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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
TUESDAY 29, OCTOBER 2024	L\$191.2686/US\$1.00	L\$192.5774/US\$1.00

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

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French Version Inside

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Ellen Johnson Sirleaf turns 86

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-As former President Obasanjo and influential women from around the world join her

Protest erupts at LRRRC

P11

-63 aggrieved contractors want D.G. Worzie out

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Continental News

Attack on Chad military base kills at least 40 soldiers

At least 40 Chadian soldiers have been killed after their base was attacked on Sunday evening, the presidency says. President

armed groups. Sunday's attack is one of the worst suffered by Chadian soldiers since 2020, when about 100 soldiers died in a raid which prompted then-President

Déby as a hands-on leader with military nous, who visited the site of the attack early on Monday, "assessing the situation on the ground, paying his respects to the deceased soldiers, showing his compassion to the wounded, and lifting the morale of his brothers-in-arms".

The Lake Chad basin is bordered by Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria - all of which are part of a Multinational Joint Task Force that seeks to stamp out the armed groups operating in the region.

But Islamists "often regroup when troops withdraw", and better funding and planning is needed, says the International Crisis Group. In recent years, there have been several coups in the region, in Niger, Mali and Burkina Faso. The military in each country cited the inability to deal with the Islamist militant threat as one of the reasons for the ouster of the civilian governments. Analyst Paul Melly writes that, surrounded by so many regional crises, Chad stands out as an island of continued stable partnership with the West - and is now deepening relations with Russia in a ploy that irritates and pressures France and the US. Chad has also reportedly become a key conduit for arms flowing into Sudan, though it denies this, and is hosting large numbers of refugees from Sudan's civil war in camps near its eastern border. BBC



Mahamat Déby has ordered a counter-mission to track down the culprits, according to a statement from his office. The attack reportedly happened on an island called Barkaram, in a vast marshy region that was once covered by the waters of Lake Chad before its dramatic shrinking in recent decades. No suspects for Sunday's attack are named in the presidency's statement, but the area is close to the border zones of Nigeria and Niger where Islamist militants are known to operate. Latest UN figures indicate more than 220,000 people have been forced from their homes following years of insecurity and violence from

Idriss Déby to launch an operation against Islamist militants. Local residents have told the AFP news agency they believe fighters from Boko Haram - an Islamist militant group based over the border in Nigeria - were to blame for this latest attack, and say at least 200 soldiers were stationed at the garrison at the time. The attackers had time to seize ammunition and equipment before they left, AFP adds. It is a blow to President Déby, who is an elite soldier by training, and the son of the former president who was killed three years ago in battle with rebels close to the Libyan border. In its public communications the Chadian presidency has presented

Kenyan activist freed after night in police custody

Prominent Kenyan human rights activist Boniface Mwangi has been released without charge after being detained by police on suspicion of inciting violence, his wife told the BBC. She described on Sunday how six masked individuals forcibly took him from his home. His detention came after he called for an anti-government protest at a marathon in the capital, Nairobi, on Sunday. The police had confirmed that Mr Mwangi was in custody but did not provide further details. His detention caused outrage among his supporters, who demanded his release. He had been rallying people on X (formerly Twitter) to demand the resignation of President William Ruto, using the hashtags #RutoMustGo and #OccupyStanChart, which referred to the Standard Chartered marathon, the official name of the race. He urged people to dress up in the colours of the national flag,

wear bandanas with the message "RutoMustGo" and share protest chants online. "Stay calm and peaceful and have fun!" he added. Mr Mwangi has been arrested and released on numerous occasions over his campaigning. His latest call for a protest was seen as an attempt to keep up pressure on Mr Ruto, who has faced growing public anger over the escalating cost of living and alleged police brutality during demonstrations earlier this year. The activist's wife, Njeri Mwangi, told the BBC on Sunday

that he was arrested at dawn that day at his home in Machakos County, about 40km (25 miles) east of Nairobi. A group of five masked men and one masked woman, all in plain clothes, roughed up her husband before taking him away, she said. "They allowed him at least to dress up and then they walked him out," Mrs Mwangi told the BBC. Hours later, police confirmed that Mr Mwangi was in custody at a police station in downtown Nairobi. BBC



Boniface Mwangi is a fierce critic of the government

A party in power for 58 years pledges change for Botswana

Botswana's governing party - in power for almost six decades - is trying to pull off a trick in Wednesday's general election by using a phrase normally associated with long-suffering opposition groups.

In its manifesto, the Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) is calling for "change".

"Let's change together and build prosperity for all," President Mokgweetsi Masisi - in charge of the country since 2018 - writes in the introduction. It is an acknowledgement that things need to be done differently - the opposition argues that the president's party is not in a position to do that. Though analysts say the outcome of the election is hard to predict this time, the BDP has won handsome parliamentary

"We are producing graduates every year and the economy is not producing enough jobs for them," he told the BBC's Africa Daily podcast. In addition, Botswana's wealth is not evenly spread around among its 2.3 million people. By a measure known as the Gini index, researchers say it is one of the most unequal countries in the world. And the diamond industry appears to be under pressure globally as demand has been falling.

But Masisi and his party continue to project confidence.

At a campaign rally in an opposition stronghold in central Botswana, the president arrived in style in an electric vehicle assembled in the country. Getting out, the 63-year-old former teacher danced towards the stage greeting supporters in red-and-white party colours. Laughter rang through the crowd as Masisi's humour and charisma electrified



Innocent Selatlhwa in Gabarone & Damian Zane in London

majorities at the 11 elections since independence in 1966. It subsequently secured the presidency every time as MPs elect the head of state.

The BDP has been credited with overseeing a peaceful and dramatic transformation of a poor country, with only a few kilometres of tarred roads at independence, into a place where average living standards are among the highest on the continent. Underpinning this transformation has been Botswana's huge diamond reserves - measured by their value, the country is the world's largest producer of the gemstone.

And yet all is not well. Botswana is facing big economic challenges - hence Masisi's talk of change.

More than one in four of the working population is unemployed, with an even higher proportion among younger people, according to the World Bank.

Politics professor at the University of Botswana Zibani Maundeni described it as a "jobless economy".

the audience.

The area - home to the previous President, Ian Khama - elected three opposition MPs in 2019.

This was after Khama defected from the BDP to help form the Botswana Patriotic Front (BPF), saying he regretted picking Masisi as his successor.

The dramatic fall-out between the two men led to Khama leaving the country, accusing the government of trying to poison him. Khama was then charged with money laundering, among other crimes, all of which he denies. It also ended the political dominance of his family - his father, Sir Seretse Khama, was the country's first president and served for 14 years from 1966. "I am sorry, please come back home and also call others over," Masisi told the rally pleading to voters to return to the BDP. Hair-salon owner, Thandiwe Potso, 32, seemed convinced.

"Masisi truly understands our challenges and brought better programmes to fund our businesses," she told the BBC, her eyes shining with conviction. Kabelo Selema, 45, agreed. BBC

EDITORIAL

Gay stigma is hurting United Methodists

The Liberia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, headed by Resident Bishop Samuel Jerome Quire, Jr., seems to be caught between the scissors. Whether to ratify or embrace regionalization (same-sex marriage) and enjoy huge financial support from the church's global gay community or to disaffiliate and forfeit the tempting dollar of gay Methodists worldwide, it is a decision of money vs. morality in the Methodist Church.

In public, Bishop Quire and other leaders of the Liberia Annual Conference are opposed to ordaining gay bishops and gay pastors. But personally, he is against having an independent church or aligning with the Way Forward Commission that vehemently opposes the practice of homosexuality or officiating gay marriage in the United Methodist Church.

This divide is hurting the Liberia Annual Conference, particularly United Methodists across the country, who sense a strange doctrine surfacing in the church that is totally against their cultural and moral values and the principles of the Holy Bible that they strongly uphold. What should they tell their children both in church and at home if there were an officiating gay marriage in a local church?

United Methodists in Liberia are between the rocks and the high places in making decisions that may affect the church's future. They need sober reflection and sincere guidance, which seem not to be forthcoming from the bishop they look up to amid more questions than answers.

While uncertainty looms, the stigma surrounding the Liberia Annual Conference and United Methodists is growing bigger and wider by the day, accompanied by serious public embarrassment. The prolonged vacuum is leaving room for rumors and innuendos, particularly when Bishop Quire seems not to be coming clear on a situation that is set to change the face of the United Methodist Church in Liberia forever.

The Liberia Annual Conference members are losing trust in the Bishop and his cabinet about whether the LAC should maintain the status code or regionalize. Bishop Quire has not been able to satisfy their doubts and suspicions. They are demanding explanations and clarifications that are not forthcoming.

As if this was not enough, pastors who appear to be vocal against homosexuality in the church are being replaced even before an annual conference, as it is traditionally done.

There are too many conflicting signals coming from Bishop Quire regarding this situation despite his professed opposition to same-sex marriage and the ordination of gay bishops and gay pastors.

The Liberia Annual Conference, under the leadership of Bishop Samuel Quire, needs to act or come clear on this to ease the psychological and traumatic pains United Methodists across Liberia are being subjected to.

We caution that failure to take a definitive stance on this matter could drag the once enviable image of the UMC as an institution of inspiration and hope into the mud with unimaginable consequences, as is being indicated with police going to quell protests at churches.

COMMENTARY

By Justina Nixon-Saintil

Unlocking AI-Powered Learning

NEW YORK - Artificial intelligence has captured the imagination of corporate leaders eager to implement new tech solutions in their industries. But AI could also be applied to broader and more complex problems, especially in education. This vision is on its way to becoming a reality, with the technology already helping to enhance student learning, create new pathways to rewarding careers, and align today's education with tomorrow's jobs.

A recent report found that around half of the teachers and school administrators surveyed in the United States who are currently using AI in their work are optimistic about its potential. But a lack of training is hindering widespread adoption.

Fortunately, surmounting this barrier is relatively straightforward. For starters, business leaders and policymakers should work together to provide teachers with free training on the fundamentals of AI and its practical applications. A train-the-trainer model can be delivered through low-cost or free online learning and customized to specific education levels or local curricula. This approach allows educators to gain confidence with the new technology and begin experimenting with practical applications in their classrooms.

Moreover, teachers trained in AI are better equipped to help students who want to learn more about the sector. An IBM survey shows that many learners want to pursue well-paying tech jobs, but believe that they are unqualified because they lack the academic credentials. Others say they simply do not know where to begin. That is where generative AI comes in: it can recommend coursework that matches learners' levels and interests, and offer real-time feedback as they move through the material. AI-powered solutions can even pair students with mentors who can advise them on higher education and career progression. This results in a more personalized and immediate educational experience than the online learning of yesterday.

One significant obstacle to narrowing the AI skills gap is the blistering pace of innovation, which has led to substantial unmet demand for expertise. According to the World Economic Forum, half of the global workforce needs to upskill or reskill, but the training market is not currently equipped to meet this need. It is encouraging that new offerings are being rolled out across the AI ecosystem, from coursework on ethics and prompt engineering to creative experiential resources for students. As the lifespan of technical skills continues to shrink, both young students and lifelong learners must be encouraged to invest in AI training.

At the same time, AI is driving sweeping change across industries and markets, and the broad scope of this transformation requires an equally comprehensive response - individual efforts will not be enough. The first step in helping learners find their way to tomorrow's jobs is ensuring that these positions exist. Corporate executives and policymakers must work together to create jobs that offer higher-value work to qualified candidates, who, in turn, will be better able to provide for their families.

Equally important are multisector collaborations like the AI Alliance, which aims to encourage openness about these systems and accelerate knowledge sharing, and the AI-Enabled Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Workforce Consortium, which directs workers to relevant training programs. Such collective action is creating opportunities to harness the excitement around AI to build common frameworks and develop a skills-first approach that can identify and nurture tomorrow's tech leaders.

But the work has only just begun. Industry leaders and policymakers must continue to develop a shared approach to education and job creation in the age of AI and encourage more widespread training in the technology's fundamentals. As IBM's Chief Impact Officer, I will be asking how my organization can ensure that students, teachers, employees, and job-seekers are benefiting from these advances. Although we have taken a step in that direction with IBM SkillsBuild, shaping the industries and jobs of the future requires a host of AI-powered features and programs that can provide learners with personalized educational experiences over the course of their lives.

Justina Nixon-Saintil is Vice President and Chief Impact Officer at IBM.

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OP-EDBy Raghuram G. Rajan

Reform or Irrelevance for the IMF?

CHICAGO - The world needs an effective International Monetary Fund. Countries have become hugely indebted following the COVID-19 pandemic, and the risk of new shocks grows as the world warms and new pathogens emerge. Protectionism (sometimes cloaked by security interests) is on the rise, impeding traditional pathways to development. As economies falter, no one wants to absorb the desperate people who are braving dense jungles or climbing onto rickety, overcrowded boats in search of decent livelihoods.

We need an honest broker to help countries negotiate fair rules for international exchange (including, most immediately, rules on subsidies), to call out violators, to criticize bad policies, and to step in as lender of last resort for those in distress. Unfortunately, the IMF, despite the high quality of its management and staff, is increasingly ill-positioned to perform these tasks.

The institution’s problems lie in its anachronistic governance. Most key decisions, including on country loans, are made by the Fund’s executive board, where G7 members hold most of the power. The United States wields a de facto veto, and Japan’s voting power exceeds that of China, whose economy dwarfs Japan’s. India’s vote share is far smaller than the United Kingdom’s or France’s, even though its economy is larger and growing faster than both.

Because the world’s erstwhile dominant powers refuse to let go, the underrepresentation of fast-growing emerging economies persists. At the same time, it is no longer clear that the old powers always have the global interest at heart. In the immediate postwar era, the United States, as the sole economic superpower, could be trusted to enforce the rules of the game and generally remain above the fray. But as its worries about being overtaken have grown, it has switched from referee to player. Once a champion of the idea that openness benefits everyone, it increasingly wants openness only on its own terms.

The quality of the Fund’s lending decisions is also likely to deteriorate. Whenever the Fund lends, it is natural that well-connected countries in economic trouble tend to obtain more relief on easier terms. While there have always been political influences on Fund lending, there has been a greater chance of it succeeding in the past because of outside assistance from powerful board members - think, for example, of the Mexican crisis in 1994, where the US contributed a hefty share of the rescue package.

With fiscal resources now tight even in the G7, the IMF increasingly will have to risk its capital as powerful board members with relatively little skin in the game direct loans toward friends and neighbors. Worse, such special treatment may not even help the loan recipients, many of whom need tough love.

In sum, the IMF’s governance structure will increasingly hurt the Fund’s work. But will redistributing IMF vote shares to reflect the current distribution of economic power not lead to chaos? Won’t China block loans to any country linked to the G7, and vice versa? Isn’t dysfunctional governance better than absolute paralysis?

Perhaps, which is why any reforms affecting countries’ voting power should be accompanied by a fundamental change in IMF governance. The executive board should no longer vote on operational decisions, including individual lending programs. Instead, the Fund’s top management should be given free rein to make operational decisions for the benefit of the global economy, with the board setting broad guidelines and periodically examining whether those guidelines have been met.

More to the point, the executive board should become a governance board, much as with corporations. It would set the organization’s operational mandate, and appoint and change management and monitor overall performance; but it would not control day-to-day decisions. All operational decisions should be depoliticized. Indeed, that is what John Maynard Keynes would have preferred to see at the time of the Fund’s founding. Fearing America’s undue influence, he proposed a non-resident board, which in those days of poor communications and steamship travel implied a non-executive board and an empowered management.

There are some foreseeable objections to this proposal. The first is that powerful countries will refuse to commit their taxpayers’ resources to the Fund unless they can exercise full control over their use. But this is precisely what the dominant board powers already expect the rest of the world to do. What is good for the goose...

Another objection is that emerging powers like China might not agree to a change in Fund structure now that they themselves are on the verge of acquiring power. But if they don’t accept any change, neither will the old powers. The recent 16th General Review of Quotas made little change in the distribution of board power. Expect more of the same unless the old powers and emerging powers reach a grand bargain.

Finally, countries would be uneasy with fiscal resources being spent by unelected management who could be insensitive to the needs of the world’s people. But political considerations will still play a role. Board directors, appointed by governments, will appoint IMF top managers and give them broad marching orders, based on their governments’ political assessments. For example, the rules governing lending can become more lenient if the directors deem it appropriate. The difference is that the rules will be applied uniformly across all countries. Powerful friends of the needy can still help, but they will have to do so outside the Fund program, rather than by bending rules. Eight decades after the IMF was created, the world can - and must - pursue a grand bargain to reform its governance structure and deal with emerging challenges. The alternative is to do little and watch the institution fade into irrelevance.

Raghuram G. Rajan, a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India and chief economist of the International Monetary Fund, is Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the co-author (with Rohit Lamba) of *Breaking the Mold: India’s Untraveled Path to Prosperity* (Princeton University Press, May 2024).

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OPINIONBy Karen Sack

Charting a Course for Coastal Resilience

WASHINGTON, DC - Roughly 40% of the world’s population inhabit coastal areas. In addition to being home to 12 of the world’s 15 largest cities, these regions serve as an essential lifeline for countless small villages and towns. With around 80% of international trade passing through seaports, coastal regions also play an outsize economic role, accounting for 60-70% of global GDP.

With global temperatures rising at an alarming rate, coastal communities find themselves on the front lines of the climate and biodiversity crises. In the past year alone, Hurricanes Beryl, Helene, and Milton battered the Caribbean and the US Gulf Coast, while Storm Daniel claimed thousands of lives in Libya, underscoring the growing vulnerability of those living along the world’s shorelines.

As the climate crisis escalates, so do the threats posed by rising sea levels and an acidifying, warming ocean. These dangers are compounded by habitat destruction, overfishing, and pollution, which erode the health and biodiversity of marine ecosystems. The resulting loss of mangroves and coral reefs is expected to cause enormous economic losses and displace numerous coastal communities, particularly in small island developing states where every aspect of life is linked to the sea.

Given the stakes, strengthening the resilience of coastal communities, and protecting their inhabitants’ lives, livelihoods, and economies, is not just a regional or national priority but a global imperative. Meeting it will require a coordinated effort by both the public and private sectors, particularly financial institutions capable of generating the investments necessary to support sustainable, long-term solutions.

To this end, the United Nations Biodiversity Conference is exploring ways to advance the 2022 Global Biodiversity Framework, which aims to protect 30% of all land and ocean areas by 2030. The upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Azerbaijan will focus on financing solutions. And next year’s UN Ocean Conference, along with the inaugural Blue Economy and Finance Forum, could help catalyze the urgent, coordinated action needed to safeguard our planet’s most vulnerable ecosystems.

Encouragingly, private financial institutions are also starting to recognize the need to bolster climate resilience. An astounding \$1 trillion in green, social, and sustainability-linked bonds were issued in 2023, reflecting investors’ growing interest in projects aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. But investment in ocean regeneration and coastal resilience remains well below the hundreds of billions of dollars required annually to protect vulnerable communities and cities.

While closing this funding gap is crucial, engaging with local communities is equally important. By incorporating indigenous peoples’ perspectives, policymakers could craft measures that protect nature, promote sustainable development, and ensure that investments in infrastructure and community resilience are both equitable and effective.

Cross-sector partnerships will be key to building a pipeline of investable projects. The Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA), where I serve as Executive Director, seeks to mobilize financing for ocean resilience. By working with committed partners, we aim to equip bankers and insurers with the tools to account for the value of natural assets on their balance sheets while harnessing the ingenuity and entrepreneurial spirit of local leaders, many of whom are women.

To be sure, there is much more to be done. To build truly resilient coastal communities, climate risks must be factored into every infrastructure project, policy proposal, and investment decision that affects climate-vulnerable regions. Moreover, by promoting nature-based solutions, such as the restoration of mangroves and coral reefs, policymakers could bolster natural defenses against storms and erosion while supporting biodiversity and local economies. Initiatives like the Coastal Risk Index- an interactive platform that leverages data to help investors, insurers, and policymakers assess coastal risks - will be vital to this effort.

Given that public financing alone cannot generate the capital needed to protect coastal communities, greater public-private cooperation will be essential to close the current funding gap. This will require developing innovative financial instruments to reduce risk and incentivize private-sector participation. With this in mind, ORRAA has partnered with the Development Guarantee Group, a guarantor backing climate adaptation and mitigation projects, to create a mechanism aimed at derisking sustainable investments in “blue economy” sectors.

Next year’s UN Ocean Conference in France and the Blue Economy and Finance Forum in Monaco present a unique opportunity to unite these various efforts. By bringing together business leaders and policymakers, these gatherings could unlock large-scale financing for ocean conservation and resilience, ensuring that coastal communities benefit from a comprehensive, sustainable approach to the complex challenges posed by the climate crisis.

But to seize this opportunity, investors, policymakers, and local leaders must align their efforts. Through decisive, coordinated climate action, we can direct targeted investments toward ocean resilience and secure a sustainable future for coastal communities - and for the global economy that relies on them.

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ARTICLEBy Seltue Karweaye

The EPA: A definitive example of why strong leadership is nonnegotiable in Liberia

Years ago, I ceased asking questions when I encountered Liberians who wore their frustration like a heavy cloak, seemingly angry with the very fabric of our nation. The reality is stark: Liberia is beset by numerous challenges—from a faltering education system that leaves the youth unprepared, to rampant government corruption that undermines public trust. The absence of social services creates a void filled with desperation, while poverty stretches across communities like a shadow. Personality cults thrive, and the echoes of discontentment murmur in the background. All of this unfolds under the watchful gaze of leaders entrusted with guiding over 5 million citizens toward hope and progress.

In recent weeks, during my journey through the bustling streets of Monrovia and its surrounding areas, I witnessed a disturbing old reality: environmental pollution. It became painfully evident that millions of Liberians are unaware of the dire consequences tied to poor waste management. Successive governments appear to have turned a deaf ear to these pressing issues, resembling a ship adrift without a captain, while regulators seem lethargic, only waking when payday draws near.

In Liberia, urbanization has increased the amount of waste generated. Currently, there is no sustainable disposal method, as unsorted waste is dumped in an unsanitary landfill that is beginning to reach capacity. The Liberian government aims to create a circular economy and is working to address waste management issues; however, progress has been slow. Recognizing the need for sustainable waste management solutions, Dr. Emmanuel K. Urey Yarkpawolo, the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), reached out to civil society organizations and donor communication services to announce the publication of the long-awaited National Solid Waste Management Policy (NSWMP) and sought their support for its implementation. The new policy encourages active participation from private service providers in the solid waste management sector, with the EPA committed to adhering to its guiding principles in sanitation service delivery.

Waste management is a critical challenge in Liberia, where inadequate practices have resulted in serious environmental and health problems, such as soil degradation, pollution, and water and air contamination. However, under the leadership of Dr. Emmanuel K. Urey Yarkpawolo, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has shown that it is possible to address this challenge. The EPA is implementing innovative waste management strategies, policies, and programs focused on reducing waste, promoting recycling and reuse, and encouraging a cleaner, more sustainable environment.

Since taking over as the EPA's Executive Director, Dr. Urey Yarkpawolo has successfully calmed the internal turmoil at the agency. In just nine months, he has transformed the EPA into a vibrant entity responsible for enforcing all environmental laws, guidelines, policies, standards, and regulations in Liberia. This includes ensuring compliance with the international agreements, protocols, conventions, and treaties related to the environment that Liberia has signed. The EPA's responsibilities also encompass the protection and development of the environment, biodiversity conservation, and the sustainable management of Liberia's natural resources. Moreover, the agency fosters coordination and collaboration with relevant stakeholders both within and outside Liberia regarding the enforcement of environmental standards and regulations.

Under Dr. Yarkpawolo's leadership, the EPA has taken decisive action against several entities for soil pollution and environmental degradation. These actions included fining the United Africa Minerals Cooperation \$30,000, imposing a \$20,000 fine on the Edgail Recycling Facility, and ordering the shutdown of the Conex MD SOW and Associates Slaughterhouse in Careysburg, along with prohibiting the further acceptance of cows.

Also, the EPA took a decisive step by shutting down China Union's iron ore operations in Bong Mines, a staggering \$2.6 billion investment, due to serious environmental violations. This move was prompted by the company operating without an effluent discharge license, constructing a processing plant without a permit, and irresponsibly discharging tailings into a wetland.

Dr. Emmanuel K. Urey Yarkpawolo's exemplary leadership at the EPA underscores a critical truth: Liberia's challenges are fundamentally rooted in a lack of effective leadership. There is nothing inherently wrong with Liberia's character, land, climate, or water. Instead, the real issue is the reluctance or inability of its leaders to embrace the responsibilities and set a personal example that true leadership demands.

Effective leadership provides both direction and purpose, not just for oneself but for everyone under one's care. Dr. Urey Yarkpawolo has crafted a compelling vision, leading by example and empowering his team at the EPA. His ability to inspire and connect with employees has brought out their best, as he offers coaching and constructive feedback that fuels their growth.

In stark contrast, during Professor Wilson Tarpeh's tenure as Executive Director of the EPA, employees felt compelled to protest his resignation. Today, they wholeheartedly embrace Dr. Urey Yarkpawolo, recognizing the transformative impact of his principled leadership.

The path to Liberia's success lies not in seeking assistance from the West, but in empowering its citizens. While Western help often comes with strings attached, Liberia needs a self-driven movement toward progress. To thrive, Liberia must uphold democracy and the rule of law with strong checks and balances. Judicial reforms, transparency, and accountability in governance are essential. Strengthening vital institutions—like the legal system, civil service, and financial sector—will enable Liberia to leverage its rich natural and human resources effectively.

Liberia's challenges must be addressed by Liberians themselves—no one else is responsible for the nation's future. The answer lies in embracing purposeful, accountable, and service-oriented leadership, leaders who are committed to delivering tangible results for their constituents. We can look to figures like Dr. Urey Yarkpawolo at the EPA as examples of the impactful leadership needed to drive Liberia toward a brighter, self-sufficient future.

COMMENTARYBy: Togba-Nah TipotehGender Sensitivity SpokespersonAssociation of Female Lawyers of Liberia (AFELL)Board Executive Member Liberian Women Initiative (LWI)

How to build women

Prof. Dr. Thomas Piketty, world renowned economist from France, researched, wrote and published the Truth to the effect that there is growing income inequality within countries and between countries (Piketty, Capital and Ideology, Harvard University Press, 2022). This Truth has led to the expression of considerable concern as seen in the deliberations at the Sixth African Women Leadership Network (AWLN)The held in Margibi County, Liberia from October 27-29, 2024, remembering the experience in Beijing thirty years ago at the International Women Conference.

Most African countries are represented in AWLN as there are thirty six African countries with membership in AWLN. In terms of attempting to find ways to build women, most of the participants pointed out the example of Rwanda, indicating that Rwanda has over fifty per cent women in the Rwandan Parliament. Liberia has only eleven per cent in the House of Representatives and fifteen per cent in the House of Senate.



However AWLN members at the Retreat did not point out the fact that the solution to the income inequality or the prevailing poverty generation problem is not determined by the number of women in the Parliament or National Legislature. Look at the popular example of Rwanda. The fact that the President of Rwanda ordered the execution of two Rwandan opposition leaders and sent a Rwandan General disguised as an Envoy to assassinate a Rwandan opposition Leader who took refuge in South Africa. was overlooked by the participants.

The powers that be called for integrity. However, due to the fact that poverty generation prevails indicates that the powers that be do not exercise the integrity that they talk about . The powers that be do not walk their talk. However, the people who love Africa Walk their Talk as seen in the enormity of elected representatives not being re-elected as they ran to be re-elected.

This non-re-election was made possible by the awareness raising that goes on through the efforts of the people who love Africa. These people exposed the corruption of the electoral system, thereby minimizing the cheating that goes on during elections. This cheating is minimized only through the transformation of the unfair prevailing electoral system into the fair enduring electoral system. It is only through this transformation that women with good records can get elected to bring in the system of Justice, the indispensable ingredient for peace in Africa and in ither parts of the world.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Senator accuses Transport Minister of violating Liberinalization Policy

Sinoe County Senator Duncan has strongly criticized the Ministry of Transport, accusing it of breaching the Liberianization Policy in the face of foreigners.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, October 29, 2024 - Sinoe County Senator and Co-Chair on Ways, Means,

action of the Ministry of Transport regarding and superficially in relations to opportunities and contracts that are increasingly awarded

foreign company. He laments that this alleged action by the Ministry of Transport undermines the hard work of Liberian-owned businesses and investments and deprives citizens of vital job opportunities.

"It's important that we as a government uphold all the national laws and policies. Under these circumstances, and given the unfair and illegal treatment against Liberian businesses carried by the Ministry of Transport, I recommend that this August body invite the Minister of Transport to provide legal justification for his actions", he urges. Senator Duncan alleges that it will beat the imagination of Liberians to note that accountant jobs that Liberians who are graduating from various universities can do are being offloaded to foreigners by the Minister of Labor.

"As it's done with the Ministry of Transport, the Minister of Labor is giving work permits to foreigners to come and conduct common accountancy jobs that Liberians are trained to do. What is the hope for children coming from universities across the country daily? They should have gotten this job to help build their society and country," he underscores. Editing by Jonathan Browne



and Finance Crayton Duncan accuses the Ministry of Transport of paralyzing and undermining Liberian-owned businesses.

According to Senator Duncan, the Ministry of Transport constantly awards opportunities and contracts to foreign nationals instead of Liberians, which he believes has undermined the Liberianization Policy. The Sinoe County lawmaker's communication read to the Senate plenary over the weekend, was titled "Recent having their contract

to foreign nationals." According to him, this trend by the Ministry of Transport contradicts the government's Liberianization Policy, which seeks to prioritize Liberians' economic growth through business opportunities. Senator Duncan indicates that it has come to his attention that a Liberian-owned Company which has been collaborating with the Ministry of Transport in the issuance of Car License Plates is now facing the threat of

Police confirmed officer death

-After fistfight with fellow Police officer over chicken foot The John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital in Monrovia officially confirms the death of Police Officer Elton W. Bahn after a fistfight with a colleague officer.

By Thomas Domah, Nimba County

Nimba, Liberia, October 29, 2024 - An officer of the Liberia National police assigned in Karnplay, Nimba County has been officially pronounced dead by doctors at JFK Hospital in Monrovia. The late Officer Elton W. Bahn, 45, met his death following a fistfight with a fellow Police Officer, 47-year-old Jeremiah Tarkpor.

The NEWDAWN gathered that both deceased Officer Elton W. Bahn and PSU 47-year-old Officer Jeremiah Tarkpor of the Police Support Union were eating in a group when PSU Officer Tarkpor took a chicken foot from the food and gave it to a colleague officer, who is not too well and is not allowed to eat with them.

The situation reportedly led to fistfight between the two officers, leaving the late Officer Elton Bahn unconscious.

The incident occurred recently in front of the Karnplay Police Station in Karnplay City, Nimba County. The deceased's body is still in Monrovia, while Suspect Jeremiah Tarkpor has been disrobed and subjected to a Police investigation in Monrovia.

A few weeks ago, Karnplay City Mayor Daybah Zain

wrote and invited former Karnplay City Mayor Philip Blessings Flomo to report to his office to answer questions about how he organized a birthday party for Ex-President George Weah.

The Karnplay City Mayor Daybah Zain sternly warned former Mayor Philip Blessings Flomo not to mention nor have any dream of celebrating former President George Weah's birthday in the provincial city, Karnplay. Editing by Jonathan Browne



The late Officer Elton W. Bahn

NIR Boss resigns NPP post

The chief scribe for the National Patriotic Party (NPP) resigns his post after taking up employment in government.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah (contributor)

Monrovia, Liberia, October 29, 2024 - The Executive Director of the National Identification Registry (NIR), Mr. Andrew Peters, tenders his resignation as Secretary General of the opposition National Patriotic Party (NPP) in compliance with the Code of Conduct (CoC) for public officials here.

In his resignation letter addressed to Attorney George Sylvester Mulbah, National Chairman of the NPP, Mr. Peters expresses respect for the chairman and references Part V, Section 5.2 of the Code of Conduct for public officials. According to him, this section prohibits public officials from engaging in political activities, using government resources for

acknowledgment referenced sections 5.1 (a) and (b) of the Code of Conduct, which emphasizes the importance of transparency and compliance among public officials.

The letter states, "We acknowledge the evidence of your resignation. In this regard, we kindly request that you encourage other NPP members appointed in the Government of Liberia (by our previous and present leaders) but continue in active party position (s) to resign from the government or the party position."

Additionally, the Office of the Ombudsman urges Mr. Peters to recognize that their role is crucial during a period when citizens and residents expect them to address and rectify the wrongs of both the past and present.

"There is no time to wait. We should now!" Cllr. Finley Y. Karngar,



Mr. Andrew Peters

partisan purposes, or serving on campaign teams. Chairman of the Office of the Ombudsman, stresses.

In light of these regulations, Mr. Peters formally announced his resignation from his position as Secretary General of the National Patriotic Party.

"The decision is based upon my current status in the national government, which is ahead of the National Identification Registry (NIR).

Thanks, I appreciate the opportunity afforded me to serve the NPP", he says.

In a letter dated October 23, 2024, Chairman George Sylvester Mulbah notified the Office of the Ombudsman that Mr. Andrew Peters and Mr. Stanley Kparkillen had resigned from their positions within the NPP. This symbolized the party's adherence to ethical standards and the importance of compliance with the Code of Conduct for public officials.

In response, the Office of the Ombudsman, led by Cllr. Finley Y. Karngar expresses gratitude to Mr. Andrew Peters for notifying them of his resignation as Secretary General of the National Patriotic Party. The

There has been a huge public debate regarding the expectation that stalwarts of the governing party holding presidential positions would lead by example. However, this has not been the case. The fact that an opposition politician, Mr. Andrew Peters, has taken the initiative to comply with statutory requirements has drawn considerable attention. It indicates a contrast in accountability within the current administration.

Debate intensifies with increasing calls for President Joseph Boakai to take decisive action against officials who fail to comply with the government's Code of Conduct. This situation points to the importance of transparency and governance in fulfilling promises made to Liberians during the 2023 presidential campaign. Citizens demand accountability from their leaders to ensure ethical conduct in public office. Editing by Jonathan Browne

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Lonestar Cell MTN announces 2024 Liberian Music Awards

Lonestar Cell MTN rolls out 2024 Edition of Liberian EMusic Award categories here with fantastic prizes.

Monrovia, Liberia, October 29, 2024 - Liberia's leading mobile GSM company, Lonestar Cell MTN, announces nominees for the 2024 Edition of the MTN Liberian EMusic Awards partnership. She says, " We've taken Liberian music to new heights, and we're proud of our contribution. We've brought dignity to Liberian music, and this is what Lonestar Cell MTN

nomination process: "Each year, we ensure fairness and transparency. This year's nominations are based on work produced by artists from August 2023 to July 2024, as evaluated by stakeholders in the industry.

Record label executives, DJs, on-air personalities, and managers submit the nominations. Our board oversees a thorough background check to verify the integrity of each nomination."

According to a release, the 2024 MLMA will be held on December 14th at the Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Ministerial Complex in Congo Town, Monrovia.

The 2024 MLMA Award Categories are as follows: Producer of the Year, Artist of the Year, Female Artist of the Year, Male Artist of the Year, New Artist of the Year, Gospel Song of the Year, Gospel Artist of the Year, and Afropop Artist of the Year. Others include Traditional Gbemah Song of the Year - Hipco Trapco Artist of the Year - Hipco Trapco Song of the Year - Afropop Song of the Year - Collaboration of the Year - Album/EP of the Year - Video of the Year - International Artist of the Year - On-Air Personality of the Year - DJ of the Year - Song of the Year - Video Director of the Year - Reggae Dancehall Song of the Year - Hip Hop Artist of the Year. Voting for the nominees has officially opened. Editing by Jonathan Browne

EPA & partners dialogue on Green Climate Fund Readiness

Liberia Environmental Protection Agency, working with Sustainable Solution for Africa dialogue on multi-country Green Climate Fund Readiness

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, October 29, 2024 - The Liberia Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in collaboration with Sustainable Solution for Africa (SSA) with funding from the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through Ernst and Young (EY) had concluded a national policy dialogue on multi-country Green Climate Fund Readiness.

The symposium held over the weekend, focused on "Accelerating the Financing and Implementation of Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient Priorities for Agriculture and Energy in Agriculture in African Countries". GCF Readiness Program, which aims toward the African Adaptation Initiative, brought together officials of the EPA, Ministry of Agriculture and cross-session of stakeholders, including international organizations, civil society and the private sector.

The Green Climate Fund-funded Pan Africa Readiness Program was approved to strengthen the capacity of 23 African countries of the Africa Adaptation Initiative

National Climate Change Secretariat, thanked the organizing body for hosting such an important occasion.

Mr. Whapoe described the meeting as critical, as it is intended to give more information on climate change, impacts on agriculture and livelihoods and how these phenomena can be managed across Liberia.

For his part, Mr. Benjamin Karmoh, chief technical adviser (CTA) to the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency extolled the participants for assembling to participate in the dialogue that has to do with how to address issues of agriculture energy in terms of climate change adaptation.

Karmoh disclosed that the agriculture sector is key in terms of Liberia's gross domestic products, GDP but it is a sector that is being bombarded as a result of climate change.

Also delivering statements were representatives of UNDP, the University of Liberia, Community of Hope Agricultural Project (CHAP), Liberia Agriculture Commodity



(M L M A) . T h e stands for—excellence in telecommunication provider said in a statement on Monday, October 28, 2024, that this year's event, with the theme "Timeless," celebrates the unstoppable growth and lasting impact of Liberian music on the global stage. Abigail Nufeatalai, Manager of Brand Communications at Lonestar Cell MTN, expresses pride in the company's 7-year partnership with the awards: "I can't believe it has been 7 years of an exciting

everything we touch."

"This year is about Timeless music and artists, and I believe this will be one of the most exciting events yet; we have increased the prizes this year." The Artist of the Year will receive USD 7,000, the Song of the Year will receive US\$3,000, and the New Artist of the Year will win US\$2,000, respectively.

Veteran broadcaster Chris Wolo, chairman of the nomination board, details the

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African Women Development Network holds

economy. The gathering brought together Dignitaries, including former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Justice Minister Oswald Tweh, UN Women Country Representative Comfort Lamptey, Sweden's Ambassador to Liberia Karl Backeus, Ireland Ambassador to Liberia Gerard Considine, EU delegation to Liberia Ambassador Nona Deprez, UN Women resident coordinator Ms. Christian Umotoni, Representative Moima Briggs Mensah, AWLN Social Media Co-chair, Mrs. Ciata Stevens d'akmeida, Cote D'Ivoire AWLN chair Ms. Sefora Kodjo, and Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection Gbeme Horace's Kolli, and Culture Ambassador Kakura Balawala Kamara, among others.

As part of activities, a dialogue was held with former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and former President of the Pan African Parliament, and AWKN pioneer leader, Gertrude Mongella.

During the dialogue, both former Presidents shared their leadership experiences, encouraging emerging leaders to build the confidence necessary to effect change.

Also, in her keynote address on behalf of President Joseph Boakai, Gender Minister Gbeme Horace reaffirmed government's commitment to fostering an inclusive Liberia where every woman and girl can pursue their dreams. She emphasized the government's efforts to appoint more women to senior decision-making positions. "This event calls on the government to uphold the Beijing legacy for action while encouraging young women to lead the continent toward a new era of inclusiveness and progress," Horace stated. She underscored that the 1995 Beijing+30 declaration remains central to the government's agenda to empower women politically, economically, and socially.

For her part, Comfort Lamptey praised the AWDN chapter's initiatives in Liberia, stating that intergenerational conversations are crucial for nurturing future women leaders. Given the historical contributions of women like former President Sirleaf, she highlighted Liberia's significance as a

host. Additionally, Liberia's Justice Minister, Oswald Tweh, described the retreat as a unique opportunity to bridge generational gaps, fostering mutual respect and collaboration among participants. He urged attendees to engage openly and actively during discussions.

Furthermore, Ciata Stevens, the Social Media co-chair for the AWLN Liberia chapter, noted the significant evolution of women's leadership in Liberia. She cited the 2023 elections, in which eight women were elected to the House of Representatives. However, she pointed out that only one woman was elected to the Senate, illustrating the ongoing challenges in achieving gender parity in leadership.

Meanwhile, most of the ambassadors at the event underscored the need for greater women's participation in leadership roles.

They highlighted how women's participation is proportionally low in Liberia, and as a result, most of them lack the confidence and ability to lead.

Hence, the retreat is designed to strengthen intergenerational leadership among women, encouraging a culture of mentorship and support. Editing by Jonathan Browne



- AAI, to respond to climate change challenges.

The program focuses on enhancing climate resilience and integrating climate adaptation strategies into agricultural frameworks, with a strong nexus between agriculture and energy for sustainable growth.

The dialogue aimed at providing a platform for stakeholders to review the readiness of deliverables and discuss how climate data and projections can be incorporated into agricultural policy frameworks.

It is part of the first phase of the multi-country GCF Readiness Program in support of the African Adaptation Initiative on "Accelerating the Financing and Implementation of Low-Carbon and Climate-Resilient priorities for Agriculture and Energy in Agriculture in African Countries". In opening remark, Mr. Elijah Z. Whapoe, Coordinator of the

Regulatory Authority, Ministry of Finance and Development Planning and the Ministry of Agriculture.

The various speakers expressed strong interest and optimism toward an engagement that will ultimately deliver solution to Liberia's agriculture and food security challenge in the wake of climate change.

At the same time, the Deputy Minister for Agriculture, David K. Aquoi, was keened on the Ministry of Agriculture'd role in ensuring sustainable and climate-smart food production across the country. He cited ongoing initiatives in low land rice cultivation in urban and pre-urban communities across Liberia.

According to Minister Aquoi, they are encouraging and working with farmers to grow what they eat, eat some and sell some. This, he said will promote income and enhance livelihood. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Français

La Cour suprême accorde un répit au président de la Chambre, J. Fonati Koffa

Dans une décision cruciale, le juge en chef de la Cour suprême du Libéria, Yamie Gbeisay, a ordonné la suspension des démarches engagées par des députés visant à destituer le président de la Chambre des représentants, J. Fonati Koffa. Cette mesure intervient au cœur d'une crise qui paralyse le fonctionnement de l'Assemblée depuis plusieurs semaines.

Selon des sources proches des députés dissidents, ces derniers prévoient de défier l'injonction de la Cour. Des

parallèles, bloquant les sessions officielles et empêchant l'Assemblée d'atteindre le quorum requis



Father Daniel L. George

Quiqui Gbeisay Sr., a ordonné la suspension des démarches engagées par des députés visant à destituer le président de la Chambre des représentants, J. Fonati Koffa. Cette mesure intervient au cœur d'une crise qui paralyse le fonctionnement de l'Assemblée depuis plusieurs semaines.

informations indiquent même que leur initiative bénéficie du soutien discret du vice-président Jeremiah Koug, du sénateur Emmanuel Nuquay, ainsi que du vice-président de la Chambre, Thomas Fallah, pris dans la tourmente de cette lutte de pouvoir.

Ces dernières semaines, une majorité de députés hostiles à la direction de Koffa a organisé des réunions

pour siéger. Ce groupe dissident, fort de plus de 40 membres, paralyse de fait les travaux législatifs. En réponse, le président Koffa a saisi la justice pour contraindre ses opposants à assister aux sessions et à reconnaître son autorité.

Le juge Gbeisay a ordonné le 25 octobre dernier que le greffier de la Cour suprême

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Partners In Health Liberia : dix ans de progrès au service de la santé publique

L'organisation internationale Partners In Health (PIH) Liberia a marqué une décennie d'engagement au Liberia, célébrant une série de réalisations depuis son arrivée en 2014 en pleine crise d'Ebola, sur invitation de l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Basée dans le comté de Maryland, PIH s'emploie à offrir des soins essentiels aux populations des régions isolées du sud-est du Liberia. Lors de la célébration de son dixième anniversaire au siège d'Oldest Congo Town, l'organisation a réaffirmé son soutien au gouvernement libérien et à ses partenaires dans leurs efforts pour renforcer et reconstruire un secteur de la santé plus robuste et inclusif.

Le directeur exécutif de PIH Liberia, Dr Maxo Luma, a qualifié ce parcours de « moment historique ». « Nous avons entamé notre

contexte de crise sanitaire aiguë, avec la compréhension que les décès liés à Ebola étaient en partie dus à un système de santé déjà gravement affaibli », a-t-il déclaré. Après la déclaration du Liberia comme pays exempt d'Ebola par l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) en 2016, PIH a pris l'engagement de rester aux côtés du gouvernement pour rebâtir un système de santé stable et résilient.

Le Dr Luma a rappelé que depuis

2017, PIH a joué un rôle central dans l'élaboration du Paquet national de services de santé essentiels, une initiative clé vers l'atteinte de la couverture sanitaire universelle. PIH a également soutenu le Programme national de lutte contre la tuberculose, en l'aidant à actualiser et financer ses stratégies nationales, introduisant des traitements entièrement oraux, plus courts, et un

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Éditorial

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 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 matière de connectivité routière, ce projet représente une véritable bouffée d'oxygène. Il promet de dynamiser les 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'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 économiques, tout en favorisant la libre circulation des biens et des services.

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 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 querelles 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.

Français

Par Justina Nixon-Saintil

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La Cour suprême accorde un répit au

informe Samuel G. Kogar, observateurs estiment que leader du bloc majoritaire son appel récent à un audit dissident, de cesser toutes les pour instaurer davantage de activités du groupe. Cette transparence au sein de la injonction fait suite à une Chambre des représentants pourrait expliquer la requête déposée par Koffa l'opposition croissante de pour obtenir une interdiction certains de ses collègues. formelle de ces actions.

« Sur ordre de Son Honneur Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay Sr., juge associé en chambre, vous êtes convoqués à une conférence le lundi 4 novembre 2024, à 10 h, pour une audience sur l'affaire susmentionnée », a communiqué la Cour suprême.

Dans l'attente de cette audience, la Cour a suspendu toute autre procédure ou action dans ce dossier.

Pendant que Koffa intensifie ses démarches judiciaires pour préserver son poste, ses partisans redoublent de soutien, dénonçant des tentatives de saper sa gestion. Le bloc dissident, quant à lui, accuse Koffa de mauvaise gestion et de pratiques douteuses. Toutefois, des

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Partners In Health Liberia : dix ans de

soutien social pour assurer une prise en charge améliorée des patients. PIH a aussi collaboré avec le Conseil libérien des infirmières et sages-femmes pour moderniser les programmes de formation communautaire en soins infirmiers et en obstétrique, contribuant ainsi à élever les standards de la formation dans un contexte de ressources limitées.

Wilfred Zeon, directeur exécutif adjoint chargé des systèmes et de l'administration de PIH Liberia, a déclaré que ces dix années symbolisent une étape marquante : « Il est difficile de croire que nous en sommes déjà à dix ans. Cette

Gongloe appelle Boakai à abolir les frais de remise de diplômes

Dans une lettre adressée au Président Joseph Nyuma Boakai, l'avocat et défenseur des droits de l'homme Cllr. Tiawan Saye Gongloe a demandé l'abolition des frais de remise de diplômes dans les écoles libériennes. Selon lui, cette mesure allégerait le poids financier qui pèse sur les familles et favoriserait l'accès à l'éducation.

Cllr. Gongloe, candidat aux élections présidentielles de 2023, qualifie ces frais d'« excessifs et injustifiés ». Dans sa lettre du 24 octobre 2024, il implore le Président de considérer l'élimination de ces coûts, qu'il estime nécessaires pour réduire le fardeau

observateurs estiment que son appel récent à un audit pour instaurer davantage de transparence au sein de la Chambre des représentants pourrait expliquer l'opposition croissante de certains de ses collègues.

La lutte contre la corruption reste un défi de taille au Libéria, où les progrès demeurent limités. Depuis des décennies, l'Assemblée nationale s'est soustraite aux audits, et toute tentative visant à renverser cette tradition exige une détermination politique et un solide soutien juridique.

Alors que les deux camps se préparent à une confrontation décisive mardi prochain, les regards se tournent vers la Cour suprême. Sa décision pourrait contraindre les députés dissidents à reprendre leurs sièges, ouvrant la voie à une issue pour mettre fin à cette impasse législative.

célébration témoigne d'un parcours exceptionnel accompli en collaboration étroite avec le gouvernement et les communautés. »

Il a également félicité les employés honorés lors de la cérémonie, les encourageant à maintenir leur dévouement envers l'organisation et le pays.

En marquant ses dix ans d'impact, PIH Liberia réaffirme son rôle de partenaire essentiel dans l'amélioration de la santé publique au Liberia, contribuant à réduire les disparités dans les régions sous-desservies et à construire un système de santé plus solide et durable.

financier des familles et encourager l'inscription des élèves.

« Monsieur le Président, je sollicite respectueusement votre attention sur l'urgence de supprimer les frais de remise de diplômes dans toutes les institutions éducatives libériennes », a-t-il écrit, précisant que cette mesure devrait s'appliquer aux écoles publiques et privées, de la maternelle aux universités.

Gongloe estime que ces frais imposent une pression disproportionnée sur les familles libériennes. Selon ses rencontres quotidiennes avec les citoyens, le coût de ces cérémonies transforme.

Débloquer l'apprentissage par l'IA

NEW YORK - L'intelligence artificielle a captivé l'imagination des chefs d'entreprise désireux de mettre en œuvre de nouvelles solutions technologiques dans leur secteur. Mais l'IA pourrait également être appliquée à des problèmes plus vastes et plus complexes, notamment dans le domaine de l'éducation. Cette vision est en passe de devenir une réalité, la technologie contribuant déjà à améliorer l'apprentissage des élèves, à créer de nouvelles voies vers des carrières gratifiantes et à aligner l'éducation d'aujourd'hui sur les emplois de demain.

Selon un rapport récent, près de la moitié des enseignants et des administrateurs scolaires interrogés aux États-Unis qui utilisent actuellement l'IA dans leur travail sont optimistes quant à son potentiel. Mais le manque de formation entrave l'adoption généralisée de l'IA.

Heureusement, il est relativement simple de surmonter cet obstacle. Pour commencer, les chefs d'entreprise et les décideurs politiques devraient collaborer pour offrir aux enseignants une formation gratuite sur les principes fondamentaux de l'IA et ses applications pratiques.

Un module de formation des formateurs peut être mis en place par le biais d'un apprentissage en ligne gratuit ou peu coûteux et adapté à des niveaux d'enseignement spécifiques ou à des programmes d'études locaux. Cette approche permet aux éducateurs de prendre confiance en la nouvelle technologie et de commencer à expérimenter des applications pratiques dans leurs classes.

En outre, les enseignants formés à l'IA sont mieux armés pour aider les élèves qui souhaitent en savoir plus sur ce secteur. Une enquête d'IBM montre que de nombreux apprenants souhaitent occuper des emplois technologiques bien rémunérés, mais pensent qu'ils ne sont pas qualifiés parce qu'ils n'ont pas les diplômes nécessaires. D'autres disent qu'ils ne savent tout simplement pas par où commencer. C'est là que l'IA générative entre en jeu :

elle peut recommander des cours qui correspondent aux niveaux et aux intérêts des apprenants, et offrir un retour d'information en temps réel au fur et à mesure qu'ils avancent dans la matière. Les solutions alimentées par l'IA peuvent même mettre les étudiants en contact avec des mentors qui peuvent les conseiller sur l'enseignement supérieur et la progression de leur carrière. Il en résulte une expérience éducative plus personnalisée et plus immédiate que l'apprentissage en ligne d'hier.

L'un des principaux obstacles à la réduction du déficit de compétences en matière d'IA est le rythme effréné de l'innovation, qui a entraîné une demande d'expertise non satisfaite considérable. Selon le Forum économique mondial, la moitié de la main-d'œuvre mondiale a besoin de se perfectionner ou de se recycler, mais le marché de la formation n'est pas à même de répondre à ce besoin.

Il est encourageant de constater que de nouvelles offres sont déployées dans l'ensemble de l'écosystème de l'IA, qu'il s'agisse de cours sur l'éthique et l'ingénierie rapide ou de ressources expérimentales créatives pour les étudiants. Étant donné que la durée de vie des compétences techniques continue de se réduire, les jeunes étudiants et les apprenants permanents doivent être encouragés à investir dans la formation à l'IA.

Dans le même temps, l'IA entraîne des changements radicaux dans les industries et les marchés, et la vaste portée de cette transformation exige une réponse tout aussi globale - les efforts individuels ne suffiront pas. La première étape pour aider les apprenants à trouver leur voie vers les emplois de demain est de s'assurer que ces postes existent. Les dirigeants d'entreprise et les décideurs politiques doivent travailler ensemble pour créer des emplois qui offrent un travail de plus grande valeur aux candidats qualifiés, qui, à leur tour, seront mieux à même de subvenir aux besoins de leur famille.

Tout aussi importantes sont les collaborations multisectorielles telles que l'AI Alliance, qui vise à encourager l'ouverture sur ces systèmes et à accélérer le partage des connaissances, et le AI-Enabled Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Workforce Consortium, qui oriente les travailleurs vers des programmes de formation pertinents. Cette action collective permet de tirer parti de l'engouement pour l'IA afin d'élaborer des cadres communs et de développer une approche axée sur les compétences, capable d'identifier et d'éduquer les leaders technologiques de demain.

Le travail ne fait que commencer. Les leaders de l'industrie et les décideurs politiques doivent continuer à développer une approche commune de l'éducation et de la création d'emplois à l'ère de l'IA et encourager une formation plus répandue aux principes fondamentaux de la technologie. En tant que Chief Impact Officer d'IBM, je me demanderai comment mon organisation peut s'assurer que les étudiants, les enseignants, les employés et les demandeurs d'emploi bénéficient de ces avancées.

Bien que nous ayons fait un pas dans cette direction avec IBM SkillsBuild, façonner les industries et les emplois du futur nécessite une foule de fonctions et de programmes alimentés par l'IA qui peuvent fournir aux apprenants des expériences éducatives personnalisées tout au long de leur vie.

Justina Nixon-Saintil est vice-présidente et directrice de l'impact chez IBM.

LIBERIANS DEBATE

Topic: Bribery to remove Speaker Koffa

By Naneka Hoffman

Plot at the Capitol Building last week Thursday, 17 October by a group of rebel lawmakers to remove Speaker J. Fonati Koffa has generated debate across the country with many Liberians appear to be unanimous against the act, as you may read in this random sampling below.



Mohammed S. Kamara

“For me personally, I don’t want to conclude on an alleged issue to hold it as a fact, because it’s still yet not been confirmed, and we haven’t seen a single lawmaker to

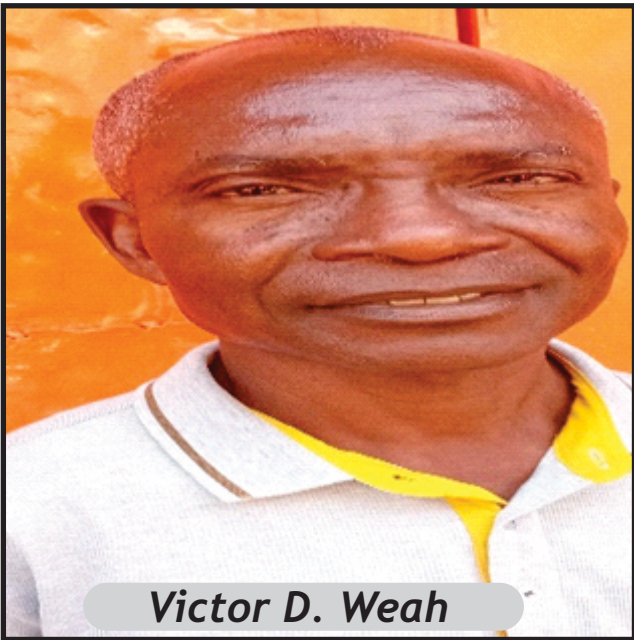
come up yet to say they have received US\$15,000 each for the removal of Speaker Koffa. But if it is established, for me, I think Liberia’s democracy is going to cripple because we can’t have an economy where majority of the people who voted this leader are using huge amount of cash to seek the remove of an elected Speaker. The business of the House of Representatives is controlled by these representatives and they are representing the Liberian people.”



Titus Siakor

“I think that is a wrong idea, even if there is a cause to remove the Speaker, I don’t think it should be done through bribery; that along too is against the law. You can’t move somebody that is ruling lawfully by using illegal means to remove them. I don’t think this is in the interest of the Liberian people.”

“If it is true that US\$15,000 was dished out for the removal of Speaker Koffa, I think there’s a serious crime because bribery is a crime under our law, so for that aspect along it needs an investigation. And those, who are involved, need to answer some questions.”



Victor D. Weah

“I think the lawmakers were wronged to take allegedly US\$15, 000 each to remove Speaker Koffa from his position. Let’s remember that this Speaker we are talking about was voted [elected] to this position, so you can’t just remove him like that. Let us follow the law of this country and forget about putting personal feeling in duty.”

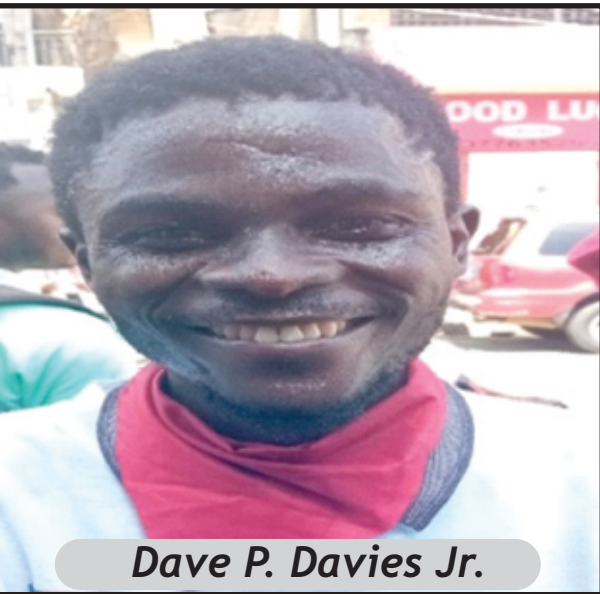


Seleki V. Konneh



Alex Tamba

“If the lawmakers received allegedly US\$15,000 to remove Speaker Koffa, I think they are wasting their time, because this Speaker was voted for; he was not just selected for that position, so if they want to remove Speaker Koffa, let them go through the right process.”



Dave P. Davies Jr.

“It’s very much sad; in this kind of economy where we are not prioritizing the people’s interest, but lawmakers in the House are receiving US\$15,000 each. There are so many problems to solve then taking US\$15,000 to remove Speaker Koffa.”



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Ellen turns 86 Protest erupts at LRRRC

Liberia's 24th President, Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, is being joined today by former Nigerian President Obasanjo, along with dozens of influential African women, to celebrate her 86th birth anniversary.

Monrovia, October 29, 2024/Former Liberian President Mrs. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is expected to celebrate her 86th birthday in initiative of the African Union Commission and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN Women),

a cabinet appointment as Minister of Finance and served until 1980. After Samuel Doe seized power in 1980 in a coup d'état and executed Tolbert, Sirleaf fled to the United States. She worked for Citibank and then the Equator Bank. She returned to Liberia to contest a

The Liberia Refugees Resettlement and Repatriation Commission's premises have become a protest ground as aggrieved contractors call for Director-General Patrick Worzie's dismissal.

By Kruah Thompson
Monrovia, Liberia, October 29, 2024 - Aggrieved contractors and former employees of the Liberia Refugees Resettlement and Repatriation Commission (LRRRC) here at their headquarters in Congo Town, demanding the removal of Director General Patrick T. Worzie.

The group was seen chanting slogans and forcefully attempting to enter the LRRRC building after security guards denied them access. They allege Director Worzie mishandled their contracts and withheld their eight-month salaries without justification. The NEW DAWN has yet to verify these allegations brought against Director-General Worzie independently. Speaking to reporters during the protest at their head office in Congo town, the protesters accused Worzie of corruption, claiming that he forged their signatures and misappropriated funds belonging to Liberian returnees from Ghana.

Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) was investigating the matter and that his deputy had been suspended pending the outcome of the investigation. He alleged that the deputy had threatened to tarnish his reputation in retaliation. However, at the protest on October 8, 2023, the aggrieved workers challenged Director Worzie, saying his statements were misleading. They contended that he improperly implicated them in the investigation, referencing documents he could not substantiate and that he aimed to dismiss 63 employees without cause. The protesters angrily argued that the LRRRC boss made an error by including the Human Resources department in the investigation, which led to further inquiries, revealing his internal motives. They note that since Worzie's appointment, the LRRRC has experienced numerous labor violations and financial misconduct. The group calls on the government to dismiss Worzie to



remarkable style today as she climaxes the ongoing African Women Leadership Network conference here. The 24th Liberian President is expected to be joined by former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo and dozens of influential women from the 36 African Women Leadership Network chapters. Former first lady Clar Marie Weah is also expected to join Mrs. Sirleaf during the celebration. Sources close to Mrs. Sirleaf said this year's African Women Leadership Network retreat had been planned to coincide with Mrs. Sirleaf's birthday celebration today. The retreat, which runs from October 27 to 29, 2025, focuses on co-leadership and co-mentoring. It creates a platform for AWLN Pioneer Elders to share their experiences and expertise with emerging women leaders. The summit highlights the vital role women play in transforming the continent. AWDN is a collaborative

supported by the Federal Government of Germany. This year's summit theme is "Empowering the Next Generation of Women Leaders in a Beijing+30 Era: Paving the Way for a Sustainable and Equitable Society." Mrs. Sirleaf, born Ellen Eugenia Johnson on 29 October 1938, is a Liberian politician who served as the 24th president of Liberia from 2006 to 2018. Sirleaf was the first elected female head of state in Africa. She was born in Monrovia and educated at the College of West Africa. She completed her education in the United States, studying at Madison Business College, the University of Colorado Boulder, and Harvard University. She returned to Liberia to work as Deputy Minister of Finance in William Tolbert's government from 1971 to 1974. Later, she worked again in the West for the World Bank in the Caribbean and Latin America. In 1979, she received

senatorial seat for Montserrado County in 1985, a disputed election. In 1985, she was arrested for openly criticizing the military government and sentenced to ten years imprisonment, although she was later released. Mrs. Sirleaf continued to be involved in politics. She finished second in the 1997 presidential election, which Charles Taylor won. She won the 2005 presidential election and took office on 16 January 2006. She was re-elected in 2011. She was the first woman in Africa to be elected president of her country. In 2011, she won the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her efforts to bring women into the peacekeeping process. She has received numerous other awards for her leadership. In June 2016, Sirleaf was elected as the Chair of the Economic Community of West African States, making her the first woman to hold the position since it was created.



Reports surfaced recently detailing several corruption scandals involving the Commission, During his recent appearance at the Ministry of Information's regular press briefing, Mr. Worzie stated that his signature was forged, resulting in unauthorized withdrawals from their donors' accounts. He indicated that the Liberia

restore order and integrity at the LRRRC. "This is the first time such a reputable institution has brought disgrace upon us as employees," one protester says. Meanwhile, the Liberia National Police intervened as tensions escalated, with protesters violently knocking on the institution's gates and demanding the direction general's removal. Editing by Jonathan Browne

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African Women Development Network holds 6th Intergenerational Leadership Summit

Influential women on the continent, including two former women presidents, are attending a retreat here to enhance women's leadership across Africa.

By: Kruah Thompson

Margibi, Liberia, October 29, 2024- The African Women Development Network (AWDN) has launched its 6th Intergenerational Leadership retreat at

role women play in transforming the continent. AWDN is a collaborative initiative of the African Union Commission and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment

plenary sessions, workshops, keynote speeches, and high-level panel discussions over the past three days. A key highlight will be the launch of the AWLN Mentorship Program pilot phase, unveiling its mentorship handbook, and the IRG outcome and call to action. However, at the event's launch,



Farmington Hotel in Margibi County to enhance women's leadership across Africa. The retreat, running from October 27 to 29, 2025, focuses on co-leadership and co-mentoring. It creates a platform for AWLN Pioneer Elders to share their experiences and expertise with emerging women leaders. The summit highlights the vital

of Women (UN Women), a separate dialogue session supported by the Federal titled "Experience and Lessons Learned in Driving Gender year's summit theme is Equality and Women's "Empowering the Next Leadership" featured discussions Generation of Women on empowering young women to Leaders in a Beijing+30 Era: redefine political leadership and Paving the Way for a entrepreneurship in a global Sustainable and Equitable Society."

The retreat has included

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