le communiqué précise également que HPX va maintenant finaliser la clôture financière de l'acquisition au cours de ce trimestre.

Outre la réalisation de la diligence technique sur les actifs du fleuve Saint-Jean, HPX a progressé de manière

significative dans le cadre de l'accord de développement du corridor de Liberty avec le comité de pilotage du corridor de Liberty.

La première réunion du comité de pilotage s'étant tenue le 28 février 2024, ses membres se sont efforcés de finaliser un accord de développement entre les parties qui pourra être présenté au comité interministériel des concessions du gouvernement libérien pour finalisation, approbation par le président

▶ CONT'D page 9



Éditorial

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

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.

Français

Starts from page 8 **Le Dr. Tipoteh rejoint la**

Fondateur et ancien porte-étendard du Parti du peuple libérien (LPP), il note que grâce à l'état de droit, les Libériens ont fait tomber des responsables politiques qui siégeaient au corps législatif afin de faire appliquer de bonnes lois. "La preuve de l'efficacité des informations que j'ai partagées est le résultat des élections de 2023. Sur les 52 à 54 législateurs, 75 % de ceux qui voulaient être réélus ne l'ont pas été. Cela s'est produit grâce à l'information. Nous donnons aux gens des informations sur le mauvais bilan du corps législatif."

Parallèlement, le Dr Tipoteh se félicite de la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre et économiques au Liberia et la

soutient, ajoutant qu'il est temps que ceux qui ont commis des crimes contre l'État et l'humanité soient traduits en justice pour mettre fin à l'impunité. Il note que l'impunité est cependant en train de disparaître progressivement grâce aux informations qu'ils partagent et diffusent, ce qui a empêché la réélection de plus de 75 % des législateurs. "Je soutiens tout ce qui promet la justice. Je soutiens donc la création d'un tribunal des crimes de guerre et économiques. La justice prévaut lorsque les personnes qui ont commis des crimes contre l'État et l'humanité sont traduites en justice. Il est donc impossible d'avoir la justice quand les gens commettent des crimes et restent impunis", dit-il.

Starts from page 8 **HPX achève la diligence**

de Liberia et ratification par le corps législatif libérien.

Le communiqué indique également que d'importants travaux ont été réalisés par l'équipe technique du projet Nimba au cours des six derniers mois, en se concentrant sur la rationalisation du projet, la réduction des capitaux nécessaires au développement de la phase 1 et l'augmentation des ressources disponibles.

Ces avancées significatives du projet comprennent le lancement de l'évaluation des impacts environnementaux et sociaux pour le développement de la mine en phase 1. Elles comprennent également l'achèvement d'un appel d'offres pour l'extraction minière, le traitement et le transport pour la phase 1, ainsi que la mise à jour de l'étude de faisabilité de 2021 afin de générer une réserve conforme à la norme JORC, y compris des mises à jour techniques des données géologiques, géotechniques et métallurgiques.

Elles comprennent également l'identification d'une zone à très haute teneur en phase 1, comprenant 20 millions de tonnes à 68 % de fer - un produit de haute qualité qui bénéficiera d'une prime de prix importante - et la simplification de l'organigramme d'exploitation

de la phase 1 afin de supprimer la complexité et de réduire les dépenses d'investissement.

Le communiqué mentionne également les dépenses d'investissement prévues pour la mise en production de la phase 1, d'environ 100 millions de dollars américains, ainsi que le potentiel d'augmenter les ressources du projet de 300 millions de tonnes pour les phases 1 et 2 grâce à des améliorations du plan de mine et du calendrier d'exploitation, ce qui portera la durée de vie de la mine à plus de 25 ans à un taux de production de 30 millions de tonnes par an.

Les progrès du projet comprennent également la réduction des dépenses d'investissement globales requises pour la phase 2, de 30 millions de tonnes par an, à 1,9 milliard de dollars américains, soit une réduction de 375 millions de dollars américains.

Le président-directeur général de HPX, Bronwyn Barnes, a commenté : « HPX est heureuse d'avoir achevé la diligence technique sur les permis du fleuve Saint-Jean au Liberia et va maintenant procéder à la clôture financière de l'acquisition proposée. »

« Alors que nous continuons à développer l'assiette d'actifs de la société en Afrique de l'Ouest, nous nous réjouissons d'étendre notre présence au Liberia avec la conclusion de cette acquisition », a poursuivi M. Barnes.

Le CDC s'alarme de tendances inquiétantes et met en garde le gouvernement dirigé par l'UP de ne pas s'auto-saboter



*Monrovia, Liberia, le 18 avril 2024** - L'ancienne coalition au pouvoir, le Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique (CDC), met en garde l'administration Boakai contre toute activité susceptible de perturber la gouvernance de l'État. L'ancien parti au pouvoir, le Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique, s'alarme d'une tendance inquiétante au sein du gouvernement dirigé par le Unity Party (UP). Il met en garde ce dernier contre des comportements négatifs susceptibles de perturber le processus de gouvernance de l'État. Le président par intérim du CDC, Atty. Augustine Janga Kowo, déclare que le récent incendie qui a ravagé les maisons du président de l'Assemblée nationale, Jonathan F. Koffa, et du sénateur du comté de Montserrado, Saah Joseph, ainsi que plusieurs autres à travers le pays, est une tendance inquiétante pour le gouvernement. En conséquence, il observe que le fonctionnement du gouvernement dans la conduite des affaires de l'État est très perturbateur, ajoutant que le ciblage d'anciens responsables gouvernementaux par le biais de révocations illégales de titulaires, de fonctionnaires et de personnel du service extérieur perturbe la paix. Il met en garde l'administration actuelle d'être très prudente dans sa

façon de procéder, afin de protéger la paix dans le pays. "Nous constatons une tendance inquiétante et nous pensons que ces incendies semblent suspects. Nous demandons aux autorités gouvernementales d'ouvrir une enquête rapide sur cette affaire. Nous exhortons également le gouvernement à ne pas perturber son propre processus de gouvernance", avertit Atty. Kowo. Il rappelle que quelques mois seulement après l'entrée en fonction de l'administration dirigée par l'UP, le CDC a écrit au président Koffa et à la présidente pro-tempore du Sénat, Nyonblee Kargan Lawrence, pour dénoncer l'inconduite de l'UP, quelques mois seulement après son arrivée au pouvoir. L'ancien contrôleur général du Libéria a révélé que la victoire de l'UP, qui s'est produite avec une marge d'erreur, indique à ce dernier que même s'il a la légitimité pour gouverner, il n'a pas nécessairement le mandat populaire du peuple libérien "Le taux de mortalité à Kinjor, dans le comté de Grand Cape Mount, était inquiétant. Pendant les six années de l'administration du CDC, il n'y a pas eu de mort de manifestants. Nous demandons à l'UP de respecter les droits humains du peuple libérien ; il a le droit de protester, comme l'UP l'a fait pendant les six années du CDC", souligne-t-il.

Le chef de la LDEA met en garde son adjoint

Malgré des conflits internes au sein de la LDEA, le colonel Kromah affirme que l'agence sous sa direction a réussi à réduire l'approvisionnement en Kush et à lutter contre d'autres substances illicites dans le pays.

Le directeur général de l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue (LDEA), le colonel Abraham Kromah, a averti son adjoint aux opérations, Hassan Fadiga, de donner la priorité à l'intérêt national et de s'abstenir de tout comportement contraire à l'éthique.

Le colonel Kromah a déclaré à son adjoint qu'il devait s'adapter à son rôle et reconnaître sa position de figure clé au sein de l'institution.

Ses commentaires font suite à des informations faisant état de tensions entre les deux responsables.

Cependant, le colonel Kromah a laissé entendre qu'il s'agissait de propagande bon marché concernant ses opérations de lutte contre la drogue.

Selon lui, des propagandistes ont affirmé qu'il empiétait sur les fonctions de son adjoint aux opérations, M. Fadiga.

Depuis son entrée en fonction cette année, le colonel Kromah et son équipe de la LDEA ont mené une lutte acharnée contre les drogues illicites.

Le nouveau gouvernement s'est engagé à combattre les drogues illicites, les déclarant urgence nationale de santé publique.

Depuis cette déclaration, le colonel Kromah et son équipe de la LDEA ont effectué des descentes dans des ghettos et procédé à l'arrestation de trafiquants et de



(LDEA) Director General Col. Abraham Kromah

consommateurs de drogue.

Le colonel Kromah a défendu son droit, en tant que chef de l'agence, d'effectuer des descentes pour saisir des substances illégales et arrêter les trafiquants de drogue.

"Je n'ai pas besoin du directeur des opérations pour effectuer des descentes, je ne relève pas de lui parce qu'il pense qu'étant directeur des opérations, je dois lui en référer", a déclaré le colonel Kromah, ancien chef adjoint de la police pour les opérations. Il a réaffirmé l'engagement de la LDEA à mener une guerre contre les drogues illicites, soulignant que l'agence a réalisé d'énormes progrès dans ce combat jusqu'à présent.

Selon lui, les preuves indiquent une pénurie de "Kush", une substance importante qui détruisait la vie de nombreux jeunes au Liberia avant l'arrivée du colonel Kromah à la tête de l'agence.

"Nous sommes en train de changer la donne dans la lutte contre la drogue. Nous resterons actifs dans cet effort", a déclaré le colonel Kromah.

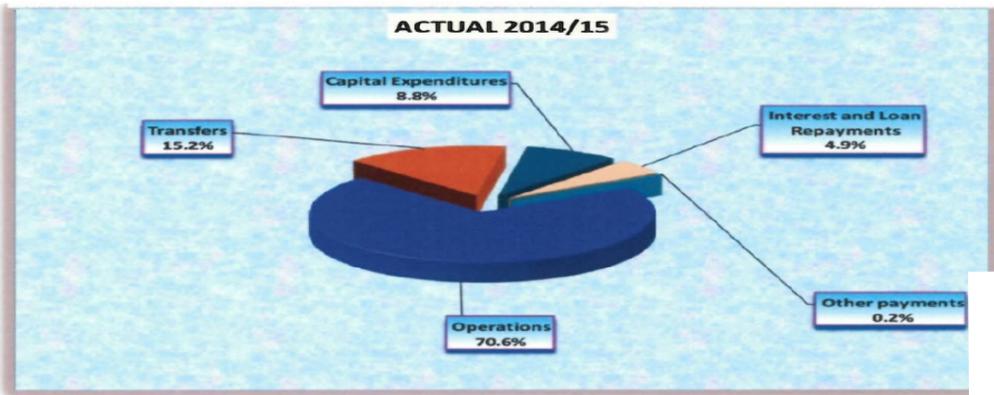
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Auditor General's Report

Figure 4: Share of Expenditure Categories to Total Expenditure in FY 2014/15



The composition of the expenditure for the reporting period (FY14/15) showed that operations expenses accounted for the largest proportion, 70.6%, followed by grants and transfers, 15.2%, and capital expenditure, 8.8%. Interest and Loan Repayments accounted for 4.9% and other payments represented approximately 0.2% of the total expenditure.

a) Public Sector Investment Plan (PSIP)

During the Fiscal Year under review, the GoL, through the MFDP, undertook several development initiatives in the areas of infrastructure, energy and environment, industry and commerce, rural development, and social development services affecting the National Youth Project, health, among others. These initiatives were implemented through the government's PSIP. The PSIP, which consists of activities that cut across operations and capital investment, amounted to US\$73.45 million or 12% of the total expenditure of US\$621.67 million. The GoL invested US\$44.23 million on infrastructure and basic services, of which ongoing road works and pavement of roads accounted for more than 92.4% or US\$40.9 million. Road maintenance represents US\$2.3 million and US\$1 million for renovation works at the Roberts International Airport. The Public Administrative Services Sector accounted for US\$12.47 million, of which rural development initiatives accounted for US\$10million. Other disbursements under the Public Administration sector include

Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30th 2015

US\$1.29 million for the Executive Mansion renovation and US\$1.16 million for construction of low cost housing estate in Marshall, Margibi County. Other sectors' spending under the PSIP included US\$8.43 million USAID support to the Health Sector and US\$2.69 million to the Energy and Environment Sector of which US\$2.64 million accounted for GoL contribution to the West Africa Power Pool (WAPP). Security and Rule of Law received US\$2.62 million, of the total invested amount in PSIP whilst industry and commerce received US\$1.10 million under the Liberia Maritime Authority for cleaning of beaches and waterway as depicted in the table below in details.

Table 6: Schedule of Public Sector Investment Plan for FY 2014/15

Account Title	Actual Amount	Revised Budget	Variance	Variance %	Actual FY13/14
SECTOR	US\$000	US\$000	US\$000	%	US\$000
01- Public Administration	12,466	12,474	8	00%	11,123
Ministry of Finance	-	-	-	-	1,323
Technical and professional sup	-	-	-	-	48
Infrastructural and logistical	-	-	-	-	30
Fiscal Policy Development and	-	-	-	-	128
Automation, improvement and mo	-	-	-	-	409
Payroll decentralization acres	-	-	-	-	170
Macroeconomic review and repor	-	-	-	-	330
Support for the Establishment	-	-	-	-	45
National Open Budget Project	-	-	-	-	32
Support-Project Mangt Office	-	-	-	-	131
National Claims	12,466	12,474	8	0%	9,800
Reconciliation	-	-	-	-	197
Renovation of the Executive Ma	1,297	1,297	-	0%	470
Legislative Proj for Rural Dev	10,000	10,008	8	0%	-
Low Cost Housing Construction	1,169	1,169	-	0%	-
National Capacity Development	-	-	-	-	1,632
Thermal Diesel (HFO) Power sta	-	-	-	-	7,500
Municipal Government	610	641	31	5%	1,228
Ministry of Internal Affairs	-	1	1	-	-
Reconciliation	-	1	1	-	-
Monrovia City Corporation	610	640	30	5%	-
Emergency Monrovia Urban Sanit	610	640	30	5%	-
National Claims	-	-	-	-	1,228
CPF: Solid waste collection	-	-	-	-	1,228
Transparency and Accountabilit	-	-	-	-	29
Liberia Anti-Corruption Comm.	-	-	-	-	29
Expansion of Legal Unit	-	-	-	-	29

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PLAN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2015

Account Title	Actual Amount	Revised Budget	Variance	Variance %	Actual FY13/14
SECTOR	US\$000	US\$000	US\$000	%	US\$000
Security and Rule of Law	2,621	2,661	40	2%	4,491
Law Reform Commission	-	-	-	-	650
Constitution Review Project	-	-	-	-	650
Ministry of Justice	799	812	13	2%	1,697
LNPCamp Maintenance and Logist	799	799	0	0%	-
Training, deployment and Logis	-	13	13	-	-
Operationalize the Justice an	-	-	-	-	648
Support to BIN UNMIL Drawdown	-	-	-	-	118
UNMIL Drawdown	-	-	-	-	931
National Claims	-	-	-	-	2,144
UNMIL Drawdown	-	-	-	-	2,144
Ministry of National Defense	1,530	1,535	5	0%	-
Operation and Maintenance of n	350	350	-	0%	-
AFL Todee Project Phase II	570	575	5	1%	-
Arms and Ammunition	450	450	-	0%	-
Infrastructure Rehabilitation	160	160	-	0%	-
Executive Protection Services	292	314	22	7%	-
Training, Deployment and Logis	292	314	22	7%	-

Health	8,434	8,434	-	00%	5,743
Ministry of Health & Soc. Welf	8,434	8,434	-	0%	5,743
USAID Support to Health	8,434	8,434	-	0%	5,743
Social Development Services	1,302	1,307	5	00%	4,150
Ministry of Youth and Sports	1,302	1,307	5	0%	-
National Youth Project	895	900	5	1%	-
027100- Special Projects	407	407	0	0%	-
Ministry of Gender and Dev.	-	-	-	-	210
Support Underprivileged and vu	-	-	-	-	210
National Veterans Bureau	-	-	-	-	97
On going PSIP Projects	-	-	-	-	97
National Claims	-	-	-	-	3,844
Community Development Fund	-	-	-	-	3,844
Education	-	-	-	-	697
William V.S. Tubman University	-	-	-	-	697
Education Fund	-	-	-	-	697

GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA

Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30th 2015

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PLAN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2015

Account Title	Actual Amount	Revised Budget	Variance	Variance %	Actual FY13/14
SECTOR	US\$000	US\$000	US\$000	%	US\$000
Energy and Environment	2,689	2,689	-	00%	5,193
Liberia Water and Sewer Corp.	49	49	-	00%	1,355
Operations of White Plains Wat	49	49	-	0%	988
Partial rehabilitate of the Mo	-	-	-	-	367
Liberia Electricity Corp.	2,640	2,640	-	00%	-
CPF: Compensation WAPP	2,640	2,640	-	0%	-
National Claims	-	-	-	-	3,838
Mount Coffee Rehabilitation, T	-	-	-	-	1,338
CPF: Compensation WAPP	-	-	-	-	2,500
Agriculture	-	-	-	-	499
Ministry of Agriculture	-	-	-	-	499
CARI institutional strengtheni	-	-	-	-	499
Infrastructure and Basic Servi	44,235	44,642	407	1%	20,950
Ministry of Transport	-	-	-	-	100
On going PSIP Projects	-	-	-	-	100
Ministry of Public Works	43,235	43,639	404	1%	1,000
Ongoing Roadworks, Pavements a	40,918	40,921	3	0%	-
Maintenance of roads and bridg	2,317	2,718	401	17%	-
MPW Rural Roads	-	-	-	-	1,000
Renovation of Roberts Interna	1,000	1,003	3	0%	-
National Claims	-	-	-	-	19,850
Maintenance of roads and bridg	-	-	-	-	15,393
Monrovia Fiber Optic Backbone	-	-	-	-	957
CPF: Restle Cldwel Brgd Gant	-	-	-	-	92
CPF: Monrovia-Ganta Guinea Boa	-	-	-	-	3,408
Industry and Commerce	1,097	1,107	11	1%	1,075
Ministry of Commerce and Indus	-	-	-	-	175
Development of Standards Labor	-	-	-	-	175
Liberia Maritime Authority	1,097	1,107	11	1%	510
Other Legislative Project	-	-	-	-	510
Cleaning of Beach and Waterway	1,097	1,107	11	1%	-
National Claims	-	-	-	-	390
Liberia Economic Growth Fund	-	-	-	-	390
Grand Total	73,453	73,956	502	1%	55,178

GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA

Report on the Annual Consolidated Fund Account for the Financial Year Ended June 30th 2015

Total Public Debt

Liberia's total public debt, comprising of both external and domestic debts, amounted to US\$767.65 million as at June 30, 2015. Of this amount, domestic debt accounted for 36.01% or US\$276.44 million while external debt accounted for 63.99% or US\$491.21 million.

The public debt stock increased from US\$648.20 million in the previous fiscal year (FY2013/2014) to US\$767.65 million as at end June 30, 2015, showing a net increase of 18% or US\$119.44 million when compared with previous fiscal year. This increase was driven by disbursements from the external debt from previous of US\$260.45 million, US\$5.00 million from the domestic debt. Total foreign exchange/other adjustments for the reporting period was US\$31.34 million as shown in the below table and Appendix 5- Detail of Outstanding Public Debts.

Table 7: Public Debt for 2014/2015

Account Title	FY 2014-15	FY 2013-14	Variance	% Variance
	US \$'000	US \$'000	US \$'000	
Domestic Debt	276,441	293,550	(11,109)	-6%
External Debt	491,216	354,650	136,566	39%
Total	767,657	648,200	119,457	18%

Figure 5: Public Debts FY2014/15



US83M or US32.8M

EPA, FDA & Partners brainstorm on multi-level climate governance strategy

Former President George Weah's letter requesting a loan from the Central Bank in December 2023 has triggered a new political debate here. Though the letter did not specify the amount, Sen. Amara Konneh and his likes are claiming it was Us83m.

extend credit to the Government of Liberia with maturities not exceeding six months only under exceptional circumstances such as war, famine, or other natural disasters. In the event any credit remains unpaid on due date, the debt including accrued interest shall be convened into markable securities with a maximum of 12-maturity which shall bear market related interest rates. The Government shall cooperate with the Central Bank in the issuance of the requisite financial instruments."

Monrovia, Liberia, April 19, 2024 - Government of Liberia strategizes on Climate Change regime.

By Othello B. Garblah

Documents in the possession of the New Dawn newspaper have revealed that the actual amount loaned to the Government of Liberia by the Central Bank for Civil Servants salaries based on

documents and returned checks revealed that the amount of (Fifty million, two hundred thousand United States Dollars) US50, 200,000 had been drawn out as Civil Servants Salary checks covering the period June 2023 to November 2023. On November 30, 2023, the

By Lincoln G. Peters

Liberia's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and partners have ended a two-day Learning and Design Exchange Multi-level Climate Governance and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) National Implementation Pathways strategy in Kakata, Margibi County.

processes that involved measuring the amount of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions reduced by a specific mitigation activity, such as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD), over a period of time and report these findings to an accredited third party.

At the end of the gathering, the project lead coordinator of the MRV for Climate Action in West Africa, Isaac N. Kannah, emphasized the need for the Government of Liberia to help build a system that will be able to manage climate change in Liberia.

Organized by the Environmental Protection Agency with support from the Government of Canada through NOVA Sphere, the event was held from April 12 to 13, 2024, in Kakata City.

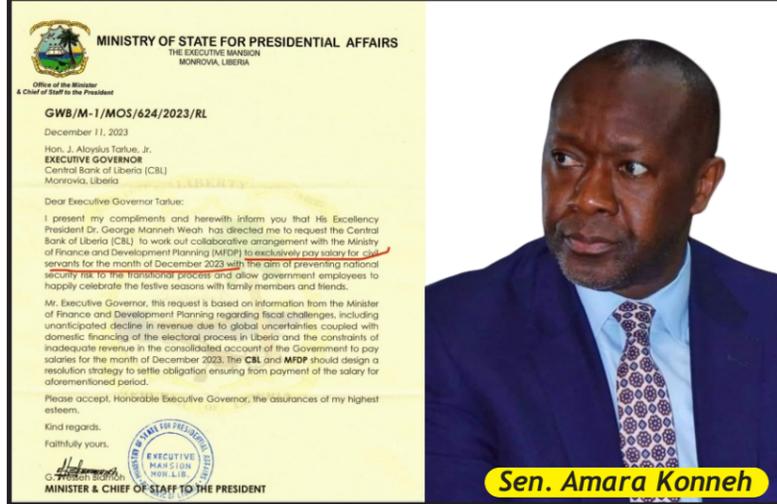
Mr. Kannah disclosed that there are plans underway to engage with people at community level, but they are firstly interacting with high profile personalities at government and institutional levels.

It was meant for information sharing on climate change and its effects on Liberia with key emphasis on the three transformative pilots being implemented under the MRV Project.

He warned that Liberia does not have any law or legal framework to guide the carbon market, as such, anyone can trade into carbon business.

The two-day event also

He wants the Government of Liberia to setup framework and mechanism to safe guide the process.

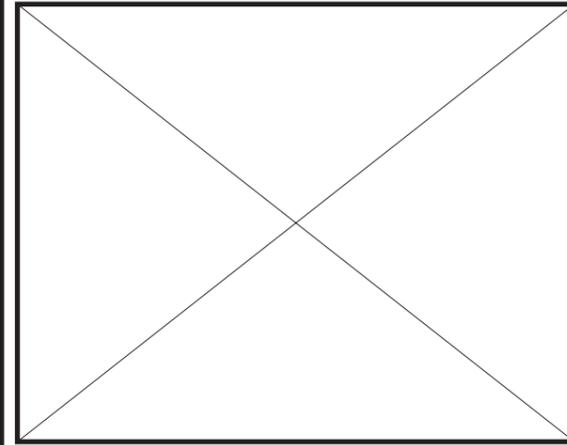


Sen. Amara Konneh

former President George Weah's request on December 11, 2023, was US32.8 Million, not US83 million, as speculated by Gbarpolu County Senator Amara Konneh and his likes.

CBL wrote to then Finance and Development Planning Minister Samuel Tweah, drawing the Minister's attention to the build-up of the Government of Liberia's obligation to the bank.

Records showed that during the second term of former President Sirleaf, at which time now Sen. Konneh served as Finance Minister, the Government of Liberia borrowed US110,837,196.49 (one hundred ten million, eight hundred thirty-seven thousand, one hundred ninety-six hundred and forty-nine cent) from the CBL without going through the legislature. All credits were based on Board approvals, not legislative approval, as Sen. Konneh now demands.



identified roles of national stakeholders, and developed next steps for national implementation of the Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) of Climate Actions.

Kannah asserted that it is not possible to penalize someone for breaking climate change procedures when there are no laws in place by the government.

This paper also discovered that the US83 million is an accumulation of loans booked and transferred to the GoL Payroll account by the CBL from June to November 2023 to pay civil servants salaries.

Former Minister Tweah, in his response dated December 5, 2023, just six days before President Weah's December 11, 2023, request, which summed the money up to US83m, indicated that the guarantee to pay the GoL obligations were solely relying on revenue mobilization. He explained further that as of November 2023, Revenue intake had declined.

To date, the total loan owed by the GoL to the CBL, including the 83 million accrued over the years, is over US\$570.4 million.

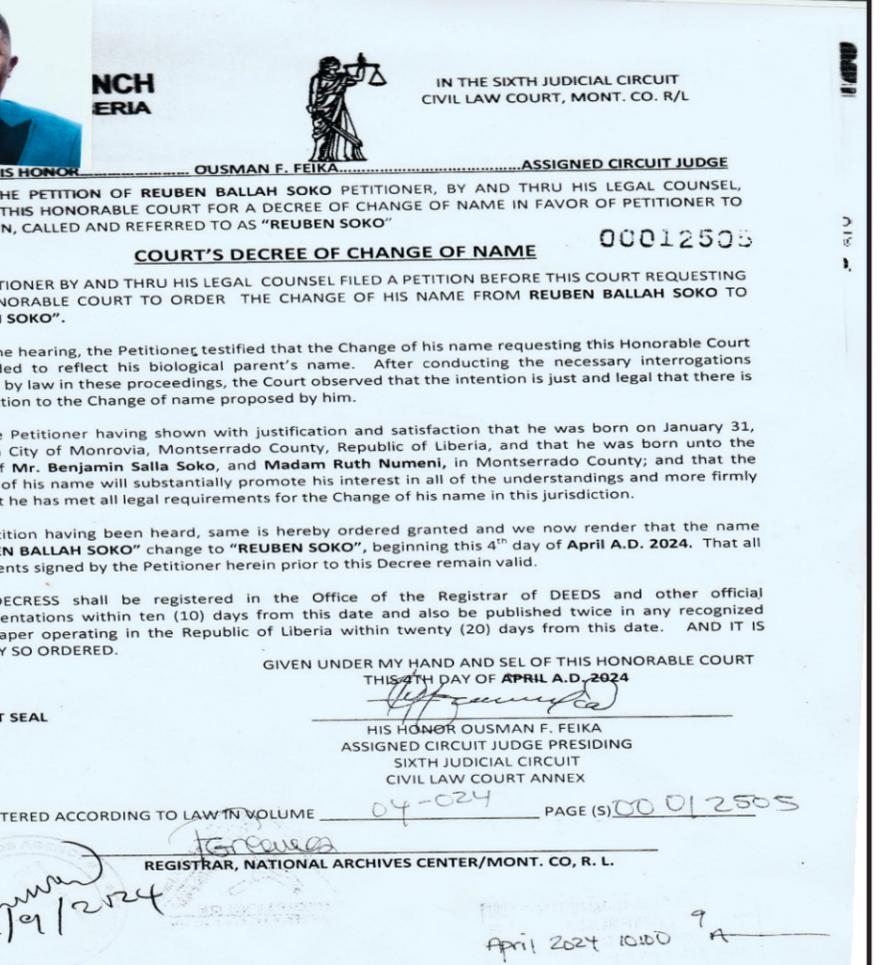
MRV refers to the multi-step

"So this is a learning and design exchange meeting; we brought high level stakeholders from the Government Ministries, Agencies and civil society organizations to look at how well Liberia can position itself in a way that it takes actions to address the issue of climate change", he said.

In his social media post on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, following exchanges between him and Senator Albert Chie, Sen. Konneh claimed that the CBL loaned the Weah administration US83 Million in December 2023 alone while displaying a copy of the letter written by former President Weah's Chief of Staff J. Wesseh Blamo.

Sources in the corridor of the CBL said the Bank chose to put the US83m in the loan category to give President Boakai a briefing space. The source said drawing down the loan, which would have been a little over US13m per month, would have put a strain on Boakai's administration, which was taking over.

On December 6, 2019, the CBL, under the current Board of Governors and the Government of Liberia, agreed to restructure the GOL's debt. That agreement came into effect on January 1, 2020. This ushered the Bank under the IMF program.



Sen. Konneh further claimed in his post that the CBL loaning out US83 million to the Government of Liberia in December 2023 "was a violation of the Constitution, Public Financial Management (PFM) Law of 2009 (as amended), and the CBL Act." And had void to follow each check all the way to the vendor.

Amara Konneh cites violation of the Constitution. Article 34, section d (iii) of the Constitution states that no loans shall be raised by the Government on behalf of the Republic or guarantees given for any public institution or authority other than by or under the authority of a legislative enactment.

The loan (US32.8M) acquired from the CBL by the Weah administration was secured during Liberia's suspension from the IMF program in December of last year. To be continued.

However, Sen. Konneh appears to be comingling the PFM law, which specifically applies to the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning and is exclusive of the CBL. The CBL operates by its Act. It does not engage vendors directly.

However, according to the CBL Act: Section 46 (2) of the Amended and Restatement of the Act establishing the Central Bank of Liberia states:

Discovering the US50.2Million The New Dawn discovered that as of November 2023,

"Subject to the overall limits specified by this Act, the Central Bank, by decision of the Board of Governors, may

Candidates boycott debate in Ganta

-Ahead of Nimba senatorial by-election

Nimba County, Liberia, April 19, 2024 - Two senatorial candidates in Nimba County have boycotted debate, ahead of Tuesday, 23 April 2024 senatorial by-election in the county.

By Thomas Domah / Nimba County

Two candidates for the April 23, 2024 by-election in Nimba County have reportedly

themselves to voters two of the four candidates failed to show up.

The April 18, 2024 debate held in Ganta, was the second boycotted by the same two candidates. There have been no official reasons for the repeated boycott.

Candidates involved are former Senator Thomas S. Grupee from the Reformers National Congress (RNC) and the ruling Unity Party (UP's) Candidate Nya D. Twayen, Jr.

The first and second debates were attended by People Unification Party (PUP) Representative Samuel G. Kogar and Armstrong Gobac Selekpoh of the Liberian National Union (UNU) both of whom attended the first debate in Tappita and the second held in Ganta, Nimba County respectively.

Candidates Nya D. Twayen, Jr., and Thomas S. Grupee told The NEW DAWN that they were unable to attend because of time limitation.

According to them, they are trying to cover over 720 towns in all 19 administrative districts of the county, so there is no time left to go for debate.

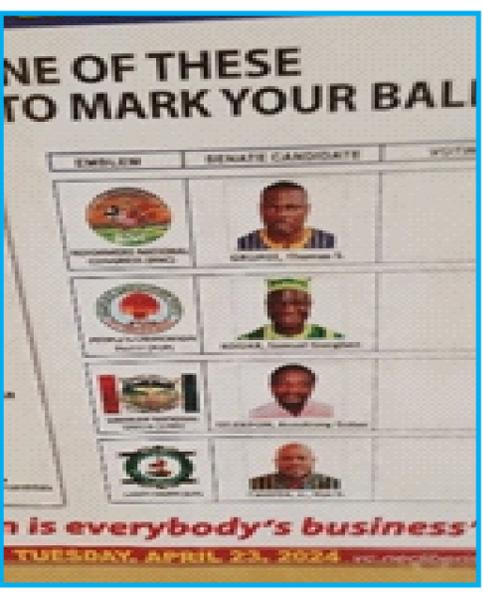
While most Liberian politicians shun debate?

Nimba County self-proclaimed godfather Senator Prince Yormie Johnson, current Vice President Jeremiah Koung and former President George Weah, among others are on record for not attending debates, but their actions have been supported by voters, who are quoted as saying "that debate we will eat?"

The NEW DAWN gathered that most of politicians who refused to attend national debate often get elected eventually.

Senator Prince Yormie Johnson attended once in 2005, which made him famous but since then he has never returned to the debate room, but he is spending his third nine

▶ CONT'D page 11



boycotted a senatorial debate. The debate organized by LMDI of Journalist John Kollie with funding from USAID, is intended for candidates in the senatorial race to sell

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