





CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

BUYING AND SELLING RATES LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR **BUYING**

L\$191.8107/US\$1.00 L\$193.2620/US\$1.00 MONDAY 14, OCTOBER 2024

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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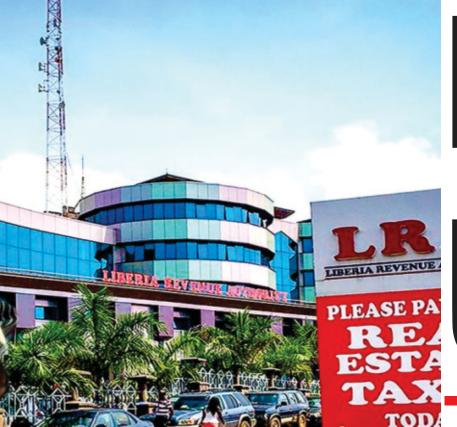
VOL. 14 NO. 180

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2024

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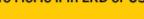
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ontinental News

Shoppers killed in Sudan as air strikes hit busy market

udanese army air according to UN estimates. strikes have killed at Khartoum.

Saturday's airstrikes occupied by paramilitary Rapid the number of injured. Support Forces (RSF) in residential area.

The wounded are being treated least 23 people and in hospital, according to a injured more than 40 others in spokesman from the Nobel Prizethe south of the capital, nominated rescue network, Emergency Response Rooms.

Emergency responders report that it is backing the RSF. targeted the main camp that hospitals are overwhelmed by

Since Friday, fierce fighting has southern Khartoum, hitting the escalated around Khartoum, central market and a nearby largely controlled by the RSF, with

government presented the UN security council with what it called new evidence that the United Arab Emirates is arming and supporting the RSF, and called for action against the Gulf state.

The UAE has long denied

Both the RSF and the Sudanese Armed Forces have been accused of committing atrocities.

"Relentless hostilities the military intensifying airstrikes across the country have



residents were among the belt. victims.

civil war that has claimed up to erupted on Saturday. 150,000 lives, and displaced a fifth of Sudan's population

The RSF have been battling advancing towards Khartoum from crisis," warned the UN last the military in an 18-month nearby Omdurman, where clashes month.

Earlier this week, the Sudanese world's largest hunger crisis".

Traders, shoppers and local in the city's centre and southern brought misery to millions of civilians, triggering the world's Witnesses say the army is fastest-growing displacement

It says Sudan is now "the

Africa health chief criticises **US Marburg travel advice**

against non-essential travel to Rwanda in light of the outbreak of the official Jean Kaseya has said.

Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) added that it was "not the treatment Rwanda and Africa deserve".

In just two weeks, Rwanda has recorded 13 deaths from the disease - most of them among healthcare workers, according to a statement from surveillance. the country's health minister.

control, the authorities say.

Nevertheless, those on the front line of dealing with its consequences remain nervous.

"What scares you the most [is] when you see people of the same profession dying," said Maria, not her real name, an intensive-care nurse at a hospital in the Rwandan capital, Kigali.

Maria talked to the BBC on condition of anonymity as she was concerned if she spoke out publicly, she would lose her job. "I can't stop telling myself that I might be the next, that

S official advice contact with infected bodily fluids such as sweat, urine and blood. While no vaccines against Marburg have been approved, deadly Marburg virus is "not Rwanda has begun trials with fair", Africa's top health supplies sent from Sabin Institute, a US-based non-profit The head of the Africa organisation. It has vaccinated 200 people, prioritising healthcare workers and contacts of confirmed cases, with plans to expand vaccination as more doses arrive.

> Africa CDC has also provided 5,000 Marburg test kits to Rwanda and neighbouring countries to strengthen cross-border

Maria has not yet been offered But the outbreak is under a vaccine but remains determined to continue working.

> "I am a nurse, I am on the front line, we have to fight it, but the fear is constant," she said.

> Anxiety over the virus spreading to Europe saw authorities in Germany shut down part of Hamburg's central station a few days ago, after a medical student and his companion fell ill following their visit to Rwanda. Both eventually tested negative for Marburg virus.

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued its second-highest level of travel notice for Rwanda,

P<u>ion</u>eering South African politician dies aged 65 he first black central the USA, Switzerland, and wearing battered old clothes

bank governor of South Africa, who later went on to become finance minister, has died at the age of 65.

Tito Mboweni had suffered a "short illness", the presidency confirmed on Saturday evening, without specifying further. "We have lost a leader and compatriot who has served our nation as an activist, economic policy innovator and champion of labour rights," President Cyril Ramaphosa said.

Mbwoeni's family said they were "devastated" and that he had died in a hospital in Johannesburg "surrounded by his loved ones".

A former anti-apartheid activist, Mboweni spent almost a decade in exile in Lesotho where he attended university.

That was followed by a Masters degree from the University of East Anglia in the UK.

"I suppose you can call me an exile kid, and international kid born in South Africa," he was quoted as saying in later years. "But my home is in South Africa, Lesotho, Mozambique, the United Kingdom, Zambia, Angola, Tanzania, Swaziland,

everywhere I stayed in my youth. and shoes only added to his I hate narrow nationalism - I earnest public profile. cannot stand it. I hate xenophobia."

He returned to South Africa in 1990, then served as the first performance, at one point labour minister under President being named central bank Nelson Mandela, playing a key governor of the year by the role in shaping post-apartheid financial magazine labour laws.

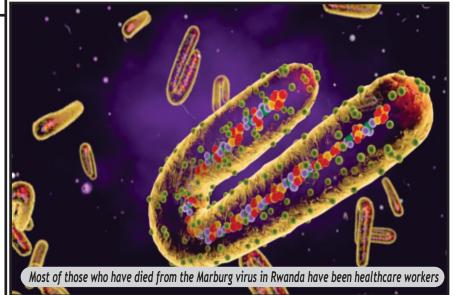
collective bargaining agreements in bringing inflation under and labour courts to protect control". workers' rights.

being principled and ready to as an international adviser to debate issues openly, says News the global investment bank

In his 10 years as governor of the reserve bank, Mboweni earned plaudits for his Euromoney - who wrote that These laid the foundation for "his biggest success has been



Tito Mboweni was an ANC veteran and widely respected economist



virus and how dangerous is it?

were sick, being treated in strain faced by staff in the facility every day.

infected with the Marburg more effectively. virus will die, according to the virus, and it spreads from

This was followed by a stint | maybe I am positive but recommending that people avoid He gained a reputation for in the private sector, including without symptoms yet," said non-essential travel to Rwanda the 46-year-old nurse and due to the outbreak. Rwanda's mother. What is the Marburg neighbours, Tanzania, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of PODCAST: How is Rwanda Congo, which have all recorded managing the Marburg virus Marburg cases in the past, have all outbreak? She told the BBC increased their border that several of her colleagues surveillance to prevent the spread. While Burundi has gone a isolation, and that more than step further, setting up an one had already died as a emergency treatment and result of the virus. She isolation centre in readiness for described the overwhelming an outbreak. Africa's CDC said it was improving public health emergency training to help staff On average half of patients handle any Marburg outbreaks

The Rwandan authorities have World Health Organization taken steps to restrict funerals for (WHO). Fruit bats host the virus victims to 50 attendees to help curb the spread of the human to human through disease. BBC

By John J. Donohue, Eric A. Baldwin

EDITORIAL COMMENTAR

Welcoming the ECOWAS initiative! The Crisis of America's Public Defenders

A US\$15 Million bridge project between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire is expected to boast integration and trade, not only between the two countries but countries within the entire ECOWAS bloc and beyond.

The project is an initiative of the ECOWAS Commission, funded by the African Development Bank. By all accounts, it is a peoplecentered project that would see not only greater cooperation and collaboration, but intermarriages between citizens of both countries.

Liberia that faces challenges of road connective is expected to benefit from this project in many ways by boasting trade between the two countries and peoples. The Peoples of Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire share tribal, cultural, and economic ties that are expected to grow to another level thru the bridge project.

We say hats off to the ECOWAS Commission for envisioning regional integration thru connectivity that will go a long way in not just uniting West Africa, but dismantling barriers and promoting free movement of goods and services.

Liberia should do everything in availing itself for this project, as the Acting Director of Transport of the ECOWAS Commission, Mr. Chris Appiah, discloses that the Government of Liberia is yet to second engineers to collaborate with their counterparts from Côte d'Ivoire in providing supervision over the project.

It is very important that we as a country, do not seem to be lagging behind in such an historic project that stands to benefit generations unborn. With free movement of peoples, goods and services, regional economic activities will increase in the entire ECOWAS region, which has been a long-time dream.

President Joseph Boakai should see this bridge project with Ivory Coast as a great opportunity to begin to initiate future plans for more collaborative programs between Liberia and her French-speaking neighbor.

It also means the Ministry of Public Works here should put aside all prevailing internal wrangling and focus on service to the people particularly, the bridge project with Côte d'Ivoire, as it serves common purpose.

Already, official start of the project has been set for November with completion expected in two years. A Chinese road construction company, SHAANXI Construction Engineering Corporation LTD, has been selected for the work. Why should Liberia be dragging its feet? It is difficult in comprehending why!

The Government of Liberia should act now in rallying behind ECOWAS to see this milestone project kick off in the interest of current and future generations. We salute ECOWAS and all those behind this dream of promoting regional integration and cross border trade.



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TANFORD - The public-defender system in the United States is plagued by underfunding, overwhelming caseloads, and entrenched inequalities. Public defenders, who manage hundreds of cases, often lack the time and resources needed to provide the high-quality representation their clients deserve. This results in a justice system where the quality of one's legal defense depends on one's financial means, undermining the fundamental principle of equal justice for all.

While many Americans may believe they will never face a criminal investigation, one in three will have a criminal record at some point in their lives, and one in three has been arrested by age 23. When an arrest occurs, competent defense counsel is crucial to protecting the rights of the accused amid the complexities of the criminal-justice system. Most people charged with a crime are likely to be represented by public defenders, who handle 60-80% of state felony cases and nearly 90% of federal felony cases.

The right to legal assistance is guaranteed by the US Constitution's Sixth Amendment, but the public-defender system was not established until 1963, when the Supreme Court ruled that all criminal defendants are entitled to legal representation, regardless of their ability to pay. This right was reinforced in 1984 by the Court's decision in Strickland v. Washington, which established the standard for competent representation. According to the American Bar Association, lawyers must possess the "legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness, and preparation reasonably necessary" for effective counsel.

But despite these legal standards, public defenders in the US are under immense strain. Three-quarters manage caseloads far exceeding the limits set by professional standards, which recommend a maximum of 150 felony and 400 misdemeanor cases annually. These caps allow roughly 13.9 hours per felony case and 5.2 hours per misdemeanor, based on a 40-hour workweek.

The Rand Corporation recently updated these benchmarks, recommending 286 hours for serious felony cases such as murders punishable by life without parole and 248 hours per case for less severe murder charges. According to these guidelines, a public defender handling only non-life-sentence murder cases could take on just eight cases

Harris County, Texas, underscores the urgency of the crisis. The Office of the Public Defender there shared data with us indicating that it is managing 6,540 active criminal cases, with 3,789 new cases opened in 2024 alone. These include 41 capital cases requiring 11,726 hours of legal work, 175 non-capital murder cases demanding 43,400 hours, and 368 sex-crime cases that require 61,456 hours.

With just 82 public defenders, the Harris County office's total annual capacity is 191,360 hours. But the 4,052 misdemeanor cases alone require 82,336 hours of legal work, implying a shortfall of 7,558 hours. And this does not include sick leave, federal holidays, personal days, and vacations. Yet, despite the further strain on an already overburdened system, policymakers remain reluctant to increase funding.

Excessive caseloads significantly undermine

the quality of defense. Recent research by Aviv Caspi shows that overburdened public defenders are less effective, finding a direct correlation between increasing caseloads and harsher sentences for convicted clients. According to his findings, clients of public defenders in the 25th percentile of caseloads receive sentences nearly twice as long as defendants represented by those in the 75th percentile. Similarly, a 2020 study found that higher public-defender caseloads increase the likelihood of pre-trial detention and lead to longer custodial sentences.

Recognizing these challenges, our own research explores an alternative approach that could transform the system. The collaborative defense model, which has gained traction in academic and policy circles in recent years, introduces the concept of "client advocates" who act as both quasi-translators - helping clients understand legal processes and requirements - and navigators, connecting defendants to services that address the root causes of their legal issues.

Partners for Justice, our research collaborators, pioneered the collaborative defense model, training and placing client advocates in 23 public-defender offices across the country. These advocates, while not attorneys or social workers, play a vital role by helping clients prepare for legal proceedings and linking them to social services.

Although evidence of the collaborative defense model's impact remains limited, similar approaches have been studied in New York. One such study found that the introduction of holistic defense services in the Bronx reduced custodial sentences by 16% and shortened expected sentence lengths by nearly 25%, ultimately cutting 1.1 million incarceration days over ten years without compromising public safety. When the program began in 2000, the rate of violent crime in the Bronx was 1,297 per 100,000 people. By the time the study concluded in 2014, the rate had dropped 32%, to 883 violent crimes per 100,000 people.

To be sure, collaborative defense, on its own, will not reduce caseloads. But adopting it would allow public-defense offices to hire more interdisciplinary staff, enabling public defenders to delegate essential yet timeconsuming tasks to a team better equipped to address the full range of clients' needs. Moreover, by connecting clients with health and economic services, the model could help governments recognize the value of publicdefender agencies, leading to increased funding, expanded staffing, and lower caseloads.

Our research is still in its early stages. But if the Bronx is any indication, the collaborative defense model could revolutionize public legal defense in the US. In places where it is already in place, its transformative impact is already a tangible reality.

That said, collaborative defense is more than iust a model: it is a movement toward true justice, ensuring that all defendants receive the legal assistance they deserve. Early results suggest that this could help bring the US criminal-justice system closer to what the late Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black called the "noble ideal ... of fair trials before impartial tribunals in which every defendant stands equal before the law."

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By Jorge G. Castañeda

By J. Bradford DeLong

NEW DAWN

Enjoy the Soft Landing The Cuban Contingent Protecting Maduro

EXICO CITY - On January 23, 1958, a group of Venezuelan military officers overthrew the brutal dictator Marcos Pérez Jimenez, who had ruled for six years - longer than he deserved - thanks to an oil bonanza. Soon, elections were held, ushering in a 40-year period of representative democracy, underpinned by a vibrant civil society, high oil prices (for the most part), and concomitant increases in spending and corruption, with the latter being largely tolerated. It was only in the mid-1990s that lower oil prices and economic stagnation brought an end to the Punto Fijo Pact, named after the city where Venezuela's major political parties negotiated a power-sharing arrangement and agreed to respect election results.

Given this precedent, many observers have wondered why the Venezuelan armed forces have not attempted to oust President Nicolás Maduro, who assumed power after the death of Hugo Chávez in 2013. After all, Maduro has a lot going against him. He has presided over an economic collapse, with GDP shrinking by roughly threequarters between 2014 and 2021. Oil production has plummeted, basic goods are scarce, and nearly eight million Venezuelans - more than one-quarter of the country's population - have fled. His 2013 election was marred by fraud allegations, and his government has been plagued by massive corruption scandals. Moreover, having never served in the military, Maduro lacks the institutional loyalty that Chávez enjoyed.

But even if Maduro managed to retain the military's loyalty during the first decade of his rule, one can reasonably ask why the fraudulent July 28 presidential election has not triggered a repeat of the 1958 coup. International election observers and foreign governments, including the United States, the European Union, and a dozen countries in Latin America, have concluded that Maduro brazenly stole the election from opposition candidate Edmundo González, who fled to Spain after Maduro claimed victory. González has buttressed his claim that he won by a three-to-one margin with tally sheets from more than 80% of polling sites. Maduro, for his part, has been unable to produce a single document proving his purported win, despite pressure from several leftist governments in the region to do so.

Regime change of this sort is not unheard-of in Latin America. Facing similar accusations of election rigging in 2019, Evo Morales, the more popular and successful Bolivian leftist president, was ousted by his country's army, who "suggested" that he resign. In fact, beyond the obvious explanations for Maduro's survival - from cajoling the military to thwarting attempts by the opposition and the US to unseat him - there is one crucial but often overlooked reason why he remains in power: the Cuban contingent.

Ever since the Venezuelan military tried and failed to overthrow Chávez in 2002, Cuba has posted thousands of doctors, nurses, sports instructors, security advisers, and intelligence agents in the country, in exchange for Venezuelan oil at subsidized

Current estimates put the number of Cubans at around 15,000, but it has been as high as 30,000 in the past. These workers are tasked with coup-proofing Maduro, as they did for Chávez, largely by monitoring the Venezuelan army from top to bottom.

Cuban security forces are well-suited to the task. In the 1960s, they foiled numerous attempts by the US to assassinate Fidel Castro. Later, in the 1980s and 1990s, Cuba's security apparatus unveiled a series of conspiracies - some real, others imaginary - against the communist regime. But most important is the absolute loyalty of the Cuban contingent in Venezuela - not to Maduro, but rather to the Cuban government.

This underscores how unusual the situation is. One could hardly imagine the Secret Service, the FBI, or the CIA operating in a foreign country in the service of an authoritarian leader, but answering only to America.

While many Venezuelans are uncomfortable with this situation, it is invaluable for Maduro. Unlike their Venezuelan counterparts, Cuban intelligence and security personnel do not have to listen to their families complain about the lack of food, medicine, or clothing. Because they do not get sucked into Venezuelans' anger and frustration with the regime, this arrangement has withstood an extraordinary degree of political turbulence, even as the economy collapses and people vote with their feet.

So long as the Cuban contingent is in Venezuela, it is safe to assume that the local military will not revolt against Maduro - unless, of course, the orders came from the Cuban government. That seems unlikely: Cuba's ruthless former interior minister, Ramiro Valdés, may no longer oversee operations in Venezuela, but the government has not deviated from the principles that guided him.

The countries seeking a way out of the current Venezuelan impasse, including the US, Mexico, Colombia, and Brazil, would do well to enlist Cuban cooperation for a peaceful and democratic solution to the governance crisis.

With a significant Cuban presence in the country, no one should count on the military turning against Maduro.

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ERKELEY - The COVID-19 pandemic created both a short- and a medium-term challenge for American economic policy.

The immediate challenge was to maintain consumers' incomes in the face of sweeping lockdowns, supply-chain disruptions, and shifts in aggregate supply. This meant striking a balance between avoiding a depression and not goosing the economy with so much liquidity as to turbocharge inflation.

The medium-term challenge concerned a broader crisis-induced structural shift away from the purchase of services - especially in-person services - toward the purchase of durable goods.

At the height of the pandemic, we crammed a couple of decades' worth of societal

learning about leveraging e-commerce and the internet into just two years. One

takeaway was that doing more of our consuming at home was more comfortable and simply made more sense.

Today, durable-goods spending in real terms is 38% above where it was at the end of March 2018, while services spending is only 15% higher, a 23-percentage-point gap in relative growth.

The medium-term challenge, then, was to create the market incentives to induce workers and firms to respond to this great structural shift in demand. Since neither nominal wages nor prices were going to fall back to their previous levels (they are "sticky," in the economic parlance), substantially cutting wages and prices in shrinking service-sector industries was a non-starter. Instead, creating more supply in the areas where there was growing demand required wage and price inflation in the newly expanding sectors.

Managing the COVID economy thus required an enormously large - but not too large amount of income support, as well as a price-level jump that would be sufficient to help the economy settle in to a new occupational and sectoral configuration. In other words, the United States needed some inflation, but not so much as to create expectations that the inflationary burst would be persistent.

Where are we today? On October 4, we learned that estimated payroll employment (seasonally adjusted) in September was 254,000 higher than it had been in August. Moreover, the August number was revised upward by 72,000, which means there are 326,000 more employed workers than in the previous jobs report. After rising from 3.8% a year ago to 4.3% in July, the unemployment rate is back down to 4.1%.

Yes, this is just one data point; but it is a remarkable one. Moreover, we also recently learned, following data revisions, that income growth coming out of the pandemic was substantially higher than previously estimated.

Real (inflation-adjusted) income as of the second quarter of 2024 has been revised upward by 3.6%, and the estimated level of real production - which by definition should be equal to real income, save for a pesky "statistical discrepancy" - was revised upward by 1.3%.

This means that estimated productivity growth since the start of 2020 will be revised upward by about 0.3 percentage points per year, whereas real labor costs will be revised downward by a similar amount.

After the US Federal Reserve began its rapid tightening cycle in the spring of 2022, I was constantly worried that it would go too far and send the US economy into an unnecessary and avoidable recession.

After all, market-based indicators of inflation expectations strongly suggested that the post-pandemic inflation was "transitory." But there has been no recession, and now I have to think hard about why I was wrong.

Has the US economy remained so remarkably strong because the effect of expansionary fiscal policy was more powerful than I thought? Or is it because the "neutral" rate of interest has risen substantially over the past half-decade, implying that the Fed's monetary policy has been substantially less restrictive and contractionary than I thought?

The post-pandemic economy has had no shortage of silver linings. The question is whether there are any dark clouds looming on the horizon.

One obvious risk is that the ongoing AI boom will prove to be a bubble. While there are plenty of promising use cases for AI technologies, it is not yet clear how these will translate into increased business profits.

Macroeconomic forecasting often rewards pessimists. Even absent a disaster, new

challenges almost always emerge where we least expect them. For now, though, we should all enjoy the soft landing that the economy has made.

The recovery from the pandemic has been nothing short of extraordinary.

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ON 2ND THOUGHTS



with Othello B. Garblah

The Liberia Electricity Corporations' search for new source power supplies

eports that the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) management is negotiating a 50-megawatt electric power supply from Ghana and an additional 20 megawatts from neighboring Guinea highlight how terrible the LEC's situation is.

This situation also raises concerns about management and questions about the LEC's creditworthiness as it relates to its current debt portfolio of over US19.6 million outstanding electricity bills to the Ivory Coast, as reported in June this year.

Creditworthiness describes lenders' appraisal of how a customer, in this context, LEC, will likely repay its debts. Lenders consider several factors, including the customer's income and history of borrowing and repaying debt.

LEC already has a bad credit record with its current supplier- the Compagnie Ivoirienne d'Électricité (CIE) of La Cote d'Ivoire. As of June 2024, the government owes CIE a whopping US\$19.6 million in electricity bills, thanks to the Government's indebtedness to the LEC coupled with mismanagement and high salaries at LEC itself.

Moreover, LEC's high debt portfolio compared the Government of Ivory Coast to issuing a warning notice on August 26 this year, threatening to cut off the power supply to Liberia if the government fails to settle its substantial debt of US\$19.6 million.

In the letter, the Ivorian authorities noted that the unpaid bills represent an unsustainable burden for the Ivorian electricity sector, which was experiencing financial difficulties exacerbated by the increase in electricity generation costs.

"Furthermore, please note that during our last collection visit in February 2024, you informed us of a new clearance plan with a view to reducing the level of unpaid MV bills. To date, this plan has not been complied with, as no payment has been made since the start of the period covered by the plan.

Please note that, in the absence of a response from you within fifteen (15) days regarding the situations mentioned above, we shall have no other choice but to implement the provisions of Articles 11.4 and 21.3 of the Power Sale Agreement, relating respectively to the suspension of power supply and termination in the event of default by the purchaser." Excerpts of the letter read.

With the foregoing, more questions have arisen about whether the LEC's hunt for more power supply sources is logical when it can right its obligation to the CIE and maintain a constant power supply.

The situation at the LEC goes beyond mismanagement and dishing out outrageous salaries at the senior management level. It requires concrete action, including—but not limited to—depoliticizing the entity and privatizing it because electricity is a business.

Furthermore, LEC's huge outstanding electricity bills to CIE and its inability to service its debt leave one to wonder whether Ghana and Guinea would want to extend their respective receivable portfolios and indebtedness to their local suppliers.

For instance, Ghana, one of the countries currently in negotiation with the LEC for power supply already has its own problems in terms of debts owed its power suppliers.

Ghana's Finance Minister, Mohammed Amin Adam, said in July this year that his country owes its power producers \$1 billion, of which deals have been reached to restructure much of that debt. But the head of an energy lobby group said the correct figure was \$2.2 billion.

Earlier in May this year, the country's private power producers threatened to walk away from talks to revamp the debt; at the time, the Ghanaian Government was in \$1.6 billion arrears to independent Power Generators. In June, the government of Ghana announced that it had reached an agreement to restructure the \$1.6 billion debt owed.

Ghana's power supply sources are from hydroelectricity, thermal fuelled by crude oil, natural gas and diesel, solar and imports from La Cote D'Ivoire, Liberia's present supplier.

According to reports Ghana has lost 10% of its total electricity generation capacity. Reports say not only is the supply of clean energy insufficient in Ghana: access is also uneven. The rural poor rely on other forms of energy such as firewood or biomass to meet their needs. Biomass accounts for over 46% of energy use in Ghana's rural areas.

Comparatively, Liberia is reported to have one of the lowest electricity access rates in the world at less than 2%. Only less than 7% of the population is said to have access to electricity in Monrovia according to the World Bank.

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AS I SEE IT



ith By Prof. Tom Kaydor, Jr.; PhD.

The Liberian Government Must Fund the Liberian Immigration Service (LIS) Training

he Liberia Immigration Service (LIS), formerly the Bureau of Immigration & Naturalization (BIN) was founded in 1855. LIS is charged with the primary responsibility to implement and enforce the Alien and Nationality Law of Liberia.

The bureau or agency has 2,081 immigration officers. They are officers deployed 48 official border crossings points out of a total of 178 national entry points around the Republic of Liberia. This means that about 130 entry points are left unattended in Liberia

Besides the Alien and Nationality Law, LIS is also governed by the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia, the ECOWAS Protocols on Free Movements of persons, goods and services within the sub-region, international conventions, and laws, among other instruments. The Bureau has the statutory mandate to safeguard and protect the borders and boundaries (air, land, and sea) of Liberia against the illegal entry of aliens into the country. The Bureau also screens and examines travel documents; admits aliens at sea, air, and land borders (ports of entry); grants all aliens resident status and engages in border management and control (https://lis.gov.lr/about, 2024).

As its Vision, LIS envisages to cultivate professionalism, effectiveness, and international outlook in achieving regional and international recognition (Ibid.). Its mission is to contribute to security and socio-economic development of Liberia by facilitating international travel and regulating entry, exit, residency, and citizenship; and to improve border structure, data collection, analysis, and dissemination; using technology, LIS controls immigration intelligence gathering and law enforcement to the benefit of the people of the Republic of Liberia.

LIS also institutionalizes international best practices and sets up clear rules in a coherent manner that is applicable and promotes gender balance as required.' LIS operates its own Training Academy in Lofa county, Liberia (Ibid.).

After the Joseph N. Boakai led government took office in January 2024, the Civil Service Agency (CSA) announced the retirement of 318 LIS Officers in accordance with the employment policy of the Republic. Based on this, LIS announced a new recruitment to replace the officers that will retire.

About 9,043 applicants applied to join LIS to replace the would-be retirees. According to LIS boss, "8,109 applicants sat the aptitude test, 6,309 applicants passed and made it to the physical examination, the second layer of the recruitment process. About 2,800 candidates successfully enrolled into the medical test that was the final stage of the recruitment process.

About 1,900 applicants successfully passed the medical exams but "only 500 of this batch of applicants have been selected for the training". The training will begin on "14th October 2024 but the Government of Liberia has not provided budgetary allocation to LIS for this training" (Zargo, 2024).

The agency was requested by the National Government to shift its original 2024 budget to accommodate the cost that had no allocation as the training was unforeseen. Why should the Government not allot money to fund this initiative by finding monies from other sources in the national budget for such expedient and necessary national

How can the Government leave almost 130 entry points of Liberia unprotected?

What is more important than the security of Liberia's borders? The goal of any state is to protect its National Interest (this means the provision of security for all citizens and aliens and the provision for the wellbeing of such people). How could the Government leave LIS on its own to use her 2024 budget lines for such training that was unbudgeted for other things rather than finding the money from other sources to fund the training? As I SEE IT, the Government of Liberia must take full responsibility for the LIS training process. It must entirely fund this process. In fact, all the successful candidates from the vetting process must be trained and employed to secure all our entry points. Training only 500 further limits the capacity of LIS.

Therefore, the government needs to prioritize this training as a national interest project. Alternatively, LIS Administration should find innovative ways as the agency responsible for such herculean task to train all the 1,900 successful applicants and employ them at the end of the training to be deployed and appropriately secure all of Liberia's 178 border points.

About the Author:

Prof. Tom Kaydor, Jr. holds a PhD from the Department of Government and European Studies, the New University, Republic of Slovenia where he researched International Development and Diplomacy (with Security Aspects). He completed his PhD dissertation and defended it in 2023.

His dissertation topic was 'Reconceptualizing Africa's Regional Integration for Peace and Sustainable Development.' He earned his second master's degree as a Master of Public Policy (MPP) specialized in Development Policy or Development Economics with Distinction from the Crawford School of Economics and Government (now the Crawford School of Public Policy), Australian National University, Canberra, Australia on 17 December 2014.

He obtained his first master's degree as Master of Arts (MA) in International Relations (Highest Distinction) and Bachelor of Arts (BA) Magna Cum Laude in Political Science from the University of Liberia where he currently serves as an Assistant Professor at the IBB Graduate School of International Studies.

He also holds a Diploma in Leading Economic Growth from the Kennedy Graduate School, Harvard University, USA; and he holds other diplomas and certificates in professional areas. Prof. Kaydor is equally an Adjunct Professor of Development Studies at the AME University Graduate School. Dr. Kaydor is an evidence-based researcher and a published author. One can reach him via (kaydorth@ul.edu.lr or +231777027180/+231555266613).

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11th October 2024

PRESS RELEASE

HPX congratulates Liberian President Boakai for establishing the Liberian National Railway Authority ("NRA") through Executive Order No. 136

The NRA will oversee and manage Liberia's National Rail Assets ensuring management and oversight are guided by principles of efficiency, transparency and equitable use by all stakeholders

Executive Order No. 136 provides the clear legal and operating framework necessary to unlock the transformative Liberty Corridor Project

HPX senior management currently in Monrovia and working with Government to conclude rail access agreements for the existing Yekepa – Buchanan line

Upon signing rail access agreements HPX will commence Phase 1 operations from Kon Kweni to tranship iron ore through Liberia

HPX to commence detailed engineering work for Liberty Corridor on completion of rail access agreements underscoring its dedication to driving this project forward

hpxmines.com

Monrovia, Liberia. HPX congratulates President Joseph N. Boakai Sr. on the release of Executive Order no. 136 (dated 10 October 2024) establishing the National Railway Authority. This order confirms Liberia's commitment to ensuring its nationally owned rail infrastructure is accessible to multiple users, overseen by a qualified manager and on a user pay system.

The decisive measures in Executive Order No. 136 set the stage for the development of truly multiuser infrastructure owned by the Government of Liberia and independently managed by providers to be selected in a transparent process by the National Railway Authority.

The creation of the National Railway Authority provides the critical framework needed for HPX to access to the existing Yekepa-Buchanan rail line and the future development of the Liberty Corridor. HPX senior management are currently in Monrovia to finalise with the Government of Liberia the rail access agreement for the existing Yekepa - Buchanan line. Key provisions in this agreement facilitate the advancement of the Liberty Corridor, enabling the project to proceed to the detailed feasibility study

Bronwyn Barnes, President & CEO of HPX commented.

"President Boakai is to be congratulated for addressing the issue of multiuser rail access in such a clear and decisive manner through the release today of Executive Order no. 136.

HPX welcomes this key decision around the formation of the National Railway Authority and the clear leadership role this important body will now have in ensuring a transparent, access regime for the nation's critical infrastructure.

HPX is looking forward to finalising our rail access agreements with the Government of Liberia in the next few weeks and is delighted to see the commitment by the President to the NRA and multi-user access

Executive Order No. 136 also provides the clear regulatory and operational ramework that will be required for the Liberty Corridor. On finalisation of the HPX rail access agreement, the financial framework will be in place to underpin the Liberty Corridor development.

As HPX has already completed several technical studies for the Liberty Corridor I expect that the feasibility study phase can be completed quickly and with financial support from various interested parties."

Government of Liberia Press Statement and Executive Order No. 136:

About HPX

HPX is an American exploration and development company focused on advancing its flagship high-grade long-life iron ore mine in Guinea and other projects in Liberia that meet the critical mineral supply chain.

HPX's major shareholder and technology provider is I-Pulse Inc, a US Company founded and chaired by Mr. Robert Friedland and has a number of high profile American institutional and private investors as

For more information about HPX and its projects, please contact:

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LACC seeks robust collaboration with MoJ

-To prosecute corruption cases

By Lewis S. Teh

he Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) is requesting a more robust collaboration with the Ministry of Justice to prosecute corruption cases within the country quickly.

"I call on the Ministry of Justice to collaborate closely with the LACC on the prosecution of corruption cases", Vice Executive Chairperson Ernest R. Hughes urged at the official launch of a Corruption Case Tracker or CCT, a platform developed by CENTAL under its national integrity building and Anti-Corruption Program founded by the Swedish International **Development Cooperation Agency and** the Embassy of Sweden in Liberia.

According to organizers, by launching the corruption case tracker,

sharing and collaboration among government agencies, civil society, and the public in the fight against corruption, especially in managing and sustaining the CCT.

Mr. Hughes said LACC has a broad mandate and functions to implement appropriate measures and undertake programs geared towards investigating, prosecuting, combatting, and preventing acts of corruption, including educating the public on the ills of corruption and the benefits of its eradication.

"I want to use this medium to ask the judiciary to insist on judicial integrity at all levels of the judiciary, from subordinate courts to the Supreme Court," he urged.

He called on Liberia's development partners, saying, "I charge you to



CENTAL aims to empower Liberians with the knowledge and tools necessary to hold their government accountable and drive positive change in the fight against corruption.

Accordingly, the Anti-Corruption group said the platform's objective includes demonstrating its functionalities and significance in promoting and enhancing transparency and accountability in corruption case tracking and management.

It also seeks to foster information

ensure that your engagement and partnership with public institutions are guided by the performance reported by the CCT." He urged the international partners to consider performance on the CCT as a major criteria for funding support to public institutions.

"Do not support any public institution that is not contributing to the fight against corruption in Liberia; hold us accountable and ensure each of us contributes to the fight against corruption in Liberia before given program funding support." Editing by Jonathan Browne

MoA provides modern rice processing

Starts from page 10

expressed their appreciation to the Government of Liberia and its development partners. Garmai Zayzay, representing the Bigger Women Association of been a challenge."

Korkovah, head of the purpose," he said.

Zorzor District, Lofa Kpor-gborma Agriculture remarked. Farmers who received the machines

County, said, "We have Cooperative in Bong been growing large County, echoed this quantities of rice, but sentiment: "These processing has always machines will not only cut down on post-harvest "With this equipment, losses but also increase our we will make the income. We are fully Ministry's vision a committed to utilizing reality." Henry S. them for the intended

FL widows threaten to besiege Executive Ma

Starts from page 10

respectively.

now in this struggle, but don't know." no recognition of our She discloses that one of husbands, who laid down their members died and their lives in defend of was buried few days ago this country. See most of amid the struggle to get

these old women here widows hailing from both who are Kissi and Lorma Lofa and Nimba counties, but nothing has caught the attention of this "We have gone 23 years President, for reasons we

their benefits from the national government, while many of them lack shelter, healthcare, peace and their children are out of school because of lack money. Editing by Jonathan Browne.

OCTOBER 14

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

World Bank announces US\$2m for Liberia's solar plant

Through this solar plant project, the foundation is being laid for utility-scale solar PV plants in Liberia to power homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses across the country.

Manager Madam Georgia energy to power their future. Wallen has announced that there will be about USD 2 Bank, we are delighted to be

onrovia, October 14, towards realizing the Liberian 2024: World Bank people's aspirations for Liberia Country affordable, reliable, clean

"On behalf of the World



through competitive bidding.

station in Montserrado County.

the completion of feasibility prosperity on a livable planet. studies, including the said Madam Wallen.

Liberia's first utility-scale solar innovative way, she suggested PV plant, marking a giant step that the project maximizes

million in grant funding to part of this pivotal moment. I engage a transaction advisor want to highlight why this solar for solar Independent Power PV plant comes in the right Producers (IPPs) to be procured place, the right time, with the right model," Madam Wallen On October 11, 2024, the stated. For the World Bank, World Bank participated in a Madam Wallen said these groundbreaking ceremony for efforts are not just about Liberia's Respite Solar Project building energy infrastructure. at Mount Coffee Hydropower They are about achieving their mission to end extreme "The grant will also support poverty and promote shared

She explained that the solar preparation of environmental PV plant's location at the and social instruments for Mount Coffee Hydropower private sector solar PV plants," Station is extremely strategic.

By utilizing existing land, She said the project is assets, and infrastructure in an benefits while helping with managing potential risks.

www.thenewdawnliberia.com

Also, she noted that the solar plant will complement the existing Mt. Coffee hydropower plant.

"This hybrid model will help to address the stubborn, annual challenge of dry season energy demand by harnessing low-cost solar resources complemented by hydropower." She indicated that the solar

plant will boost energy efficiency and capacity, and help displace expensive thermal generation. Moreover, Madam Wallen said

this project comes at the right time, explaining that the 2030 target date for Liberia Rising is inching closer - adding urgency to deliver results with speed and efficiency.

Through this project, Madam Wallen disclosed that the foundation is being laid for utility-scale solar PV plants in Liberia to power homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses across the country.

"We believe this project will serve as a catalyst for further solar energy development, paving the way for more sustainable growth and helping to close the energy access gap. Time is of the essence," she said. According to her, this plant will help advance the right model - setting the stage for more private-sector investment.

Ex-Minister Coker-Collins wins Bloom Bank's star prize

By Kruah Thompson

Liberia, October 14, public works, has won the renamed "Bloom Bank Africa." Blooms Bank Africa Star prize for customer raffle promotion.

To qualify for the raffles, one Liberian dollars. This will automatically generate one name and the raffle number.

This paper gathers that generated many tickets, and was create lasting financial stability. automatically selected twice as and a TV Star Motorbike.

won the Star Price before, told through its newly established team. the NewDWAN that the process is

Grand Bassa, that the former Global rand Bassa County, Bank was facing some challenges when a new investor stepped in and 2024—Ruth Coker took over. On January 30, 2024, the Collins, the former minister of institution was rebranded and

According to him, the bank's participating in its ongoing vision, which is to enable greatness in Africa, extends beyond Liberia. The bank plans to expand to 15 needs to register with the bank countries in the next four years of and deposit a minimum of 20K operation, including its presence in Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Ghana.

"The promotion is helping us to ticket bearing the customer's gain more customers to fulfill our primary objective as institutions", Mr. Osisiogu noted, adding that the Madame Collins had just aim is to partner with small and deposited 1 million Liberian medium enterprises, empowering dollars at the bank, immediately them to grow their businesses and

While the bank continues to grow the winner of a 3.5 KVA generator its customer base, Mr. Osisiogu emphasized that it is focused on Moses Wheaton, an individual supporting businesses, providing claiming to be someone who had loans, and offering financial training

"When we give out loans, we trust fair and that he is currently using our customers will repay. The money the bike he won in traffic to we lend belongs to other customers, generate income, which is so we must build trust and



Momentum builds up here as the church of Liberia mobilizes to receive international preacher, Dr. W.F. Kumuyi, for GCK LIBERIA 2024-Global Crusade.

apostolic visit of Pastor Dr. W.F. He is an 83-year-old teacher Kumuyi, founder and general that has been hosting crusade overseer of Deeper Life Ministry from nation to nation. of Nigeria.Dr. Kumuyi is coming During a press conference in to here for the GCK LIBERIA 2024- Monrovia Thursday, 10th Global Crusade scheduled for October, Bishop Sam B. Oroge, November 28 to December 3, media consultant for the GCK 2024 at the Samuel Kanyon Doe LIBERIA 2024-Global Crusade Sports Complex n Paynesville with Kumuyi, says the nation, outside Monrovia.

Deeper Life Ministry is a church city of Monrovia, will organization founded as far back experience the power of God as 1973 in Nigeria, Africa's most in every dimension and that, populous nation, and has there shall be visible, tangible presence in every nation of the manifestations of God's earth. In recent times, Christian power for the deliverance and fathers of faith have been freedom of the people of visiting the blessed nation of Liberia. Liberia. Pastor Kumuyi is the 4th Bishop Sam further explains apostolic voice that is coming to that Pastor Kumuyi is bless the people of Liberia with currently represented on the the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Most church leaders in Liberia mobilization team that is see this visits as a prophetic coordinating and preparing experience that will open up the for the Global Crusade with realms of the spirit over the Kumuyi, led by the National nation, and the church is not Overseer of Deeper Life

taking this for granted. Ministry in Liberia, Pastor Dr. Kumuyi has be referred to as Saoji Ajayi-Albert.

onrovia, Liberia October the Prince of all Preachers, a 14, 2024 - Liberia is highly anointed man of God gearing up for an with impeccable character.

as represented by the capital

ground in Liberia by a strong

Pastor Albert is coordinating under the chairmanship and guardian of his grace, Archbishop Isaac S. Winker, one of the leading fathers of the Liberian church.

He says it is newsworthy that the GCK is strongly mobilizing the church of Liberia and in concert to target the unsaved populace.



Bishop Sam B. Oroge

addresses the press conference

prompting him to deposit more accountability." cash with the bank.

Lottery Authority spearheaded defined percentage for loans." the Winner. The phone number bank will be willing to offer." the next spin.

both prizes, while Octis Sunny Liberia." won the second prize, a cooking stove.

Bank, told reporters in a live

interview held in Buchanan,

He explained that several factors During the raffle event in determine the interest in acquiring a Grand Bassa County, the Liberian loan from the bank. "We don't have a

the process: They would spin the He explained, "Other things we wheel bearing the names of consider are the function of the qualified customers and ask any business and the relationship. We individual in the group to select talk to you, look at your business, just a ticket. The name on the and, from what we're gathering, we ticket chosen is announced as can tell you what percentage the

of the successful customer is Meanwhile, he said Bloom Bank is then dialed thrice, and if the call in Liberia to stay and remains goes unanswered, said ticket is committed to its long-term goal of automatically dropped or enhancing financial literacy and disqualified, and then they begin promoting sustainable growth across Africa. "This is the kind of However, Madame Collins won partnership we want to build here in

Meanwhile, Madam Collins was not physically present to receive her Speaking at the event, Chris prizes but promised to go to the Osisiogu, executive director and office today to collect them. chief operating officer of Bloom Editing by Jonathan Browne

rang

Il a également révélé que

Un ancien député du CDC remet en cause a affirmé M. George.

un éventuel retour de Weah

olomon George Monrovia, mercredi 9 octobre affirme que l'ex- 2024, M. George a déclaré qu'il président Weah a ne croyait pas à la possibilité ignoré ses conseils et est d'un second mandat pour désormais perçu comme un l'ancien président Weah, battu

Weah n'avait pas tenu compte des conseils qu'il lui avait prodigués durant son mandat, se coupant ainsi de ses alliés. M. George a accusé l'ex-président d'avoir négligé des mesures cruciales qui auraient pu éviter la dégradation de sa popularité et celle du CDC. « J'avais conseillé au président Weah de se séparer de

certaines personnes nuisibles à son gouvernement. Je lui ai donné des noms, mais il ne m'a pas écouté. Aujourd'hui, les conséquences sont visibles, et il en paie le prix », a-t-il poursuivi. M. George a souligné que

Weah, plutôt que de prendre des décisions pragmatiques, s'était concentré sur des discours populistes et des slogans, au détriment des véritables besoins du peuple.

« J'avais également recommandé au président de se concentrer sur le bien-être des Libériens et de mettre fin à ces slogans de confrontation. Mais encore une fois, il n'a pas pris ces conseils au sérieux », a-t-il déploré.

L'ancien député a rappelé qu'il avait anticipé la défaite de Weah lors des élections de 2023. Il a ajouté que malgré leur biens et des services. proximité et leurs échanges, l'ex-président n'avait jamais agi selon ses recommandations.

CONT'D page 9



gouvernement du CDC.

électoral n°7 de retouren 2029. Montserrado et figure de présidence du Liberia.

opposant majeur du lors des élections de 2023. Selon lui, les erreurs commises sous Solomon George, ancien son administration représentant du district compromettent toute chance de

« Je ne crois pas que l'exproue du Congrès pour le président Weah reviendra à la Changement Démocratique présidence du Liberia. Ceux qui (CDC), a exprimé des doutes le pensent peuvent continuer à sur un éventuel retour de en discuter, mais pour ma part, George Manneh Weah à la je n'y crois pas. S'il envisage un retour, il devra d'abord rectifier Lors d'une intervention de nombreuses erreurs, et je sur une radio locale à doute qu'il en ait les capacités »,

Le NDC exige la démission des responsables cumulant

fonctions politiques et gouvernementales

(NDC), membre de l'administration publique.

La Mission de Sauvetage, coalition de plusieurs partis politiques dirigée par le Parti de l'Unité (UP), a remporté les élections de 2023 en mettant fin à la gouvernance de la Coalition pour le Changement Démocratique (CDC).

Dans un communiqué publié le 10 octobre 2024, le NDC a sévèrement critiqué certains responsables de l'UP et des partis alliés pour leur non-respect du Code de conduite, accusant ces derniers de cumuler des fonctions dans l'administration publique et

a Coalition des responsabilités politiques, en des lois compromet l'intégrité National e totale contradiction avec les de nos institutions ■D é m o c r a t i q u e dispositions légales en vigueur.

l'alliance politique de la section 5.1 du Code de conduite envers ses dirigeants », a Mission de Sauvetage, a du Liberia interdit aux déclaré le NDC. exigé la démission des fonctionnaires nommés par le fonctionnaires publics président d'exercer des activités fonctionnaires concernés, occupant simultanément politiques, de faire campagne ou nommés par le président des postes exécutifs au sein de briguer des postes électifs. Joseph Nyuma Boakai, à de leurs partis politiques, Ces dispositions interdisent choisir entre leurs fonctions dénonçant une grave également l'utilisation des publiques et leurs violation des lois nationales ressources publiques à des fins responsabilités politiques, et et une atteinte à partisanes et empêchent les à démissionner l'impartialité de responsables publics d'occuper immédiatement de l'un de ces

partis politiques.

« Cette violation manifeste démocratiques et sape la Le NDC a rappelé que la confiance du peuple libérien

Le parti a exhorté les des postes exécutifs au sein des postes. Le NDC a insisté sur le





Editorial

Un pont pour l'intégration régionale : une initiative à saluer de la CEDEAO!

Un projet de construction d'un pont de 15 millions de dollars entre le Liberia et la Côte d'Ivoire se profile, avec pour ambition de renforcer l'intégration et les échanges commerciaux, non seulement entre ces deux pays, mais au l sein de toute la région de la CEDEAO, et même au-delà.

Portée par la Commission de la CEDEAO et financée par la Banque africaine de développement, cette initiative place les populations au cœur de son action. Elle vise à faciliter une coopération accrue, des échanges commerciaux plus fluides et, pourquoi pas, des unions interethniques entre citoyens libériens et ivoiriens.

Pour un pays comme le Liberia, confronté à des défis en l matière de connectivité routière, ce projet représente une l véritable bouffée d'oxygène. Il promet de dynamiser les j échanges commerciaux entre les deux pays, tout en renforçant les liens tribaux, culturels et économiques qu'ils partagent depuis longtemps.

Nous saluons la vision de la CEDEAO, qui fait de l l'intégration régionale par la connectivité une priorité. Ce | projet ne contribuera pas seulement à rapprocher les pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest, mais aussi à supprimer des barrières l économiques, tout en favorisant la libre circulation des

Cependant, le Liberia doit s'assurer de ne pas manquer cette opportunité cruciale. Comme l'a souligné Chris! Appiah, directeur intérimaire des Transports à la CEDEAO, le gouvernement libérien n'a pas encore envoyé d'ingénieurs pour collaborer avec leurs homologues | ivoiriens sur la supervision des travaux.

Il est primordial que le Liberia ne prenne pas de retard dans ce projet historique, qui profitera aux générations à venir. L'augmentation des échanges régionaux est un rêve nourri de longue date, et ce pont pourrait être la clé pour j le réaliser.

Le président Joseph Boakai doit voir dans ce projet une opportunité stratégique pour renforcer les relations avec la Côte d'Ivoire, un voisin francophone essentiel. De même, le ministère des Travaux publics doit dépasser les guerelles internes et se concentrer sur l'essentiel : l'avancement du projet de pont, un intérêt commun pour les deux nations.

Le lancement des travaux est prévu pour novembre, avec une durée d'exécution de deux ans. La société chinoise SHAANXI Construction Engineering Corporation LTD a été sélectionnée pour mener à bien les travaux. Alors, pourquoi ce retard du Liberia ? La lenteur reste incompréhensible.

Le gouvernement libérien doit agir sans délai et soutenir pleinement la CEDEAO pour garantir le démarrage de ce projet essentiel, qui représente une avancée majeure vers l'intégration régionale et le développement des échanges transfrontaliers.

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Starts from page 8 Un ancien député du CDC

montrait humble lors de nos ministre des Finances de discussions, mais il ne passait l'époque, Samuel D. Tweah, jamais à l'action. J'étais l'un pour son refus de comparaître des rares à critiquer devant l'Assemblée. Selon lui, ouvertement soncette demande avait été gouvernement, mais rien n'a rejetée, car le CDC était au changé », a-t-il expliqué.

demandé à la Chambre des contre lui. Aujourd'hui, ils représentants, sous la récoltent les fruits de leurs présidence de Bhofal Chambers, décisions », a conclu M. George.

« Le président Weah se de mettre en détention le pouvoir. « M. Tweah m'a dit que M. George a également tant que Weah était président, évoqué un incident où il avait nous ne pourrions rien faire

Le NDC exige la démission des Starts from page 8

de bonne gouvernance et de patrimoine est essentielle pour transparence n'est pas assurer la confiance du public seulement une obligation dans les institutions. légale, mais un devoir moral.

le président Boakai à prendre faveur de l'intégrité, de la des mesures contre les transparence et de la responsables n'ayant pas responsabilité dans la fonction respecté leur obligation de publique, appelant à une déclaration de patrimoine, application rigoureuse du Code qualifiant cette omission de conduite, y compris d'atteinte à la transparence et l'éviction des responsables en à la responsabilité en matière infraction. de gestion publique. Le parti a

fait que le respect des principes souligné que la déclaration de

En conclusion, le NDC a Le NDC a également appelé réitéré son engagement en

Quatre trafiquants de drogue condamnés à 10 ans de prison

a cinquième cour condamné quatre individus à dix survenues les 8 et 9 juillet dans ans de réclusion pour des les communautés de Lofa Bridge infractions liées au trafic de et Gold Camp, ont permis de stupéfiants, une décision saluée saisir des quantités comme une victoire importante substantielles de fentanyl, dans la lutte contre la localement appelé « kush » criminalité liée à la drogue au pour une valeur estimée à 329 Liberia.

figurent trois citoyens libériens, Tony Okeye, il a été arrêté le 29 Abu S. Kamara, 42 ans, Daniel David, 25 ans, et Tina Morris, 30 ans, ainsi que le ressortissant en possession de deux plaques nigérian Tony Okeye, 58 ans. Ces de cannabis sativa et d'héroïne, derniers ont été jugés d'une valeur de 58 500 dollars coupables de possession, vente, libériens (300 dollars distribution et transport de américains). stupéfiants, incluant du « kush », de l'héroïne et de la arrestations et condamnations marijuana compressée, connue s'inscrivent dans le cadre d'une également sous le nom de campagne plus large visant à cannabis sativa. Les freiner la montée du trafic de arrestations ont eu lieu entre drogue au Liberia. Les inculpés juin et juillet 2024, après que ont été jugés coupables de Christopher Peters ait pris la violations des articles 14.89 et tête de l'Agence libérienne de 14.85 de la loi amendée sur les lutte contre la drogue (LDEA), stupéfiants de 2023, ainsi que succédant au colonel Abraham des articles 10.4 et 10.2 du Code Kromah, suspendu de ses pénal libérien. Un communiqué fonctions. conférence de presse tenue le décision judiciaire, la qualifiant 10 octobre 2024 au ministère de de « pas important » dans la l'Information, Christopher lutte contre le fléau des Peters a déclaré que Tina Morris stupéfiants au Liberia. avait été la première à être Aujourd'hui, nous célébrons interpellée le 12 juin, dans le une petite victoire pour district de Gola Konneh à Kinjor. l'agence et pour tout le Liberia Elle avait en sa possession une », peut-on lire dans le plaque et demie de marijuana communiqué. « Mais la bataille compressée ainsi que 343 est loin d'être terminée. Nous sachets de cannabis, d'une devons nous unir et travailler

américains).

Peters a également rapporté judiciaire du comté de que les arrestations d'Abu ■Grand Cape Mount a Kamara et Daniel David, 650 dollars libériens (1 735 Parmi les condamnés dollars américains). Quant à juillet à Weajue, également dans le district de Gola Konneh,

La LDEA a affirmé que ces Au cours d'une publié à Monrovia a salué cette valeur totale de 55 860 dollars ensemble pour débarrasser libériens (294 dollars notre pays de ces drogues dangereuses qui menacent <u>l'avenir de notre ieunesse. »</u>

loe appelle Boa réformer le gouve



'avocat des droits de l'homme, Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe, a exhorté le président Joseph Nyuma Boakai ■à procéder à des réformes profondes au sein de son gouvernement, afin de refléter véritablement les aspirations du peuple libérien. Selon lui, si le président souhaite vraiment mettre fin à « la politique comme d'habitude », il doit agir en conséquence. Dans une interview exclusive accordée au journal *NewDawn* le jeudi 10 octobre 2024, Cllr. Gongloe, ancien candidat à la présidence et ex-leader du Parti du Peuple Libérien (LPP), a plaidé pour une série de mesures visant à moderniser l'administration publique, tout en soulignant l'urgence de supprimer les frais de fin d'études, qui pèsent lourdement sur les familles. « Si j'avais l'opportunité de rencontrer le président Boakai, mon premier conseil serait d'émettre un décret exécutif abolissant les frais de fin d'études à travers le pays, car cela représente une véritable épreuve pour les parents », a déclaré Cllr. Gongloe. Il a également insisté sur la nécessité d'une réforme structurelle de l'État, afin de garantir une meilleure représentation des différentes composantes de la société libérienne, tout en abordant le problème persistant des inégalités salariales dans la fonction publique. « Monsieur le Président, reformez votre gouvernement pour qu'il reflète les réalités du pays et

corrigez les disparités salariales qui existent encore. Si vous voulez vraiment rompre avec les pratiques du passé, il est temps d'agir », a-t-il ajouté. Cllr. Gongloe a suggéré que le président Boakai mette en place un gouvernement inclusif, conformément aux exigences de la loi. Il a souligné qu'il n'était pas trop tard pour prendre cette décision et a insisté sur la représentation de chaque comté au sein du cabinet, comme stipulé par la loi exécutive.

« Il y a plus de quinze ministères. Si l'inclusion est respectée, le président pourra se concentrer sur d'autres priorités », a-t-il expliqué. En outre, l'avocat a rappelé que ces réformes seraient conformes aux lois du pays et que le traitement des disparités salariales devrait être une priorité. « Dire qu'il a réduit son salaire n'est pas suffisant. Le peuple a le droit de connaître le montant exact perçu par le président avant et après cette réduction », a-t-il précisé. Selon Cllr. Gongloe, la loi de 1972 fixait le salaire du président à 36 000 dollars américains par an, mais depuis l'adoption de la nouvelle Constitution, les citoyens n'ont plus accès à cette information. « C'est un manguement grave que les Libériens ne soient plus informés des salaires de leurs dirigeants. Le président et les autres responsables sont des employés du peuple. Ce dernier a donc le droit de savoir combien ils sont payés », a-t-il ajouté.

Le Libéria bénéficiera Internet à l'échelle nationale

e gouvernement du Libéria a signé un accord de licence avec Starlink, une entreprise privée, pour fournir une connectivité Internet à l'échelle nationale.

Le 11 octobre 2024, l'Autorité des télécommunications du Libéria (LTA) a conclu un accord de licence majeur avec Starlink, une initiative satellite de SpaceX, marquant une avancée significative vers l'accessibilité d'Internet dans tout le pays. Cette collaboration a pour objectif de transformer la connectivité dans les régions reculées du Libéria, en utilisant

une technologie satellite de pointe pour réduire les Kamara a ajouté que cette avancée inégalités numériques et renforcer l'infrastructure de sera particulièrement bénéfique pour communication. Abdullah Kamara, commissaire par intérim des organismes comme l'Autorité des de la LTA, a annoncé ce partenariat lors d'une conférence de recettes du Libéria (LRA) et les services presse organisée par le ministère de l'Information, le 10 d'immigration, qui nécessitent un octobre à Monrovia. Il a souligné que cet accord représente accès en temps réel aux données des un progrès considérable pour la connectivité Internet à postes frontaliers et des zones isolées. haute vitesse, notamment dans les zones isolées et sous- Bien que Starlink vise à offrir un accès desservies. Starlink, qui offre un accès Internet à large illimité, Kamara a précisé que les bande via des satellites en orbite basse, contourne ainsi la utilisateurs devront faire preuve de nécessité d'infrastructures terrestres traditionnelles. Le responsabilité pour ne pas surcharger service est déjà déployé dans plusieurs pays, apportant des le système. « Il y aura un coût unique solutions aux zones où l'accès à Internet est limité ou peu pour l'équipement de Starlink, ainsi fiable. L'accord de licence, examiné pendant plusieurs mois, qu'un tarif fixe pour les services de devrait transformer l'accessibilité à Internet dans les zones données. Ce partenariat avec Starlink rurales et éloignées, où les services de large bande fournira aux Libériens un accès classiques ont souvent échoué. Kamara a déclaré: « Grâce à Internet abordable et fiable, cet accord, même les villages bénéficieront d'un accès à garantissant que tous puissent profiter Internet. Il est toutefois essentiel de préciser que le service de cette technologie avancée. » de Starlink diffère de l'Internet mobile. Il se rapproche Cette initiative a été saluée comme un davantage des services comme DSTV, mais avec une latence tournant décisif pour l'avenir bien inférieure, les satellites de Starlink étant situés plus numérique du Libéria, ouvrant la voie à près de la Terre. » Il a également évoqué les implications de des collaborations entre les cette initiative pour les institutions locales : « Les hôpitaux, fournisseurs de services Internet (FSI) cliniques, écoles et bureaux gouvernementaux à travers le et Starlink pour améliorer encore la Libéria auront désormais la possibilité de s'inscrire aux connectivité dans le pays.



services de Starlink. »

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

OCTOBER 14

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

eauipment for 3 counties

Most smallholder farmers face limited access to proper and modern equipment, technical knowledge, and capacities maintenance, and the storage related to machinery operation.

onrovia, October 14, enhance agricultural 2024: The Ministry of productivity and combat post-Agriculture (MOA) harvest losses. Between has commenced the September 19 and 22, 2024, a distribution of modern rice total of 30 rice-producing



processing equipment to farmers received advanced Lofa, and Nimba counties.

Rural Economic Transformation small-scale rice mills. Project (RETRAP), is part of the (NADP 2024-2030).

It is a landmark effort to and modern equipment,

smallholder farmers in Bong, tools, including solar dryers, hermetic storage bags, The initiative, funded by winnowers, threshers, dethe World Bank through the stoners, digital scales, and

These modern machines are Liberian government's expected to streamline rice comprehensive agenda for processing, reduce manual food security, as outlined in the labor, and improve crop "Liberians Feed Yourself quality, especially for Agenda" under the National smallholder farmers. Most Agriculture Development Plan smallholder farmers currently face limited access to proper

technical knowledge, and capacities related to machinery operation, equipment and distribution of agricultural distribution ceremony held at partnership with ProjectCure. the Central Agriculture Research Institute (CARI) in Suakoko Bong County, Deputy Minister for Planning and Development David K. Akoi emphasized the government's commitment to food selfsufficiency. "We are providing these machines because you've shown commitment to the Liberian Feed Yourself Agenda."

"Rice production is critical, and we trust these tools will help you promote sustainable farming practices and significantly reduce postharvest losses," said Mr. Akoi.

RETRAP Crop Development Specialist Dr. Moses Zolue supported the distribution and noted that farmers were selected based on their dedication to increasing rice cooperative farming. "Your passion, commitment, and consistency in food production, particularly rice, as well as your pledge to improved food production by reducing postharvest losses, have earned you this recognition," Dr. Zolue

➤ CONT'D page 6

MoA provides modern rice processing AML Donates Huge Consignment of Essential **Medical Supplies to Two Health Centres in Nimba**

EKEPA, NIMBA (October epidemic. Also, the Sustainability

www.thenewdawnliberia.com

stethoscopes amongst several Government Hospital there. 4. Yekepa.

capital of Nimba, while the Free the county stakeholders.

13, 2024) Two health and External Relations Department centres in Nimba Head pointed out the intervention products. The RETRAP also County have benefited from AML made in 2022 to renovate the addresses knowledge sharing huge consignments of medical G.W. Harley Hospital's roof that was through Farmers' Field Schools supplies donated by leaking on patients during the wet and on-site training. At the ArcelorMittal Liberia in season. Mr. Wleh also informed Nimba County's Superintendent Kou The supplies, comprising Miapeh Gono and county health surgical materials, syringes, officials that, through AML's personal protective equipment support, the G.W. Harley Hospital for health workers, wheelchairs, relocation is progressing, and in a oxygen masks and tubes, blood- few months, the project will be drawing supplies, lab supply kits, completed. A similar project is also digital thermometers, ongoing in Grand Bassa County, transformers, beddings, and where AML supports rebuilding the

others, were donated on AML Chief Executive Officer October 11, 2024, to G.W. Harley Michiel Van Der Merwe appreciated Hospital in Sanniquellie and the the county authority and the health Free Pentecostal Clinic in Camp- officials for their warm welcome and said the donation was not the first G.W. Harley Hospital is a but many that had come and are still major referral hospital in to come and that AML was glad to Sanniquellie, the provincial have such a mutual relationship with

Pentecostal Clinic in Camp-4 In a word of commendation, the near Yekepa is an important Medical Director of the G.W. Harley health facility catering to the Hospital, Mealay Gboe, noted: "It is health needs of hundreds of ArcelorMittal's effort that brought people in the fenceline ProjectCure that we are receiving production and fostering communities of AML operation. this medical donation today. We can



ArcelorMittal worked with Nimba and Liberia at large. ProjectCure, a nonin the coming days.

ArcelorMittal's role by being the that the company has been a key first to erect a treatment unit in player in maintaining the clinic

Nimba during the Ebola through timely interventions.

The donations followed a assure the public that those needs assessment by AML's materials that have been brought Medical Department and will be used for the benefit of the representatives from population." On behalf of the ProjectCure. In August this year, Minister of Health, thank you for this AML made similar donations of donation. We will ensure that these medical supplies to the items are used for the intended Government Hospital in purposes," said Dr. Ponnie Robert Buchanan and the Barsegiah Lee Dolo, County Health Officer of Clinic. In remarks during the Nimba. Nimba County donations, Mr. Marcus Wleh, Superintendent Kou Miapeh Gono Forces of Liberia to stop Head of Sustainability and hailed AML for its continued support External Relations at invarious ways in the county, noting ArcelorMittal Liberia, informed that despite its own constraint, the recipients that AML is for the ArcelorMittal has been in mutual communities and is concerned collaboration with the county about the public's welfare and leadership, responding to some not just its employees. He said pressing needs of the people of

"We know wherever food is from, governmental organization, to there is hunger. We know that AML procure the materials, which has its own constraints, but it has cost over US\$125,000. He donated these materials in good disclosed that Lugbehyee Clinic, faith. On behalf of His Excellency another health facility in AML's President Joseph Nyumah Boakai, fenceline communities, will we want to say thanks to Mittal for receive its share of the supplies the donation," said Superintendent Gono. Reverend Horatio Mulbah, Mr. Wleh recalled that this Mission Director of the Free gesture was not the first for the Pentecostal Ministry, also company to do, highlighting commended AML and acknowledged

widows threaten to besiege Executiv

Widows of ex-service personnel of the Armed Forces of Liberia are threatening to protest her in demand of benefits.

By Lewis S. Teh

Widows of the Armed of his duties. Forces of Liberia (AFL) threaten Madam Allison points that to besiege the Executive their counterparts in Mansion, home of the Liberian neighboring Sierra Leone and presidency for government's the Ivory Coast received alleged failure to settle long handsome benefits from their standing benefits.

The Concerned AFL Widows is a their deceased husbands who legally recognized institution served in the military. with over 2,000 members across She describes as sad and Liberia's 15 counties, chaired by unfortunate, the manner and Madam Mary Allison.

their office located on Bushrod government. Island, Madam Allison laments "We give the government that despite their consistent from now to November to pay calls to government, President our benefits; if the President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has not provided a space to meet their leadership since he took office.

"President Boakai has made nine months in office now but he is vet to call us around the table to discuss how to settle the ALF Widows," she stated.

The Chairperson also recounts that when President Boakai was then Vice President under former President Ellen Johnson-

Sirleaf, he informed the onrovia, Liberia October leadership that he could not 14, 2024 Concerned do anything due to limitation

respective governments, for

form in which they have been In an interview with reporters at treated by the Liberian

fails to do so, I will call all the widows from across the 15 counties to assemble in Monrovia. There will be no Christmas celebration this year; we will block the Capitol Building, the Executive Mansion and the military barracks," Madam Allison further threatens.

She urges the President and Commander-In-Chief of Armed listening to gossips in the public or in government aimed at painting a negative image of the institution, and do the

She reminds President Boakai and Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung of the majority of

CONT'D page 6



President Boakai proposes establishment of a National Railway Authority for Liberia thru Executive Order#136

Authority for Liberia.

According to President

onrovia, Liberia, The rail regulator shall also October 14, have the authority to 2024—President coordinate access to and usage Joseph Boakai issued Executive of the Liberian infrastructure Order#136, an extension of Assets by Eligible users to previous Executive Order#112, maximize their fair, safe, and with immediate effect efficient use pursuant to the establishing a National Railway lawful rights of each Eligible user.

Executive Order#136,



Boakai, the proposed National issued on October 10. 2024. Railway Authority, among other things, seeks to develop rail transport policies and establish rules for the governance and management of rail assets in Liberia, including those assets for the fulfillment of the ancillary to the use of rails, including assets above rail and assets below rail.

services of suitably qualified rail regulators to superintend the usage of existing rail facilities in the country in keeping with international best practices and equity. The rail regulator shall be responsible for maintaining, operating, implementing the development of the Liberian infrastructure Assets system. seeks to facilitate and propose Story by Jonathan Browne

continues that it is meant to establish proper offices to manage the affairs of the National Rail Authority and to staff said offices as required functions herein described, including the offices of the Managing Director, who shall be It also aims to procure the the chief executive officer, Deputy Managing Director for Administration and Deputy Managing Director for operations, which offices shall

Operations of the proposed NRA shall be funded through managing, planning, and fees levied against users of the National Railway Assets.

a draft act to be submitted to the Legislature to pass a National Rail Authority Act into

"It will resolve all disputes resulting from the implementation of Executive Order No. 112 and this Executive Order through arbitration under the rules of arbitration of the Liberian Chamber of Commerce and in keeping with Liberian law", the document reads.

Meanwhile, President Boakai savs Executive Order#136 may not interfere with or diminish the rights of any Eligible Users obtained under previous agreements with the Government of Liberia but shall instead be interpreted to promote and regulate any such existing rights.

Executive Order No.112 was issued on October 11, 2022, to establish a National Rail Authority to regulate the use of rails as a public facility in Liberia. However, it expired through the efflux of time without the passage of the National Rail Authority Act by the National Legislature, thereby removing the legal authority upon which the Authority would function.

The Government says it remains committed to developing and enhancing the National Rails Assets for use by the Mining sector of the economy and in the transport of passengers and goods.

Government is committed to be appointed by the President the core principles of multiple users of the rail infrastructure wherever it may be located, in a manner that is well regulated and fair to all users and complies with existing Executive Order#136 also commitments it has made.

LRA exceeds US\$500million target

The Liberia Revenue year-to-date revenue target.

In a press release, the LRA the country for their unwavering commitment to fulfilling their tax obligations, which it notes, is playing a pivotal role in development agenda. advancing the country's revenue collection efforts.

(pre-recast) expected from the LRA to date has been Liberia's future." generated domestically by compliant taxpayers.

highlights the crucial reliance on targeting the LRA and its

onrovia, Liberia, committed to reaching the one October 14, 2024 - billion marks in the coming years.

The LRA acknowledges not only Authority says as at September the commitment of taxpayers but 30, 2024, it has successfully also the invaluable contributions of collected US\$513.8 million or its dedicated management team, 74% of the total domestic hardworking employees, and revenue envelope of US\$694.4 external stakeholders, saying that million, representing a 12% these efforts are further increase in domestic revenue strengthened by strong compared to the same period partnerships with various last year. The collected amount government Ministries, Agencies, is US\$54.3 million more than the and Commissions (MACs) involved in revenue collection aimed at bolstering the government's appreciates all taxpayers across capacity to increase fiscal spending on public services, infrastructure, and other national priorities, thereby advancing Liberia's

"We are encouraged by the progress we've made so far," CG The 2024 national budget Jallah remarked, "but we are not target is set at US\$738.86 complacent. We remain focused on million, with US\$696.4 million achieving even greater results in the final months of this year. I domestic tax collection and commend every taxpayer, our staff, US\$42.4 million projected from and all our revenue generating external support. So far, no counterpart entities, partners and contribution has been received stakeholders for their tireless from external sources, meaning contributions. Together, we are that all revenues collected by building a stronger foundation for

"In light of the recent barrage of negative propaganda, The Authority says this misinformation, and disinformation



Amb. Fyneah steps down as Liberia's

Starts from back page peace and security. He praised her leadership in this crucial time and spearheading efforts to secure a non-permanent seat for Liberia on the UN Security Council for the 2026-2027 term. In her farewell, Ambassador Fyneah expressed her gratitude to the Secretary-General and the United Nations for the opportunity to serve and reaffirmed Liberia's commitment to supporting the work of the United Nations. "It has been an immense honor to represent Liberia at the United Nations and to contribute to the global effort to promote peace,

security, and human rights,"

and Special Assistant to the international, and non-Minister of Foreign Affairs of governmental the Republic of Liberia, organizations. -Dispatch

Ambassador Fyneah said. where she made substantial global polarization and "Under the leadership of contributions under the challenges to international Secretary-General leadership of three Guterres, the UN continues successive Ministers of to be a beacon of hope for Foreign Affairs. Before her representing Liberia during nations around the world, current appointment, she and Liberia remains was stationed in steadfast in its commitment Washington, D.C. as Minister to the UN's mission," She Plenipotentiary and Deputy added. Ambassador Fyneah Chief of Mission at the has an extensive diplomatic Liberian Embassy. She also experience across Africa, held the position of Chargé the Middle East, and the d'Affaires a.i. at Liberia's United States. Her career Embassy and Permanent began with the initiation of Mission to the African Union Liberia's Development and Economic Commission Diplomacy Program in Sierra for Africa in Ethiopia. In Leone, setting the stage for addition to her diplomatic a distinguished path in duties, Ambassador Fyneah international relations. has garnered considerable Throughout her career, expertise in political affairs, Ambassador Fyneah has public information, and held significant roles gender advocacy, working including Assistant Minister with various government,

taxpayers.

goal.

player in driving national growth overcome these challenges.' through improved revenue mobilization."

domestic revenue mobilization leadership," CG Jallah further to achieve the budgetary goals, remarks, "I urge our staff, and the LRA Commissioner counterpart entities, stakeholders, General, James Dorbor Jallah, and the general public to remain proudly acknowledges the focused on our shared commitment contributions of Liberia's to increasing domestic revenue. It is essential that we do not allow With \$513.8 million already these distractions to undermine our collected against the pre-recast unity, our trust in one another, or annual domestic revenue target our commitment to the values that of \$696.4 million, the LRA define us. These external forces assures that it remains on course seek to sow doubt and disrupt the to meeting its 2024 revenue important work we are doing together for our country. I strongly "This significant milestone", encourage you to verify any it notes, "reflects the steady questionable information through progress in domestic revenue reliable internal sources and collection under the capable remain steadfast in your roles as leadership of Commissioner key contributors to our ongoing General James Dorbor Jallah, success. Let us continue to move whose strategic vision has forward with resilience, knowing positioned the LRA as a key that our collective strength will

Meanwhile, the release says the LRA is set to intensify its outreach The release says that since and taxpayer education programs March 2024, when CG Jallah took to ensure that more businesses and over, the LRA has consistently individuals understand their tax surpassed its monthly revenue obligations and the impact of their collections, compared to the contributions on national same period in 2023, and is development.



b. Fyneah steps dowl manent Representative to the United Nations

Liberia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations departure marks the end of a Madam Sarah Safyn Fyneah has stepped down.

New York, October 11, Youth, Peace, and Security engagement with the UN. "I 2024): On Monday, agenda.

October 7, 2024, During her meeting with Ambassador Sarah Safyn Secretary-General Guterres, pride, knowing that under the Fyneah met with UN Ambassador Fyneah leadership of President Secretary-General, Antonio expressed gratitude to H.E. Boakai, we have Guterres, to formally take Joseph Nyuma Boakai, her leave as she steps down President of the Republic of from her role as Liberia's Liberia, for the trust and



Permanent Representative confidence placed in her to António Guterres to the United Nations. continue to serve her country commended Liberia's During her tenure, under his leadership for the Representative to the United Ambassador Fyneah played a past eight months; and Nations, for her commitment pivotal role in advancing conveyed Liberia's enduring to advancing Liberia's values Liberia's diplomatic gratitude to the United and belief in the core priorities, as well as Nations for its critical role in principles of the United amplifying Liberia's voice in sustaining peace and Nations Charter, particularly key areas such as Security strengthening the country's during a period of heightened Council reform, climate democracy.

Liberia's diplomatic step down from my role with a sense of fulfillment and strengthened Liberia's global reputation and prepared the nation to contribute meaningfully to global peace and security. Ambassador Fyneah has also played a pivotal role to help strengthen Liberia's global standing, and fostered strong partnerships within the international community, while advancing Liberia development and peacebuilding ARREST Agenda.

In response, the United Nations Secretary-General

change, and the Women, Ambassador Fyneah's CONT'D page 11



