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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

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

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
THURSDAY 31, 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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House crisis derails

Legislative projects

P11

EDC is in disarray

P11

-Chairman Luther Tarpeh

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Continental News

African asylum seekers afraid ahead of US election

For the growing number of African asylum seekers and economic migrants in the US, the upcoming presidential election could

effects of the conflict up-close. “Women were raped. I saw it. I felt it in my body,” he tells the BBC. Dr Kaduli says that horrified at the civilian casualties, he and many of

held for a day he managed to escape and decided he had to get out.

Leaving his mother and young son behind, Dr Kaduli says he began what would be a five-year journey, passing first through neighbouring Rwanda, then flying to Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and finally arriving at the US-Mexico border in 2019.

“I remained on the border for at least a month, we were living in small tents in inhumane conditions.”

Dr Kaduli says he then succeeded in crossing into the US and was detained for 15 months, before being released.

He now lives in Virginia working as a medical technician, awaiting a decision on his asylum case.

Dr Kaduli is one of thousands of African migrants who against all odds complete the long journey to reach the US-Mexico border each year. It is a number that is rising.

But with many Americans saying immigration is a top concern in this election, and both candidates promising to crack down at the border, African asylum seekers are worried the public may turn against them.

“We see our politicians criminalise our status, demonise our community and being a president, they can decide our future,” Dr Kaduli tells the BBC.



Yves Kaduli, a Congolese doctor, says he fled his country after being kidnapped and tortured

reshape their entire future. “We deserve safety,” says Dr Yves Kaduli, a 38-year-old asylum seeker from the Democratic Republic of Congo who lives in the US.

“I have a dream that I will defend those that are persecuted,” he adds in a BBC interview.

Dr Kaduli says that in 2014, he fled eastern DR Congo - which has been wracked by conflict for almost three decades - after being kidnapped and tortured.

He had been working as a doctor at Cifunzi Hospital in Kalonge town and saw the

his colleagues, including Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr Denis Mukwege, participated in protests against the killings and rapes by armed groups, criticising then-President Joseph Kabila's government for its failure to guarantee the safety of people.

The medic says this led to him being targeted by unknown men. “They came, they took me and another colleague by force during our night shift,” Dr Kaduli recalls, adding that they were then taken to a makeshift camp in a nearby forest where they were beaten, tortured and threatened with death.

Dr Kaduli says that after being

Botswana's President Masisi votes in national election

By Africanews with AP

Botswana's President Mokgweetsi Masisi cast his vote on Wednesday in an election that will determine whether he will serve a second term in office.

The Botswana Democratic Party has governed the southern African nation for 58 years, since independence from Britain in 1966.

The election will determine the makeup of Parliament and lawmakers will later elect the president.

Masisi, a 63-year-old former high school teacher who also previously worked for UNICEF, is seeking a second and final term.

Botswana has been held up as one of Africa's success stories – a peaceful and stable democracy with one of the best standards of living in the region – but is facing new economic challenges that have pushed the ruling party to concede that policy change is needed.

That's largely because of a global downturn in demand for diamonds, which Botswana's

economy relies on.

Unemployment in the nation of some 2.5 million people has risen to 27% this year, and is significantly higher for young people.

The ruling party says it has listened to the concerns of voters and will pursue changes that could diversify an economy where diamonds account for more than 80% of Botswana's exports and a quarter of the GDP, according to the World Bank.

One of its campaign slogans has been “Changing Together,

Building Prosperity.”

Three other men are challenging Masisi for president: Duma Boko of the main opposition Umbrella for Democratic Change party, Dumelang Saleshando of the Botswana Congress Party and Mephato Reatile from the Botswana Patriotic Front.

Counting is expected to start straight after polls close Wednesday evening and the results could be announced within days. -African news.



Beauty queen Chidimma Adetshina faces loss of South African ID in nationality dispute

Beauty queen Chidimma Adetshina, now crowned Miss Universe Nigeria, finds herself at the heart of a heated nationality debate after the South African Department of Home Affairs announced she would be stripped of her South African identity and travel documents.

The decision has stirred up questions about citizenship, belonging, and identity in South Africa.

The story began when Ms. Adetshina, a law student, reached the finals of the Miss South Africa pageant. However, her eligibility quickly came under scrutiny due to her

African citizenship.

While some questioned her identity, others rallied around her, calling out the intolerance and highlighting her South African roots.

Following this backlash, Ms. Adetshina accepted an invitation to compete in Nigeria and went on to win the title of Miss Universe Nigeria.

Now, as she prepares to represent Nigeria at the Miss Universe pageant in Mexico on November 16, the South African government has finalized its decision to revoke her identity papers, stating that she and her mother failed to prove their eligibility to retain citizenship.



Nigerian father and Mozambican mother, even though she says she was born and raised in the South African township of Soweto.

In August, she withdrew from the competition after authorities revealed that her mother might have committed "identity theft" to gain South

Tommy Makhode, a senior official in South Africa's Department of Home Affairs, announced the revocation on Tuesday, explaining that the case had been referred to the Hawks—a specialized police unit investigating serious crimes and was deemed a “case of fraud.” Officials are now awaiting further action from prosecutors.

Miss Rwanda arrested for drink-driving after accident

Divine Muheto is among thousands arrested for drink-driving in recent years as Rwanda police crack down on road misconduct

A beauty queen in Rwanda has been arrested for drink-driving and driving without a licence.

Police said Divine Muheto, who won the most recent Miss Rwanda beauty pageant, had a m a g e d "infrastructure" and then fled the scene. The statement does not say whether anybody was hurt in the incident.

It is not the first time the 21-year-old has driven under the influence of alcohol, police in the East African country added.

Ms Muheto has not publicly reacted to the arrest. It was announced by the police

on Tuesday, after days of speculation that she had been detained over a collision.

A court in capital city Kigali will begin hearing Ms Muheto's case on Thursday, a prosecution spokesperson told local media.

Ms Muheto gained fame in



Rwanda after she won the national beauty contest in 2022. The competition has not been held since - it was suspended by the government after sexual misconduct allegations were made against the organisers.

EDITORIAL

Let discretion prevail at the Capitol

It’s running into a month now since members of the House of Representatives broke into Anti-Speaker Fonati Koffa and Pro-Speaker Fonati Koffa groups, with the former opting for the removal of the Speaker. Styled as “majority bloc lawmakers”, the rebel lawmakers among others, accused Speaker Koffa of engaging in conflict of interest. They expressed vote of no confidence in the Speaker.

But ever since they announced the coup while Speaker Koffa was out of Liberia, traveling with President Joseph Boakai to Rome, Italy, the rebels have failed to attain two-third majority or 49 of their colleagues from the 73-member House as quorum to vote Speaker Koffa out.

On the other hand, embattled Speaker Koffa, with just 30 supporters rallying behind him, including Deputy Speaker Thomas Fallah has been unable to conduct business because of lack of quorum. He has extended olive branch to his colleagues on the other side to come and join him, where they will have an opportunity to put forth their grievances for redress, but this offer seems to have landed on deaf ears.

But both sides are digging in, maintaining their separate positions with neither side willing to give in, not even the Speaker, who is hanging on legitimacy though he cannot pull a quorum to preside over session.

Report from the Capitol Building says 42 Rebel lawmakers appeared for session on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, in the Joint Chamber in defiance of a prohibition by Supreme Court of Liberia Justice-In-Chamber His Honor, Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay, Sr., to halt all activities pending a conference with the entire House.

Amid the impasse, the business of the Liberian people is being held hostage, with neither side being able to obtain a quorum to hold session. No one knows how long this will drag on indefinitely while activities in the House is paralyzed.

It is even embarrassing to hear that rebel lawmakers allegedly received US\$15, 000 each to oust Speaker Koffa, with a promise to collect a balance of US\$10,000 each after the job is done. Who is financing the plot against the Speaker is the sixty-one million dollar question that lingers.

Both Speaker Koffa and his Deputy, Thomas Fallah, hail from the main opposition Congress for Democratic Change, likewise rebel lawmakers seeking his removal. The CDC has not publicly come out to say it is behind the rebellion against one of its own.

The 55th Legislature cannot hold the entire country hostage, especially amid news that the Executive branch of government is preparing to submit the draft national budget for 2025 to a divided House. Do Liberians deserve all of this? Absolutely not!

We call on both sides in this current fight to exercise discretion for the sake of the country and its people. Liberia is above any personal interest. The nation should not be held down for any egotistic agenda. Lest we should forget, every bill that is sent to the 55th Legislature derives from the House before it is forwarded to the Liberian Senate for concurrence. But with a divided House, this cannot happen.

COMMENTARY

By Karen Sack

Charting a Course for Coastal Resilience

WASHINGTON, DC - Roughly [‘40% of the worlds 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.

Karen Sack is Executive Director of the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance.

OP-ED

by Aarif Abraham,
Gabiya Grigaitė-Daugirdė

Belarus in the Dock

VILNIUS/LONDON - On September 30, Lithuania submitted a referral to the International Criminal Court requesting an investigation into Belarus over possible crimes against humanity targeting Belarusian civilians “at the behest of senior political, law enforcement, and military leaders.” The ICC will now conduct a preliminary examination, which may lead to an investigation and, potentially, criminal charges.

While Belarus is not a state party to the ICC, Lithuania is, and according to its referral, there are “reasonable grounds to believe” that crimes against humanity such as deportation, persecution, and other inhumane acts were committed partly on its own territory, putting them within the ICC’s jurisdiction. This is the first time an ICC state party has referred a non-ICC state party to the Court, over conduct occurring on its territory.

It is also the first time top Belarusian leaders, including President Aleksandr Lukashenko, have faced an examination by an international court, despite their years-long effort to eliminate domestic opposition, including a violent crackdown on popular protests sparked by the 2020 presidential election. The ICC and its state parties may have lacked the necessary resources or information to pursue an investigation into these activities, or they may simply have lacked the will, especially given the diplomatic fallout that inevitably accompanies a referral.

But Lithuania does not have the luxury of ignoring the situation in Belarus. Some 3.2 million Belarusian civilians, more than Lithuania’s entire population, have entered the country in recent years, largely during the period of repression surrounding the 2020 election, and more than 60,000, fearing for their personal safety, are settling there for the long term.

For the ICC, however, the referral raises significant challenges. The Court is stretched thin, in terms of capacity, resources, and political backing. Meanwhile, the nature and incidence of conflicts - and of atrocities (war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide) - are changing fast.

In recent years, the world has faced the largest number of active armed conflicts since 1946. Today, 100 countries have been at least partly involved in some form of external conflict in the last five years, up from 59 in 2008. In 2000-20, almost one-fifth of countries “experienced mass atrocities or had serious concerns raised that they could take place.”

A measure of the ICC’s success, as a court of last resort, is that most atrocity crimes are occurring outside its 124 state parties, which together comprise a kind of “domain of relative peace.” But if the majority of alleged atrocities occur in non-ICC states, how can the Court fulfill its mandate to “end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of international concern”?

Lithuania’s recent referral suggests an answer: investigate individuals whose crimes occur only partly on the territory of an ICC state. After all, the consequences of atrocities committed in non-ICC states are increasingly spilling over into territories within the ICC’s jurisdiction. For example, Bangladesh faced an influx of Rohingya from Myanmar in 2016-17, when crimes against humanity - including illegal deportations - were allegedly being carried out. Russia’s aggression against its neighbors - Georgia (an ICC member) in 2008, and Ukraine in 2014 and since 2022 - has undoubtedly had far-reaching spillovers.

But, while this approach is legally justified, if daring, it runs up against significant practical challenges, not least how to compel alleged perpetrators to appear in The Hague for legal proceedings. The ICC has had a warrant out for Vladimir Putin’s arrest since March 2023. By investigating Russian, American, and Israeli/Palestinian nationals, the Court has gone some way toward shaking charges of bias against Africa. But, in the absence of arrests and trials, it is at risk of being dismissed as irrelevant.

This would be a tremendous loss. The arc of justice is long, to paraphrase Martin Luther King, Jr., but the process that begins when a warrant is issued is irreversible. Ad hoc courts or tribunals for Kosovo, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and the former Yugoslavia, which had arguably more limited powers than the ICC, waited years or even decades for alleged perpetrators to be apprehended after arrest warrants were issued.

Even without an arrest, the warrant shapes internal and external political dynamics. The threat of arrest prevented Putin from traveling to summits in South Africa and Brazil, and Lukashenko worries that an ICC prosecution will stop him from playing a role in future peace negotiations between Russia and Ukraine. Since ad hoc initiatives can be costly and may result in selectivity, a permanent court is better suited to issue warrants. In other words, if the ICC did not exist, we would have to invent it.

The ICC also has a powerful normative impact, underscored by the fact that the US, a non-member that is under investigation over its actions in Afghanistan, still provides evidentiary support to the Court and money for victims. Even states that are reluctant to join the ICC change their minds when they become a victim: Armenia joined in 2023, and Ukraine will join in 2025.

No one doubts the scale of the challenges the ICC faces. In 2025, there are likely to be no active trials at the ICC, partly because the Court has not been able to enforce existing arrest warrants: while 11 war criminals have been convicted, 24 defendants remain at large. If the ICC is to continue defending and enforcing international law, it needs protection, resources, and sustainable support, including in executing its warrants.

OPINION

By Jordan Schwartz

Where Financial Innovation Meets Sustainable Development

WASHINGTON, DC - Whenever the world’s financial and political leaders convene - whether at the G20 summit, the United Nations General Assembly, or the International Monetary Fund and World Bank annual meetings - the most urgent development challenges are nearly always on the agenda. Increasingly, the solution these leaders propose to such problems, from poverty alleviation and public-health crises to climate change and the energy transition, is more financing.

They are not wrong. Addressing each of these challenges requires more than a trillion dollars. For example, Latin America and the Caribbean need \$2.2 trillion to invest in sustainable infrastructure, while emerging markets worldwide require \$1.5 trillion per year for such projects. And much of this financing will come from multilateral development banks (MDBs), which have already started to use their balance sheets more aggressively.

But equally important is MDBs’ innovative deployment of instruments - including capital-market mechanisms, structured finance, and sustainability-linked bonds - to mobilize more public and private finance for such investments. Moreover, MDBs are offering guarantees, debt swaps, contingency financing without commitment fees, and climate-resilience clauses to client countries in exchange for commitments to mitigate greenhouse-gas emissions and protect nature.

To be sure, these instruments are not necessarily new. The Code of Hammurabi, which is nearly 4,000 years old, allows for the suspension of debt payments following a flood or drought. The use of green capital-market instruments dates back to at least the 1640s, when Dutch water boards issued perpetual bonds to finance improvements to local canals. And credit guarantees have existed since the nineteenth century.

The innovation is that MDBs have introduced these instruments into cross-border finance. Facilitating further progress requires ensuring that they are integrated into developing countries’ economic policies and become standardized - and thus replicable.

For many emerging and developing economies, balancing economic growth with poverty alleviation and climate objectives is the central challenge. Their governments must deploy the full range of available financial tools to combat global warming while ensuring that these efforts result in productivity gains and growth. Otherwise, their debt will become unsustainable.

The energy transition, for example, requires investing in renewables, expanding transmission networks to overcome the intermittency problem, and mitigating the risk of stranded fossil-fuel assets. In the many developing countries where utilities are financially constrained, the burden is unaffordable. Climate finance thus requires economic policymaking that considers the ability of consumers and taxpayers to repay these investments. Policies related to pricing, regulation, sector planning, and the investment environment will increasingly determine financial viability.

The dramatic increase in the frequency and severity of extreme weather also requires a shift in economic thinking. Finance ministers generally rely on emergency-response financing to rebuild after such events, based on the belief that catastrophes are few and far between. However, the most intense hurricanes are now more than three times more frequent than they were a century ago, droughts last longer, and more predictable events, such as seasonal storms, are increasingly severe. Worse, disasters - including pandemics - are increasingly overlapping.

Governments must therefore use proactive financial instruments - from loans that finance flood management systems to guarantees that support climate-change adaptation - to build resilience before extreme weather events occur. Each dollar spent on advance planning can save up to \$13 in reconstruction costs when a crisis hits, minimizing emergency borrowing.

Another innovation is the standardization of available mechanisms. This includes clarity on their intended use, because markets must understand the benefits accruing from instruments that incentivize sustainable practices in order to price them properly. To that end, the United States Commodity Futures Trading Commission recently issued guidance for the listing of carbon-offset derivatives, and the International Sustainability Standards Board is focusing on developing green bond standards. If we want voluntary carbon markets to grow, and the price of green finance to reflect the real value of addressing climate change and supplying global public goods, then how such instruments are used must be verifiable and easily comprehensible.

The cost of not investing in climate mitigation and resilience, as well as other development goals, increases every year, making guarantees and insurance products ever more expensive in the most vulnerable and least prepared countries. MDBs should provide more green financing, but standardizing innovative instruments and encouraging their use in economic policymaking are just as important.

Orphaned Baby Hippo Toto Rescued in Liberia's Grebo-Krahn National Park, Potential Transfer to Thailand or South Africa Under Consideration

25 October 2024 — Conservation teams have conducted a successful rescue operation to save an orphaned baby hippo, conducting a routine wildlife survey. After several days of monitoring, the team confirmed that the calf



now named Toto, who was discovered stranded in a drying mud pool deep within Liberia's Grebo-Krahn National Park.

This remote national park, located across Grand Gedeh and River Gee Counties, is managed by Liberia's Forestry Development Authority and is known for its rich biodiversity, housing over 300 animal species, including endangered and critically endangered species like the Western Chimpanzee, Diana Monkey, King Colobus, and the Pygmy Hippopotamus. Toto, a young pygmy hippo, was first observed from the air by conservationists

was indeed orphaned and in immediate danger. Stuck in thick mud and surrounded by a quickly drying pool, Toto's situation became critical, and it was clear that intervention was necessary to save his life. The remote and challenging terrain of Grebo-Krahn National Park made the rescue complex, requiring the expertise of local wildlife rescuers and the assistance of helicopter pilot Andrew Francombe, who was able to reach the area.

After Toto was carefully extracted from the mud

and wrapped in wet blankets to prevent dehydration, the team transported him to a nearby field station for medical assessment and stabilization. Conservation officials are now assessing options for Toto's long-term care to ensure he receives the nurturing environment he needs.

One possibility being considered is relocating Toto to Khao Kheow Open Zoo in Si Racha, Chonburi, Thailand. Known for its expertise in caring for orphaned and rescued animals, Khao Kheow Open Zoo has expressed

environment. Relocating Toto here would allow him to grow up in Africa under the guidance of Jessica's experienced team, with the opportunity to benefit from the presence of another hippo that has successfully adapted to human interaction.

Both potential relocation sites—Thailand's Khao Kheow Open Zoo and Jessica's home in Hoedspruit—are being carefully evaluated, with conservation teams working to determine the best option for Toto's welfare. Officials expect to make a final decision in the coming weeks,

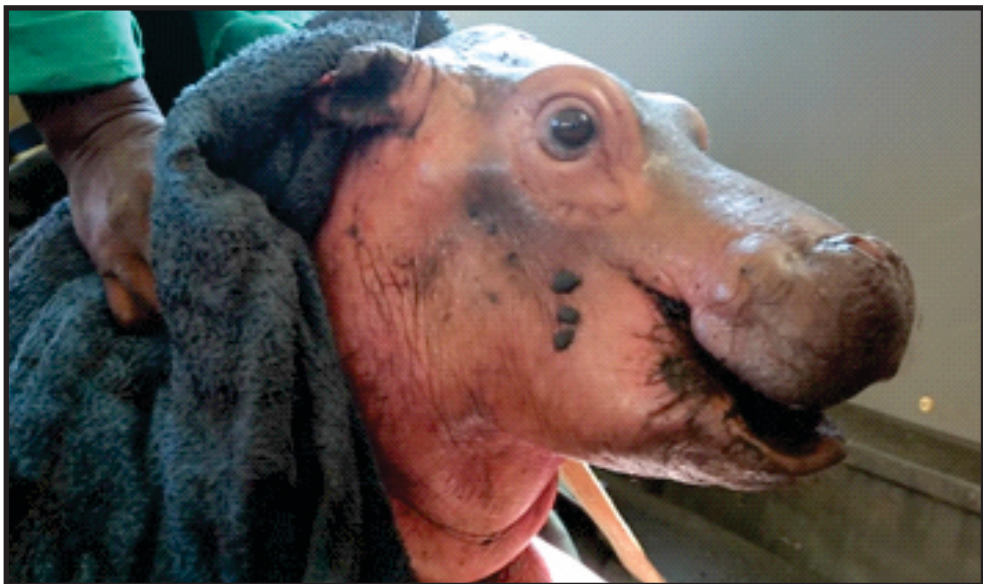


interest in providing a permanent home for Toto. Plans at the zoo would include a dedicated habitat with a shaded pool, designed to simulate his natural environment and support his physical and social development. Another option being considered is Jessica the Hippo's residence in Hoedspruit, South Africa. Jessica, a famous hippo known for her unique bond with humans, has lived with her caretakers for over two decades and resides in a protected

prioritizing Toto's health, safety, and long-term care.

The international collaboration and swift response in Toto's rescue underscore a shared commitment to protecting endangered wildlife. Conservation teams remain dedicated to giving Toto a secure future, either in Thailand or in Africa, as he begins the next chapter of


is life.



NIMBA COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Sanniquellie, City Nimba County

(INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB))



NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Nimba County Administration with funding from its Social and County Development Funds (SCDF) intend to apply portion of the proceeds to form eligible payments under the constructions of infrastructural projects as indicated below:

N O	PROJECTS/PACKAGES	LO T	DESCRIPTION
1	IFB NO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/001/2024	Lot: 1	Construction of Commissioner Compound in Dorgbor Town
		Lot: 2	Construction of Commissioner Compound in Payee Town
		Lot: 3	Construction of Commissioner Compound in Kpoowin Town, Zahula District
		Lot: 4	Construction of Paramount Chief Compound in Kpoahpa Town, Lee Wehpea Mah
2	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/002/2024		Construction of Public Market in Sekyikimpa kilometer zero District #2
3	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/003/2024	Lot: 1	Renovation of the County Development Officer Resident in Sanniquellie
		Lot: 2	Renovation of the County Finance Officer Resident in Sanniquellie
		Lot: 3	Renovation of the County Administrative Officer Resident in Sanniquellie
		Lot: 4	Renovation of Sokopa Town Assemble Center and Welcome Mini Overhead
		Lot: 5	Renovation of Tappita Civil Compound in Tappita, District #6
4	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RB/001/2024		Supply of Petroleum products(Diesel& Gasoline) products
5	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/001/2024		Supply of scratch cards(lowest&orange)
6	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/004/2024		Purchase of Ten (10) acres of land in Montserado County
7	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/005/2024		Hiring of heavy duty vehicles company to gather together Nimba 22 pieces of machines
8	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB001/2024		Supply safe drinking water in the Superintendent Compound
9	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/002/2024		Construction of three hand pumps in Toweh Town, Boe & Quilla
10	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/003/2024		Vehicle Insurance (service of an insurance company to insure 7 Vehicles)
11	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/006/2024		Repair and maintenance of vehicles (service of quality vehicles and maintence company to repair 7 vehicles
12	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RB/002/2024		Supply of one vehicle (4x4 hard body pickup)
13	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/004/2024		Supply of office & stationeries materials(assorted)
14	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF /SBA/RFQ/005/2024		Creating accounting QB software and licenses
15	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/006/2024		supply of office cleaning materials for county administration
16	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/007/2024		Repair and maintenance of county administration generator
17	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/008/2024		Supply of two (2) TVS star motorbikes for project supervision
18	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/009/2024		Repair and maintenance of computer/printer by IT computer technician
19	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/010/2024		Repair and maintence of motorbikes
20	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/007/2024	Lot: 1	Renovation of Beaply Commissioner Compound
		Lot: 2	Renovation of Sanniquellie-Mah Commissioner Compound
		Lot: 3	Renovation of Toweh Town Commissioner Compound
21	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBANC/011/2024		Construction of public latrine in five towns in Gbehlay Geh Administrative Dist. 1.Zorgowee town 2.Zortapa town 3.Guagatuao town 4.Zianlay town 5.Younlay town 6.Duoplay town
22	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/012/2024	Lot: 1	Renovation of Beatuo Public School
		Lot: 2	Renovation of Dubuzon Public School
		Lot: 3	Renovation of Yorpea New Town Public School
		Lot: 4	Construction mini-Science Lab (Gboulay)
		Lot: 5	Renovation of Gbanquo Commissioner D#7
23	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/008/2024	Lot: 1	Construction of Gbenelay Public School
		Lot: 2	Construction of Kpayee-Kanwin Public School
		Lot: 3	Construction of Kpatuo Public School
		Lot: 4	Construction of Zeiplay Public School
		Lot: 5	Construction of George A. Dunbar Public School(Neigblen)
24	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/009/2024	Lot: 1	Construction of Health workers quarter in Lugbayee Town, Yarmeln D#3
		Lot: 2	Construction of maternity waiting room in Zuaplay Town, Doe Admin. District
25	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/010/2024		Construction of Youth Center in Bunadin Town, District #8
26	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/013/2024		Renovation of Disable Center in Sanniquellie D#2
27	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/NCB/010/2024	Lot: 1	Construction of OAU Assembly Point D#2
		Lot: 2	Construction of police residential quarter D#2
28	IFBNO.NCA/PROJSCDF/SBA/RFQ/010/2024		Printing of two billboards D#2

1.Interested Eligible bidders may obtain further information from the office of the Procurement Department ground floor of the Administrative Building, and inspect the Bidding Documents as invitation for bids starts from October 1, 2024 to October 31, 2024 beginning from 9:00am-4:00pm

2.Qualifications Requirement include:
Evidence of experience as prime contractor for similar work completed within the last (2)years or at least 5 projects of nature and complexity similar to the works (value and form),all executed with in the last two years to include the following information (NAME OF PROJECT, NAME OF CLIENT, TYPE OF PROJECT, YEAR AND VALUE OF THE CONTRACT). Submission of required bids security, Prove of capacities to pre-finance or evidence of access to financial resources of at least US\$10,000.00


3. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased upon payment of Non-Refundable fee of US\$100.00 to be paid in the procurement unit office and can be obtained from the procurement Officer

4. Bids must be delivered in a sealed envelope to the address below on or before Thursday October 31 , 2024 at 12:00pm .Electronic bidding shall not be permitted. Late bid will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the present of the bidders representative who may choose to attend on Thursday October 31 , 2024 at 12:00pm

All Bids shall be accomplished by a bid securing Declarations describe within the bidding Documents. Please note that bidders must declare for the period of two years.

Please call for update.

Procurement Officer
Nimba County Administration
Sanniquellie, City
Cell #: 0777276200/0886 329593
Email: rjoemax86@gmail.com

Signed : 
R . Joemax Nyantoe
Procurement Director
Nimba County

Approved: 
Hon. Kou Meapah Gono
Nimba County superintendent
Head of Procurement committee

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Senator Varpilah alarms neglect of G/Cape Mount

---In national development

Senator Varpilah says Grand Cape Mount County has tourism sites that can help the government increase its revenue generation.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, October 31, 2024: Grand Cape Mount County Senator and Chair on Health at the Liberia Senate, Madam Debah M. Varpilah has raised alarm over the neglect of Western Liberia, especially Grand Cape Mount County in the National Development Agenda of the government. Senator Varpilah made the claim while addressing the Minister of Public Works, Roland Layfette Giddings on Tuesday, October 29, 2024.

She wondered what is happening that Western Liberia, especially Grand Cape Mount County is allegedly not captured within the development drive of the country.

"Is there any issues, we want to know what it is that a very short road like Mandina to Robert Sports that is less then 45KM and close to Monrovia, and one of the first five counties, is not captured," she complained.

By this time, it should have been done. Are the people of Grand Cape Mount and Western Liberia not part of this country? This is really serious," Senator Varpilah noted.

According to her, Grand Cape Mount County has tourism sites that can help the government increase its revenue generation. She detailed that there are countries across the world that depend on tourism but it's



saddened that the government has allegedly refused to capture and invest in the county. Senator Varpilah further indicated that she has approached Public Work Minister and many people in the Executive but, they have refuse to look at the County to tap in its natural endowment.

She recounted that fortunately for the county, when former President George M. Weah was in power, he made a pronouncement about the Mandina and Robert Sports Road.

Under the Unity Party government, she lamented that it's saddening that the Unity Party government is yet to look at the road.

"Today, in your briefing writeup distributed among us, though it is captured here, the Roberts Sports Road, but in your beautiful presentation, you said in the next budget year. That makes me to feel sick."

"We know that road construction will begin during the dry season and it's around the corner. If we say next budget year, we don't know when the budget will pass. Is Western Liberia part of this development?" she wondered.

Regarding the construction of the Coastal Highway between Buchanan and Cestos City, she expressed frustration why Grand Cape Mount and Western Liberia are just in the middle of developmental neglect.

According to her, the Costal belt of Liberia doesn't stop in Buchanan, therefore, the pronouncement made by the Minister of Public Works without capturing Grand Cape and Western Liberia is a deliberate attempt to ignore the region.

Responding to Senator Varpilah, Public Works Minister Roland Giddings acknowledged the neglect of Grand Cape Mount within the National Road Development Agenda. He termed the neglect as a mistake and assured the senator that they have concluded all procurement processes for the construction of the Roberts Sports Road but will happen in the next budget year.

Commenting on tourism, he said he believes that tourism can ship the dimension of Liberia and increase the government's revenue envelope.

He noted that they are committed to improving road connectivity across the country and Grand Cape will be captured. Monrovia, October 31, 2024: Grand Cape Mount County Senator and Chair on Health at the Liberia Senate, Madam Debah M. Varpilah has raised alarm over the neglect of Western Liberia, especially Grand Cape Mount County in the National Development Agenda of the government.

Senator Varpilah made the claim

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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Liberian Delegation Held Meetings with MCC, US State, and Treasury Departments

Washington- Finance and Development Planning Minister Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan has outlined progress made by the Boakai's Administration for Liberia's eligibility for the second Compact of the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) valued at \$500 million.

The Minister cited the establishment and strengthening of an intra-governmental team Treasury Department on Fiscal Affairs, Alexia Latortue on the margins of the IMF/World Bank Annual Meetings in

efforts in combating corruption and reducing poverty and pledged technical support for the intra-governmental committee focused on the MCC Scorecard.

For her part, Amy Holman thanked the Minister and his delegation for the visit, and conveyed her impression for the level of work that is being done and expressed her commitment to working with the team.

Alexia Latortue Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Department on Fiscal Affairs expressed the Treasury concern about the World Bank IDA replenishment and that Liberia is a good candidate for the pandemic resilience program.

She then assured the delegation of the US Treasury's readiness to collaborate with the Government of Liberia on the reinstitution of the US-Liberia Political Dialogue, the support of the US CDC on the pandemic resilience program, and the preparedness of working with Liberia on her fiscal programs, policy on public private partnerships (PPP), infrastructure investment, capacity building.

The Liberian delegation at the meetings also included Agriculture, Minister, Dr. Alexander Nuetah, Deputy Finance Minister for Economic Affairs Hon. Dehpue Y. Zuo and the Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy in Washington D.C. Isaac Yeah, Mr Edward Smith, Chief of Office Staff to the Minister and the Communication Director at the Ministry, Mrs. Patience Senkpeni Kumeh....amongst others.

Snowe, who is also head of the Liberian delegation to the ECOWAS Parliament, disclosed plans by the regional body to reach out to heads of state to prioritize the creation of job opportunities and better living conditions, which will eventually discourage Africans from using the Mediterranean Sea as a means of traveling to Europe. Editing by Jonathan Browne

CESS organizes round table discussion on Terrorism & Violent Extremism

The one-day roundtable discussion enhanced and strengthened the participants' knowledge on the approaches, scopes, and practices that are needed to prevent violent extremism and terrorism.

Monrovia, October 31, 2024: The Center for Economic Crimes & Security Studies (CESS) has organized a one-day high-level Roundtable Discussion on Terrorism and Violent Extremism on the Mano River Union Countries with Liberia under the spotlight.

The event took place on Wednesday, October 30, 2024, at a local hotel in Monrovia, and brought together Heads and Representatives from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Youth & Student Organizations, Security Institutions, Ministries and Agencies of the Government of Liberia.

Presentations were made by some prominent Liberians who are knowledgeable in law enforcement, security, crimes, justice, and the rule of law on how the subregion with Liberia in particular could help prevent Terrorism and Violent Extremism. The event is also intended to solicit participants' responses on practical approaches to curb these anti-democratic tenets.

Presenting at the one-day event, the Chairman of the Law Reform Commission, Cllr. Boakai N. Kanneh underscored the significance of peaceful coexistence, tolerance, and the adherence to the rule of law.

Cllr. Kanneh stressed that the provision of reliable socioeconomic opportunities for all Liberians regardless of age, status, religious affiliation, and ethnicity will prevent violent extremism and terrorism.

He mentioned that exclusion, deprivation, and marginalization are key catalysts in breeding violence and extremism in the country.

For his part, the Country Director of Accountability Lab-Liberia, Lawrence A. Yealue noted that the lack of economic opportunities and education are cardinal factors that influence the arts of

violence and extremism in the country. Yealue mentioned that urgent attention should be given to the provision of jobs, educational empowerment, and equal opportunities to all Liberians. He pointed out that Liberians need to rise up to be self-reliant and compete with their counterparts in the subregion.

Also speaking at the event, the Senior Pastor of the Restoration Baptist Church, Rev. Gardea Johnson highlighted the need for Liberians to be empowered economically. Rev. Johnson observed that some Liberians have been marginalized and foreigners have prioritized them.

The one-day roundtable discussion enhanced and strengthened the participants' knowledge on the approaches, scopes, and practices that are needed to prevent violent extremism and terrorism.

During the panel discussions, there were huge exchanges and interactions amongst the participants.

The Center for Economic Crimes and Security Studies is a local non-for-profit organization (Civil Society



Organization) registered under the laws of Liberia.

CESS is currently implementing a project for the Inter-Governmental Action Group Against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA) on the Awareness and preventive Measures against terrorism and Violent Extremism in the Mano River Basin.

The Roundtable is part of a series of 'Anti-Terrorism and Violent Extremism' activities funded by the Inter-Governmental Agency Against Money Laundering in West Africa (GIABA).

The Center for Economic Crimes and Security Studies, formerly Citizen Action for Economic Justice, has over eighteen years of experience in economic crimes and security issues in the Mano River Basin.



focused on monitoring the MCC Scorecard to ensure Liberia meets the requirements.

He then informed the gathering that the Boaka's Administration prioritizes transparency and accountability, highlighting ongoing efforts to hold individuals accused of corruption accountable, auditing of ministries, agencies and commissions (MACs) and the formation of an assets recovery team, as key interventions made by the Liberian government among others.

Minister Ngafuan stressed the need to reinstitute the US-Liberia Political Dialogue as a mechanism for strengthening relations between the two countries.

The US-Liberia political dialogue is a structured framework for Liberia - America bilateral friendship, he stated.

He made the statements during meetings held with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Acting Assistant Secretary for Economic Bureau State Department, Amy Holman and Assistant Secretary of the

Washington, D.C.

Meanwhile, Minister Ngafuan has reiterated the Liberian government's dedication to accountability and improving the lives of its citizens.

He added that the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission and the General Auditing Commission are actively collaborating with the Ministry of Justice to prosecute those indicted in various reports.

Additionally, during the meeting Minister Ngafuan highlighted Liberia's constructive engagement with major international partners, citing recent achievements such as the approval of a US\$210 million Economic Compact Fund (ECF) program by the IMF and US\$60 million in direct budgetary support from the World Bank.

These milestones reflect our commitment to meeting critical targets, he noted.

Daniel W. Barnes, Managing Director of the Department of Policy and Evaluation Selection Performance at the MCC, expressed gratitude to the Liberian delegation for their proactive engagement.

He commended Liberia's

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Français

"Faites des lois, pas de bruit" Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf adresse un message fort aux législateurs

Depuis plusieurs semaines, la colline du Capitole est secouée par une agitation concentrer sur leur mission fondamentale : faire des lois, et non du bruit. Ce message survient alors que des députés dissidents temps pour notre législature de faire des lois et non du bruit. Il est temps pour notre justice de traiter les affaires et de rendre la



Father Daniel L. George

politique croissante, alors qu'un groupe de députés de la Chambre des représentants paralyse les sessions législatives dans une tentative de destituer le président de la Chambre, Fonati Koffa.

À l'occasion de son 86e anniversaire, l'ancienne présidente du Liberia, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, a exhorté les législateurs à se

mènent une campagne pour écarter le président de la Chambre, Cllr. Fonati Koffa, créant une crise qui bloque le fonctionnement de l'Assemblée.

« Le silence nous rend tous complices des mauvaises actions », a déclaré Mme Sirleaf, expliquant son choix de s'exprimer publiquement. Elle a rappelé l'importance des trois branches du gouvernement dans la stabilité de la nation : « Il est

justice sans compromission. Et il est temps pour l'exécutif de prendre la parole. »

Alors que les dissidents peinent à réunir les 49 voix nécessaires pour destituer M. Koffa, celui-ci conserve le soutien de 30 représentants. Faute d'atteindre le quorum de 37 membres requis pour ouvrir des sessions, son bloc a dû suspendre les travaux à

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Le remaniement diplomatique de Boakai suscite des interrogations

Le président Joseph Boakai est sous le feu des critiques après avoir récemment révoqué, avec effet immédiat, les nominations d'Ambassadeurs spéciaux, d'Envoyés spéciaux et de Représentants au Commerce et à l'Investissement.

Monrovia, Libéria, le 30 octobre 2024 - Le récent remaniement diplomatique initié par le président Joseph Nyuma Boakai soulève de sérieuses questions quant à la politique étrangère du Libéria.

Cette décision d'annuler plusieurs nominations diplomatiques met en lumière des préoccupations essentielles concernant les processus de sélection et le manque de clarté dans les termes de référence liés à ces postes.

Interrogé par OK FM le 28 octobre 2024, l'analyste politique libérien Abdullah Kiatamba a exprimé son inquiétude face à cette action soudaine, soulignant les interrogations qu'elle suscite

sur les procédures de sélection et l'absence de directives précises pour les personnes nommées.

Kiatamba fait remarquer que l'absence de lignes directrices structurées pourrait engendrer des inefficacités dans les efforts diplomatiques du Libéria, mettant ainsi en péril ses relations internationales et ses intérêts stratégiques. "Il n'existe pas de directives claires concernant ces postes", déclare-t-il.

Ce manque de direction pourrait entraîner une confusion et nuire à l'engagement diplomatique

efficace, d'où l'importance d'un cadre plus structuré pour les nominations futures.

Dans un effort pour répondre aux défis rencontrés au sein du secteur diplomatique, le président Boakai a décidé de révoquer tous les mandats d'Ambassadeurs spéciaux, d'Envoyés spéciaux et de Représentants au Commerce et à l'Investissement.

Cependant, Kiatamba rappelle que c'est au président de définir

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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.

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Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf adresse

plusieurs reprises. Mme Sirleaf a encouragé l'exécutif à intervenir en faisant preuve d'un comportement exemplaire. « Certains se demanderont : pourquoi maintenant ? Parce que le temps presse pour nous et pour le Liberia. Pourquoi m'exprimer ? Parce que je suis une dirigeante, et que le bien de mon pays me tient à cœur. » En ce jour anniversaire, Mme Sirleaf a souligné que son message n'est pas centré sur elle-même, mais sur l'avenir du Liberia, affirmant que le pays se trouve à un tournant crucial. « L'histoire du Liberia est marquée par des divisions profondes et des manœuvres politiques qui perdurent encore aujourd'hui », a-t-elle déploré. Elle a rappelé la résilience du Liberia face aux défis majeurs, notamment deux régimes militaires, deux décennies de guerre civile et l'épidémie d'Ebola. « Mais pensons également aux contributions positives de notre histoire. Le soutien que nous avons apporté aux mouvements de libération en Afrique a été essentiel pour la souveraineté du continent », a-t-elle souligné. Mme Sirleaf a aussi mis en lumière le rôle déterminant des femmes dans l'histoire du Liberia, citant des figures telles que la cheffe Suakoko, qui a favorisé les premiers investissements au

Liberia, ainsi qu'Angie Brooks Randall, première femme africaine à présider l'Assemblée générale de l'ONU. Elle a également rappelé sa propre élection historique en tant que première femme présidente en Afrique. Alors que le Liberia s'engage dans une nouvelle ère de changement politique, Mme Sirleaf a insisté sur l'importance de répondre aux défis mondiaux actuels. Elle a noté que les relations internationales évoluent et que l'autonomie nationale devient une nécessité pour les citoyens. « L'Afrique est désormais perçue comme le continent de l'avenir, et plusieurs nations africaines adoptent de nouvelles stratégies pour réaliser leur potentiel », a-t-elle déclaré. Toutefois, elle a mis en garde contre les comportements persistants qui freinent le développement du Liberia : « Notre pays risque d'être laissé pour compte, même par rapport à nos voisins les plus proches. » Concluant son message, Mme Sirleaf a appelé à un changement de mentalité et de comportement, insistant sur l'importance du travail, de l'intégrité et de l'honnêteté. Elle a exprimé sa reconnaissance pour les bénédictions de la vie en ce jour spécial, rappelant que l'avenir du Liberia dépend de la volonté de chacun de s'engager pour le bien du pays.

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Boakai suscite des interrogations

la direction générale de la politique étrangère, tandis que le Ministère des Affaires étrangères, dirigé par le ministre des Affaires étrangères, est chargé de mettre en œuvre cette politique par le biais de la diplomatie. Il note également que le gouvernement n'a fourni aucune directive claire, laissant ainsi les fonctionnaires établir leurs propres termes de référence. Il évoque une recherche qu'il a menée par intérêt personnel, révélant que l'équipe de sécurité nationale a effectué une enquête interne qui a mis en lumière des abus et des défis, don't le président a été informé et qui a donné des instructions pour agir. Selon Kiatamba, certains des nommés ont des rôles discutables, mais il existe un débat sur la nécessité pour le président de se concentrer sur les individus problématiques, plutôt que de révoquer l'ensemble des nominations, ce qui pourrait embarrasser publiquement certaines personnes. Il souligne qu'un retour à un statu quo serait souhaitable. Lorsqu'on lui demande pourquoi l'équipe de

sécurité nationale a rendu sa décision de manière générale, ce qui pourrait nuire à la réputation de certains, il explique que la nature de la situation et les déclarations des nommés pourraient contredire la position officielle de la politique étrangère du pays, ce qui justifie selon lui la décision de l'équipe de sécurité. Kiatamba insiste sur l'urgence de rendre le processus de sélection aussi rapide que possible, afin de garantir que ceux qui excellent continuent de travailler, tandis que ceux qui ne répondent pas aux critères minimaux soient invités à assumer d'autres responsabilités. Le gouvernement libérien a mis en place des mesures pour aborder des questions majeures dans sa politique étrangère, notamment en ce qui concerne les actions non autorisées et la mauvaise gestion. Le retrait des passeports diplomatiques et de service est perçu comme une démarche visant à restaurer le contrôle et à s'assurer que les représentants du pays respectent les politiques et normes officielles.

La LERC examine l'augmentation des tarifs proposés par la LEC

La Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC) a soumis une proposition de nouveaux tarifs pour la période 2025-2027, qui fera prochainement l'objet d'un examen public. Monrovia, le 30 octobre 2024 / La Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC) a annoncé avoir reçu une demande de la LEC concernant de nouveaux tarifs d'électricité, nécessitant l'approbation de la Commission.

La période tarifaire proposée s'étend du 1er janvier 2025 au 31 décembre 2027, conformément à l'article 8.1(2) de la Loi sur l'électricité de 2015, qui stipule qu'« un titulaire de licence ne peut facturer un client d'autres tarifs que ceux déterminés ou approuvés par le Régulateur ». Cette proposition intervient alors que le régime tarifaire actuel, en vigueur depuis le 1er janvier 2022, arrivera à expiration le 31 décembre 2024.

Les nouveaux tarifs prévoient une augmentation de 37 % pour les clients résidentiels prépayés, passant de 0,24 USD/kWh à 0,33 USD/kWh. Les tarifs pour les clients non résidentiels devraient rester stables, tandis que les clients postpayés connaîtront une légère hausse de 0,37 %. Si les nouveaux tarifs proposés par la LEC sont approuvés par la LERC, les frais de connexion pour les compteurs monophasés pourraient passer de 20,00 USD à 82,00 USD, soit une augmentation de 310 %. Parallèlement, les frais pour les compteurs triphasés pourraient presque doubler, passant de 350,00 USD à 630,00 USD, ce qui représente une hausse de 80 %.

En réponse à cette proposition, la LERC a demandé à la LEC de fournir tous les documents justificatifs ayant servi à l'élaboration de sa structure tarifaire.

La Commission a précisé qu'après la réception des documents, elle considérera la demande comme complète et publiera un avis de pendance pour l'examen et l'approbation des tarifs proposés, conformément à la Loi sur l'électricité de 2015 ainsi qu'au Règlement tarifaire de 2021, à la Méthodologie tarifaire pluriannuelle et au Modèle de détermination des prix de l'électricité reflétant les coûts.

Dans un souci de transparence et d'engagement public, la LERC organisera une série d'audiences publiques, de consultations avec les parties prenantes et d'initiatives de sensibilisation. Ces forums viseront à recueillir les opinions des clients, des consommateurs, des décideurs politiques, des organisations de la société civile et d'autres parties concernées avant de finaliser la décision tarifaire.

Il convient de rappeler qu'en 2021, la Commission avait approuvé des tarifs pour cinq catégories de clients : Clients sociaux, Clients résidentiels prépayés, Clients résidentiels postpayés, Clients non résidentiels prépayés et Clients commerciaux postpayés, ainsi que pour les Clients à moyenne tension. Ces tarifs sont en vigueur depuis le 1er janvier 2022 et expireront le 31 décembre 2024. À ce jour, les services de la LEC couvrent les comtés de Montserrado, Grand Cape Mount, Bomi et Margibi.

Par ailleurs, la Commission examine actuellement une demande tarifaire de Jungle Energy Power (JEP), une société opérant dans les zones de distribution des comtés de Bong et Nimba. Les nouveaux tarifs, en attente d'approbation, devraient entrer en vigueur du 1er janvier 2025 au 31 décembre 2027.

La LERC reste déterminée à protéger les droits des consommateurs d'électricité et à garantir que les opérateurs titulaires de licence fournissent un service de qualité. « Nous encourageons toutes les parties prenantes à participer aux prochaines activités de consultation pour exprimer leurs opinions et recommandations », a conclu le Conseil des commissaires.



Liberians Debate

By Naneka A. Hoffman

Topic: President Boakai's recall of ambassadors-at-large

President Joseph Boakai recently revoked all ambassadors-at-large and recalled them from their missions. In a random sampling, *The NEW DAWN* asked some Monrovia residents what they think of the President's decision. Read their comments as compiled below.



Razzak Kannah

"I really appreciate the President's effort in recalling all ambassadors-at-large and special envoys because they are not ambassadors proper. And they have just been set aside so proudly, if there will be a short-coming somewhere then those people could be sent but, these people are being paid by our taxpayers' money. So, the President sees it very necessary to not keep wasting the Liberian people's money on ambassadors-at-large and special envoys, so he sees it necessary to revoke everyone and I seriously support that stance."

"I look at several news outlets and I got to know that President Boaka is in charge, for his reasoning clearly shows that he is in charge. For the fact that the President will want to think thru this critical time to recall all those he appointed as ambassadors-at-large in various fields and disciplines even some of them don't even have an office. Today, what is the reason of you having ambassadors of sports, tourism, almost all sectors have ambassadors. The President is the only President that has multiples of ambassadors; at the same time the Liberian people's money is being paid toward satisfying these ambassadors to the extent when the President travel then all of their expenditures is on the struggling economy of Liberia. So, the President was very much progressive in his thinking to redirect his decision in making sure that he recalls all of them and then if any issue of calling them back like he said, he is going to create a timetable that



Leon B. Saydee

is a TOR how you are going to do your work and how much you will be receiving as salary. I think that is very much important."



Dave P. Davies Jr.

"For me, recalling them in that manner, I think it is necessary and maybe to have a meeting with them. Some of them might not know their functions, so let the President inform them so they can't overlap functions. I support the President's idea; why should we have many ambassadors-at-large without impact? If you look at all these ambassadors, you will get to realize that all the ambassadors-at-large are not making any impact in the country. As for me, there is no need of us getting so many ambassadors-at-large. In other countries, it is useful but in Liberia, it is wasteful; so I support the President's idea."



Akoi Kessellie

"The President is in the right step, because the information we got in our possession, we were told that the nominated ambassadors-at-large the President appointed first. And they are in the habit of writing foreign partners in the absence of the chair on foreign affairs and chair on foreign affairs made a clarity on that. He said that he supports the decision that the President has taken. He said the decision will benefit the country, because we aren't going to do any more business as usual; these are things that were happening in the past regime, and they aren't going to repeat it."

Francis Doegbee

"Recalling all ambassadors-at-large for me, government work isn't bluffing work; you must have an impact before calling. I listen to one of the powerful lawmakers today, whose name I will not call. Though he didn't say any thing wrong, he said recalling the ambassadors-at-large and other diplomats was right, because other people will not leave; you will hear that they are in Senegal and other countries without informing the Executive Mansion."



Francis Doegbee



Henry F. Davis III

"Getting ambassadors-at-large is not a bad thing, but we should ask ourselves what is the country benefiting from all these ambassadors-at-large. We been having all these ambassadors-at-large and we are not benefitting anything from them. We are only using our taxpayers' money on them. I think it is only the ambassadors-at-large and their families are benefitting, so no need for ambassadors-at-large."

House crisis derails Legislative projects

The ongoing revoke against House Speaker J. Fonati Koffa is said to have contributed to the delay of Legislative projects within the country's 73 districts.

Monrovia, October 31, 2024/Over the last few weeks, legislative sessions at the House of Representatives

projects in the seventy three electoral districts which according to some the anti-Koffa group is gradually turning their

the Speaker to do so when they were pushing him for their vehicles.

"If the president goes to our respective districts and there is no single project to be dedicated, it is not just a minus to the president but us as the people's



have been disrupted by the majority bloc of the Representatives opposing Speaker Koffa's leadership. The opposing lawmakers have largely succeeded in crippling legislative functions through their conduct of separate meetings while those backing Koffa's leadership lack a quorum to proceed.

Amidst this ongoing battle between the anti-Koffa and the pro-Koffa blocs, the business of the Liberian people remained stalled.

Among the Liberian people businesses that has been stalled are Legislative projects. There are at least 315 projects to be implemented by the Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment LACE funded through the budget. Though not listed in their published counts against the embattled speaker, those wanting him out believe he has allegedly failed to prioritize engaging the executive for payment of appropriation for the commencement of the

constituents against them. But sources within the corridors of the pro-Koffa camp believe otherwise. They say the delay in payment lies with the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. According to them that funding for the projects were approved just after lawmakers got their US\$45K each for their vehicles.

The pressure on the Executive, however, would have made some impact had the House been at ease with itself.

Recently, LACE Executive Director Julius Sele at a MICAT Press briefing said his agency has processed 315 projects across the country waiting to be implemented based on the availability of funding.

Some of the anti-Koffa lawmakers blamed the speaker saying he downplayed their calls to him to prevail on the Ministry of Finance to release funds for the commencement of the projects.

But those from the Speaker's camp say, there was no way they could have expected

representatives", one of the anti-Koffa lawmakers explained.

He further made reference to the administration of speaker Alex Tyler who he said worked with the Executive to make funding readily available in time for the implementation of the projects.

But critics say, the lawmakers cannot be complaining for projects when their fight had stalled everything at the House.

When this paper reached out to the LACE Executive Director Mr. Sele, he said he was optimistic that the projects as approved in the recast budget will be implemented this year as tendering is now completed waiting for implementation. He, however, declined to speak to what our informers said as he believes it is straight legislative matter and could not speak to the claims.

Mr. Sele meanwhile hopes that some of these projects could be commissioned by President Joseph Nyumah Boakai during his planned nationwide tour.

Works Minister choked at senate hearing

Starts from Back page

Commenting on the amount allotted to the Ministry of Public Work, he said that they were allotted US\$35 million in the National Budget, but they have received US\$5 million from the Ministry of Finance plus another allotment of US\$1.2 million to recondition potholes littering the streets of Monrovia.

He further assured Liberians and the senate that they will have more and robust roads construction work across the country, while appealing to the Senate to give him some time, especially as the country moves into the dry season.

Minister Giddings expressed regret to the senate for not attaching timeline to targeted projects they are expected to undertake,

adding that he takes note of the recommendation and will ensure it's done.

"I want to apologize to you for the deplorable roads condition across the country. Also, there are too many projects that we have marked and those projects will be undertaken within this dry season. I'm kindly asking you people to give me time. We will attach timeline to those projects because I'm aware that you want to know how long and when will we finish", he stated.

He revealed a team from the Ministry of Public Works will coming days conduct inspection of the Bushrod Island Road, and several other roads waiting for for construction and rehabilitation. Editing by Jonathan Browne

CDC is in disarray

The ruling Unity Party distances itself from ongoing campaign in the House of Representatives to oust Speaker Koffa of the opposition Congress for Democratic Change, saying the CDC is in a frenzy.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah (contributor)

Monrovia, Liberia, October 31, 2024

- Unity Party Chairman Rev. Luther Tarpeh, says the opposition Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) is politically in disarray.

His criticism is in response to CDC Chairman Janga Kowo's recent allegation that the ruling Unity Party is orchestrating the removal of Speaker Jonathan Fonati Koffa.

But Chairman Tarpeh describes Kowo's allegation as ludicrous and unfortunate, noting that it is laughable that members of the CDC fail to recognize that the Legislature operates according to its own rules.

"Even the CDC lawmakers—almost eleven of them—are on the majority bloc side. Is he insinuating that the UP has blinded its own lawmakers into abandoning their speaker?"

Kowo and the CDC have continually complained, but we are committed to leading this country. President Boakai is a man of peace, and the Liberian people recognize that," he states.

Asked if the ruling party was not behind the removal of Speaker Koffa, and it did not instruct UP lawmakers in the House to leave the majority bloc and maintain neutrality, Rev. Tarpeh says he is aware of the Liberian Constitution and understands that the House of Representatives has its own rules governing its processes.

However, he quickly questions the CDC's stance on accusations from Bong County lawmaker Marvin Cole, who alleges that Deputy Speaker Rep. Thomas Fallah of the CDC is the chief architect behind current plot to remove Speaker Koffa.

"They are the ones who voted for Speaker Koffa, and if they decide to remove him, the Unity Party will not interfere. All I can call for is for them to remain calm and sort out their issues, because the jobs of the Liberian people need to be addressed."

The Unity Party Chairman was responding to allegations from CDC Chairman Janga Kowo, who claims that the plot to remove the 55th Speaker of the Legislature is financially induced by the governing party. Kowo made the claims Wednesday, October 30, 2024 during an interview with State Broadcaster, ELBC. Meanwhile, he has threatened

punitive measures against CDC officials involved in plotting the removal of Speaker Jonathan Fonati Koffa.

Kowo emphasizes that the actions of the lawmakers are breaching party trust, particularly because Speaker Koffa is a member of the CDC.

"Those CDC lawmakers who are not supporting the Speaker, we are engaging with them and encouraging them to back him. We are also urging them to desist from any behavior aimed at removing the Speaker," he pleads.

Responding to query whether the CDC would reprimand those acting contrary to the party's mandate, he emphatically notes that the time will come, as everyone has been warned about the repercussions.

Chairman Kowo continues that while the lawmakers have their legislative right to take a position at the national legislature, they should balance their actions with legal procedures in seeking the removal of Speaker Koffa.

In another development, Deputy Speaker Thomas P. Fallah, also a CDCian, is requesting additional time to consult with his lawyers before responding to invitation extended him by his colleagues from the majority bloc.

The majority bloc, consisting of 43 members of the House of Representatives, is pushing for the removal of the Speaker. This move has intensified political tension within the chamber.

The push for removal follows escalating tensions, with some representatives accusing Speaker Koffa of serious corruption and ineffective leadership amid heightened political instability within the House.

Last week, a faction of the House that opposes Speaker Koffa invited Deputy Speaker Fallah to join their effort to remove him.

In a carefully crafted response, Fallah requested to be excused from the current session, emphasizing the importance of consulting with his legal team before reaching a decision that may come with significant constitutional consequences. Editing by Jonathan Browne

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Works Minister choked at senate hearing

Liberia's Works Minister Roland Giddings froze on the senate floor Tuesday when he failed to outline in clear terms plans by government to address deplorable road conditions across Liberia.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, October 31, 2024
Liberia's Public Works Minister, Roland Layfette

sitting of the first session of the 55th Legislature on the invitation of that August Body, Minister

Nyonken road, including a damaged bridge that connects several towns and villages.

Also, the briefing notes presented or distributed among senators didn't capture roads and projects within the ministry's budget that the Liberian Senate appropriated US\$35 million for.

Providing defense, Minister Giddings apologized to the senate and promised to embark on robust roads construction in the dry season.

According to him, Lofa County roads, particularly Salayea-Manekoyma road is deplorable because contractors left the road almost a year due to lack of funds disbursement, adding that the Government of Liberia owes contractors US\$11 million.

"On the issue that has to do with the US\$22 million for the President's hundred days' deliverables, the initial disbursement was US\$8.9 million. Today, only 2% contractors have reached milestone. An additional US\$1 million has been disbursed. So, now it's US\$9.9 million out of the entire US\$22 million that I have spoken about. Our problem has been the rainy season and I want to assure you that within this dry season, we will do much", the work s minister assures.



Minister Roland Giddings

Giddings wore a short face Tuesday, October 29, 2024 during senate hearing when he failed to address among other things, deplorable road conditions across the country and government's effort to immediately address these conditions with timeline. Speaking during the 41st day

Giddings presented to lawmakers a briefing notes, which failed to capture road projects with timeline. He had been invited by the senate to address among others, deteriorating roads to Rivergee County particularly, Tienpo-

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