



### **CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES**

**LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR BUYING SELLING** DATE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024 L\$182.9204/US\$1.00 L\$184.7675/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

# French Version Inside

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# Continental News

# S.African govt says won't help thousands of illegal miners inside a closed mine mine to catch all those says Zimbabwean sister of UK child abuser's victim

South Africa's government says it will not help an estimated 4,000 illegal miners inside a closed mine in the country's North West province who have been denied access to basic supplies as part of an official strategy against illegal mining.

By Rédaction Africanews he miners in the mineshaft in Stilfontein are believed to be suffering from a lack of food, water and other basic necessities after police closed off the

spokesperson Sabata Mokgwabone said information received from those who recently helped bring three miners to the surface indicated that as many as 4,000 miners may be underground. Police have not provided an official estimate.



their supplies underground. It is part of the police's Vala Umgodi, or Close the Hole, operation, which includes cutting off miners' supplies to force them to return to the surface and be arrested. North West police to guard areas around the Africanews

entrances used to transport In the past few weeks, over 1,000 miners have surfaced at various mines in North West province, with many reported to be weak, hungry and sickly after going for weeks without basic supplies.

Police continue on Thursday fatal confrontations.

underground.

Cabinet Minister Khumbudzo Ntshavheni told reporters on Wednesday that the government would not send any help to the illegal miners because they are involved in a criminal act.

"We are not sending help to criminals. We are going to smoke them out. They will come out. Criminals are not to be helped. We didn't send them there," Ntshavheni said.

Illegal mining remains common in South Africa's old gold-mining areas, with miners going into closed shafts to dig for any possible remaining deposits.

The illegal miners are often from neighboring countries, and police say the illegal operations involve larger syndicates that employ the miners.

Their presence in closed mines have also created problems with nearby communities, which complain that the illegal miners commit crimes ranging from robberies to

Illegal mining groups are known to be heavily armed and disputes between rival groups sometimes result in

### dorses Morocco's Mpox test

he Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) announced Thursday its endorsement of Morocco's locally developed mpox test, marking a significant step forward in Africa's response to the ongoing outbreak.

capable of detecting mpox pathogen DNA in blood, saliva, and tissue samples, is seen as a "major milestone" for African public health systems, enhancing the continent's ability to tackle emerging health threats.

The approval, announced by the Africa CDC on X (formerly Twitter), underscores the reliability and efficacy of Morocco's mpox test. The endorsement aligns with the African Union's broader objective of bolstering selfsufficiency in public health, aiming to prepare and respond effectively to disease threats.

This breakthrough comes amid the Africa CDC's declaration three months ago, categorizing the mpox outbreak as a public health emergency. Mpox, formerly known as monkeypox, spreads from infected animals to humans, and via close physical contact, leading to symptoms like fever, muscle aches, and distinctive skin lesions.

The new real-time PCR test, In addition to the CDC's efforts, the World Health Organization across Africa this year, with (WHO) last month approved the Central Africa bearing the Alinity m MPXV assay, the first brunt of cases and fatalities. diagnostic test for mpox Africanews

developed by Abbott Molecular Inc. This diagnostic tool detects mpox from swab samples, offering a complementary solution for tracking and controlling the

Mpox has resulted in over 50,000 reported cases and approximately 1,100 deaths



dith Nyachuru says widely circulated. her brother was due ■ to become head boy at his school when he died The sister of a 16-year-old boy who drowned while swimming naked at a Christian holiday camp in Zimbabwe run by child abuser John Smyth blames the Church of England for his death.

"The Church knew about the abuses that John Smyth was doing. They should have stopped him. Had they stopped him, I think my brother [Guide Nyachuru] would still be alive," Edith Nyachuru told the BBC.

The British barrister had moved to Zimbabwe with his wife and four children from Winchester in England in 1984 to work with an evangelistic organisation.

A decade on, aged 50, Smyth had established himself as a respected member of the Christian community in Zimbabwe. He had set up his own organisation, Zambesi Ministries, with funding from the UK - and was meting out similar punishments at camps that he marketed at the country's top schools.

Ms Nyachuru says her brother's trip had been an early Christmas present from one of his other sisters, who had picked up one of Smyth's brochures and been impressed with all the activities on offer for the week.

As she looks at an old photograph of Guide, she says he was the youngest of seven siblings, and the only boy: "He was very loved by everyone.

"A lovely boy... Guide was due to be made head boy the following



investigation revealed he had subjected boys in the met at Christian holiday conditions". camps run by a charity he chaired that was linked to the Church, to traumatic physical, psychological and sexual abuse.

The 1982 report, prepared by Anglican clergyman Mark Ruston, about the canings said "the scale and severity of the practice was horrific", with accounts of boys beaten so badly they bled, with one describing how he needed to wear scabbed over.

nappies until his wounds Despite these shocking revelations, mainly involving boys from elite

Ruston report was not

This was two years after an year," she remembers, adding that he was "an intelligent boy, a good swimmer, strong, healthy UK, many of whom he had with no known medical

> This is the only image Edith Nyachuru has of her younger brother

> But within 12 hours of him being dropped at the camp at Ruzawi School in Marondera, 74km (46 miles) from the capital, Harare, on the evening of 15 December 1992, the family received a call to say he had died.

> Witnesses say that like all the boys, Guide had gone swimming naked in a pool before bed - a camp tradition. The other boys returned to the dormitory, but Guide's absence was not noticed - which his sister finds surprising

- and his body was found at the bottom of the pool the next British public schools, the morning.-BBC

by J. Bradford DeLong

# EDITORIAL Liberia's dealing with ECOWAS

In less than six months, the Economic Community of West Africa is back in Liberia for mediation amid the current leadership crisis in the House of Representatives at the Capitol Building. Forty-three of the 73 members of the House are opting to oust Speaker Fonati J. Koffa, accusing him of conflict of interest and corruption, charges the Speaker has denied.

On the other hand, 30 lawmakers are standing with the Speaker, though no side has been able to obtain a quorum to conduct business in the main chamber, holding the business of the Liberian people hostage.

About three months ago, ECOWAS was in the country following a bloody standoff between riot officers of the Liberia National Police and partisans and supporters of the former ruling Congress for Democratic Change (CDC) of Ex-president George Weah.

Though the regional bloc denied that its visit then had nothing to do with the fracas that left both police officers and stone-throwing rioters wounded, it came just after former President George Manneh Weah officially complained to the United Nations, African Union, and ECOWAS for alleged witch-hunt of his former officials by the government of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai. Mr. Weah also complained about the government denying him using the VIP Lounge at the Roberts International Airport, which caused his supporters to protest.

Despite the denial, the ECOWAS delegation met with President Boakai and former President Weah separately while in the country.

This time, the ECOWAS Parliamentary Mediation Mission is visiting Liberia to mediate between the factions in the House.

On November 8, 2024, the Economic Community of West African States sent a formal communication to embattled Speaker Jonathan Fonati Koffa, informing him and his colleagues about the presence of its Parliamentary Mediation Mission in the country. The mediation, scheduled to take place from November 11 to 15, 2024, aims to address the ongoing political impasse within the 55th Legislature, specifically in the House of Representatives, that has stalled legislative work.

But how does Liberia, a member country, want to work with the regional bloc when, in one instance, the Government of Liberia arrogantly ignored a ruling from the ECOWAS Court and, in another instance, it seeks the body's intervention in its political impasse?

The House of Representatives under the former 54th Legislature impeached Supreme Court of Liberia Justice Kabineh Ja'neh. Ja'neh filed a complaint before the Court and received a ruling in his favor, calling for reparation. However, the Government of Liberia has yet to respond accordingly.

In its ruling, the regional court ordered the Government of Liberia to award Justice Ja'neh US\$200,000 as reparation for moral prejudice suffered in violation of his rights. However, the government has yet to pay.

Now it needs the intervention of the very body to resolve the crippling crisis in the House of Representatives that is stalling public hearings of the National Budget, leading President Boakai to beg the legislature for additional days to submit the budget.

It is important that we, as a country, learn to treat international bodies that we are a part of with respect to sustain such relationships because we will always need them, as in the current case, especially a body to which we have sent two justices to serve. Yet, we have continued to ignore its decisions.

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### COMMENTARY

### Misinformation Decided the US Election

BERKELEY - Three days after Donald Trump's victory in this year's US presidential election, my friend Dean Baker of the Center for Economic and Policy Research tweeted: "I hate to put a lot of highly paid pundits out of business, but look at this f\*\*king graph.

"The accompanying image was an Ipsos infographic headlined: "Misinformed views on immigration, crime, the economy correlated with ballot choice.

"In a Reuters/Ipsos poll taken in early October, potential voters who knew or assumed that violent crime was not at or near all-time highs favored Kamala Harris by a 65-percentage-point margin, whereas those who were misinformed broke for Donald Trump by a 26-point margin.

Likewise, among those who understood that inflation had declined over the past year, Harris was up by 53 points, whereas Trump was up by 19 points among the misinformed.

Among those who knew that the stock market was at an all-time high, Harris was up by 20; and among those who knew that southern border crossings had declined, Harris was up by 59.

What are we dealing with here? Do Trump voters express misinformed beliefs about violent crime rates, the inflation rate, the stock market, and border crossings because they are Trump voters, or are they Trump voters because they truly believe these falsehoods and are genuinely fearful for their country's future? If it is the latter, one must ask how they came to hold these false beliefs.

And once we understand that, we need to figure out what to do about an information ecosystem that hoodwinked millions of people and turned our politics into a clown show.

At this point, the people who want to misinform you will show up and cry: "But there were lots of border crossings! There was a violent crime wave!" (Never mind that it started under Trump).

"Inflation was high!" (Actually, it was moderate: the peak annual rate was 9% in the year ending June 2022, but 3% in the year ending June 2023, and 2.4% in the year ending September 2024.)

"Okay, but people get confused when asked about complex economic matters! What they really meant was that prices had risen and had not come down!" (As if deflation would help anyone.)

Of course, the same people will be quiet about the stock market,

because everybody knows that it is at or near record highs. Equities indices are how the mainstream media keep score when it comes to reporting on the economy. News bites about new record highs are frequent and ubiquitous.

The same people also will be quiet if you probe their beliefs. I will grant that people might not know how fast things have changed or know the difference between high inflation and higher prices. But everyone knows that you can always pan a camera to find a few examples of just about anything in the world, depending on what you are looking for.

At the same time, most Americans who look around their own neighborhoods or check their retirement accounts will know that they and their real-world friends and colleagues are doing just fine. Their 401(k)s are way up, and no Haitians are barbecuing cats.

This brings us back to the question of whether people are misinformed because they want to be. If Trump asks his supporters whether they are going to believe him or their lying eyes, will they choose him? Or are we dealing with the work of some bad actors who have devoted considerable effort to bringing about this state of affairs?

If the answer is that more than half of the electorate wants to be misinformed, America - and indeed human civilization - is in serious trouble. This would imply that what tens of millions of Americans really want is a greenlight to hate their fellow citizens. But if we are confronting the work of cynical bad actors, that at least gives us some hope for the future.

It would mean that the bulk of Trump supporters are good-hearted, well-meaning people who worry that the country is heading in the wrong direction, even if they themselves are doing fine. They voted for Trump more out of love than hate.

In that case, the task for Americans who want a healthier politics and a better society is clear. Unfortunately for Democrats, though, it is a task that must carried out by Republicans. In our broken information ecosystem, nothing that Democrats say will be believed by those who need to hear it

Well-meaning, patriotic Republicans need to look at themselves and adopt the project that Viscount Sherbrooke articulated after the 1867 extension of the franchise in Britain: We - or, rather, you - must educate our masters.

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# Letter to God with Other to Godblak Itump

# Lord, who are they rescuing?

Dear Father:

Have you heard, they say the Resue man from the Market Place fini rescuing himself ehn. They say da na small rescue ley man rescue himself oo. The noise in the village na easy; everybody just talking about him rescue.

But my son, it na strange. Ley people started rescuing themselves ever since day one.

Father da na small thing oo. They say ley Rescue man go buy himself one "hellobah" car. They say ley money for that car can build two to three schools or supply one-year drugs to clinics in our rural villages.

My son, you na know the ley thing they call the first law of nature? Ley people gat to rescue themselves first before they can think of how to run ley village.

Da na small thing oo Father. And they say da na the Rescue man from ley Market Place alone oo. They say it started from all ley Rescuers in the Papay kitcheneverybody fighting for himself or herself to grab something.

Kpoo, my son, you na hear ley thing I say. I say from day one ley people started with rescuing themselves. That is while they were fighting to kick the old people outtenure or no tenure, you going.

Hmm, it sad oo Father. And ley bad thing is we keep putting people in power who na know any other way to make their own money unless they grab village job. They have no idea—everything they have had either been inherited or given, not earned.

So, to start from scratch, they na able, because they are used to taking what is for everybody for their one. To pay current bill, or even put gas in their own car, they na able-they just used to living off the village. Na, na all ley huge current bill you hear say we owe our neighbour da our government people, they so used to freebees that even electricity they wan it for free. Ley people internet company that used to be in Congo Town there, da ley Government break it down. They used ley people service and could not pay.

Another thing Father, do you know that in this our village here, most of our big, big people have never work anywhere in their entire life besides doing village job. Father da na joke ooh. Most of them from ley time they fini High School or University the first job they got that village job. They na know no other work again. Even if they give them free, they na able because before you know it they na sack them for taking what belong to everybody in that company there.

That is why they are so comfortable doing the village job because they are all birds of the same feathers.

Father, if you think I lying let their Rescue father sack one of them today, in less than three months you will see them standing by ley roadside begging for lift that is if they na fini selling the houses they built with stolen money yet. So, Father, nobody in our village should be surprised that ley people are rescuing themselves first.

Can you imagine Father, ley people who say they come rescue oo, they meet huge salaries to the place, and they jump inside it no noise. Imagine in this highly forested village where half of ley population is not employed, one man making Uncle Sam money 15, 000, while at another place another makes US22000 per month.

Nowadays in our village if you want to make quick money, you don't need to go into business, just fight hard you geh one village job or try and get inside ley Traditional Council where house boys and office boys and girls have turned chiefs and paramount chiefs overnight. Some of them who could not even afford to spend Uncle Sam money 10,000 on one used car are now bearing gee to get Uncle Same money 45000 every three year for car.

And all this one da na small suffering people suffering in this village here. I say almost 2.5 million of the people are beggars. But still ley rescue team is still rescuing itself. What kina country will use more than 80 percent of him budget just for salary and go around begging other people to take care of your responsibility-nonsense of a fool.

Some of our village friend them sef jam with us, because we beg for almost everything-including mosquito nets and all. They na turn our entire village to begging nation.

Just yesterday, they say ley other people them were travelling with huge entourage, nothing have changed. So, while you geh embassies in those places for?

My son, when your people stop stealing in carrying every Tom, Dick, and Harry on every trip, it will help small.

I telling you ooh Father. It is well, ya.

### Trumpian Turmoil Is Coming to the Middle East

ASHINGTON, DC - Donald Trump's victory in last week's US presidential election has left many world leaders feeling dejected. European leaders fear that he will browbeat them on issues ranging from trade to defense spending, while those in Latin America are terrified that he will punish them for immigration flows. In the Middle East, however, the reaction has been more mixed. Some leaders are crestfallen, others elated. But those who are cheering now may be pining for a less capricious leader once Trump takes office.

Authoritarian rulers such as Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan stand to gain the most from a second Trump term. Trump has praised both men, referring to el-Sisi as his "favorite dictator" and calling himself a "big fan" of Erdoğan, and will thus likely refrain from pressing them on human rights and democratic values, as prior US administrations have done. These leaders will be pleased with Trump's laissez-faire approach to foreign policy and lack of interest in details. And because America runs a trade surplus with Egypt and a small deficit with Turkey, they will not draw his administration's trade-related ire, unlike Germany, Japan, and South Korea.

The Persian Gulf sheikhdoms will also benefit from a Trump presidency. Unlike el-Sisi and Erdoğan, the leaders of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates seek a muscular US foreign policy to weaken Iranian influence. Trump's revival of his hawkish rhetoric and "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran would please Bahrain's Sunni monarchy, in particular, because it would likely distract the mullahs from stirring up the tiny island's Shia majority. The Gulf states are also well placed to exploit Trump's transactional nature and his predilection for showmanship over substance: they can announce billion-dollar weapons deals with no intention of following through.

Other US allies in the region will suffer. Republicans will pummel Qatar for its support of Hamas and other Islamist groups. And American envoys will cease shuttling between Jerusalem and Beirut to end the bombing of Lebanon.

But the biggest loser of a Trump presidency may end up being the Syrian Kurdish Democratic Union Party (PYD). The group is the Syrian branch of the Turkish Kurdistan Workers' Party, which has been fighting an intermittent insurgency against Turkey's government since 1984, and most recently killed five people at an aerospace company in Ankara.

Trump's aversion to American troop deployments, coupled with his affection for Erdoğan, could lead him to recall the roughly 900 soldiers stationed in Syria. Ostensibly there to prevent a resurgence of the Islamic State, they also protect the PYD from Syria and Turkey. A PYD that lacks US support on the ground and fears a Turkish onslaught is likely to ask Russian or Syrian forces to redeploy to the border. For this reason, Syria could indirectly benefit from a Trump administration.

But America's adversaries - Iran and its proxies Hamas and Hezbollah - should be most concerned about Trump's return to the White House. Trump will likely give Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu carte blanche, lifting the few restraints US President Joe Biden has imposed in a failing effort to prevent a wider war. The recent revelation of an Iranian plot to kill Trump is sure to incite his ire and may even influence his response. It is hard to imagine Trump objecting to Israeli attacks on Iranian oil and nuclear infrastructure, or expressing anguish about civilian carnage in Gaza or growing violence by Israeli settlers in the West Bank.

During Trump's first term, Netanyahu merely wanted him to leave Israel alone - all would go smoothly so long as he did not promote a Palestinian state or criticize the expansion of West Bank settlements. But Israel now needs robust American backing for the bold policies that Netanyahu has been pursuing.

Trump will undoubtedly be happy to subcontract a war against Iran to Israel. But if the mullahs respond by targeting American interests, Trump may blame Netanyahu for dragging him into the type of conflict that he pledged on the campaign trail to avoid. And when Netanyahu reneges on his promises - like he did to Biden, who reportedly responded by calling him "a fucking liar" and "a bad guy" - Trump will be just as furious, if not more so.

It is an act Trump knows well. After Netanyahu declared his intention to annex settlements at a White House event in 2020, a blindsided Trump apparently said, "I feel dirty," and mused about endorsing his political rival. Biden has tolerated Netanyahu's dissemblance because he knows that weakening the Iranian axis is in America's interest. Trump, with his sole focus on genuflection, may not be as understanding.

The return of Trump will upend US foreign policy, not least in the Middle East. A region that has endured wars, revolutions, and jihadist insurgencies can survive a bully in the White House. But whether America's allies and adversaries gain and lose in equal measure remains to be seen.

**NEW DAWN** 5

### The Cancer of Peer Dynamics: Analyzing the Barriers to Youth Growth in Liberia:

By: Austin S Fallah-A True Son of Planet Earth Soil:

The youth of any nation represent its future; they are the architects of tomorrow.

However, for Liberia's youth, the journey toward social and economic development is fraught with challenges that hinder their progress. Among these obstacles are pernicious behaviors often rooted in peer interactions, peer envy, peer bad mouthing, peer lack of vision, and participatory corruption.

These behaviors create a toxic environment that not only delays personal growth but also stifles cultural and national progress. Addressing these issues is not merely a matter of survival for Liberia's youth, but it is imperative if Liberia is to fully engage in the global community of nations. This korero delves into the malignancy of these peer dynamics and posits that transformative change is essential for the empowerment and upliftment of young Liberians.

Peer Envy: The Thief of Potential:

Peer envy is often seen as a natural part of human existence, arising from the desire to compare oneself with others. In the context of Liberia, however, envy manifests as an insidious force that blights youth relationships and undermines individual potential. Liberian youth are frequently caught in a cycle of comparison, where the achievements of their peers are met with resentment rather than inspiration.

This detrimental perspective not only diminishes a young person's self-worth but also stifles motivation. The implications of such envy are far-reaching. When young individuals focus on what others have rather than their own abilities and aspirations, they fail to pursue their own goals. The destructive nature of peer envy leads to a culture of mediocrity, where aspirations are stifled by jealousy. Young people must be encouraged to appreciate diversity in talent and achievement, creating a supportive environment that fosters collaboration over competition.

Peer Bad Mouthing: The Erosion of Trust:

Another barrier to youth growth in Liberia is the prevalence of peer bad mouthing. In a society where communication often exists within tight-knit circles, the negative impact of bad mouthing can be profound. This behavior leads to the erosion of trust within peer groups and diminishes the collaborative efforts needed for collective progress. Bad mouthing serves several harmful functions. It creates division, breeds hostility, and perpetuates a cycle of negativity that can engulf entire communities.

As young people participate in gossip and slander, they divert their energy away from meaningful pursuits and instead contribute to a culture of conflict and mistrust. This behavior creates a chilling effect on open dialogue, making it difficult for individuals to share ideas and collaborate in efforts aimed at community improvement. To counteract these tendencies, youths must adopt a culture of constructive criticism and encouragement. Emphasizing positive reinforcement rather than disparagement fosters an atmosphere where creativity can flourish and innovation becomes a shared value.

Peer Lack of Vision: A Collective Blindness:

A prevalent challenge young people face in Liberia is the lack of vision among their peers. Without aspirational role models or a clear framework for success, many youths find themselves stagnant, unable to envision a future beyond their immediate environment. This lack of vision is often perpetuated by limited access to quality education and resources, compounded by societal narratives that reinforce hopelessness.

When young people in Liberia lack a vision for their future, they become susceptible to cynicism and complacency. They internalize the belief that success is unattainable, which perpetuates a cycle of resignation and inactivity.

To combat this pervasive issue, communities must foster a culture of mentorship and encouragement, providing young individuals with the tools and inspiration necessary to define their ambitions and work towards their goals. Institutions must take on a greater role in shaping opportunities for young people. Schools, universities, colleges, and community organizations can empower youths by organizing programs that highlight successful figures in various fields and facilitating workshops aimed at personal and professional development.

Peer Participatory Corruption: Ethical Erosion:

Participatory corruption among youth is yet another significant barrier to social and economic development in Liberia. When young individuals engage in or condone corrupt practices, they not only compromise their own integrity but also contribute to a systemic malaise that hampers societal

progress. Participatory corruption manifests through tacit approval of unethical behaviors, such as bribery or nepotism, and has the potential to perpetuate a cycle of corruption across generations. Corruption undermines faith in public institutions and hinders economic opportunities for young people.

When success is perceived as obtainable only through unethical means, a culture of corruption thrives, leading to disillusionment among youths who strive for legitimacy. This ethical erosion prompts talented individuals to abandon their principles in pursuit of success, ultimately leading to societal decay. To rectify this situation, educational institutions, particularly the University of Liberia and community leaders, must actively engage youths in discussions around integrity and ethical behavior. Young people should be educated about the long-term ramifications of corrupt practices, including how such actions erode national identity and weaken social cohesion. Establishing a culture that prioritizes accountability over personal gain will create a fertile ground for moral development among Liberia's youth.

Youth Participation in Human Rights Abuses: A Tragic Reality:

Alarmingly, some young people in Liberia participate in human rights abuses, influenced by various factors, including poverty, lack of education, and social instability. These abuses, ranging from exploitation to violence, expose the most vulnerable segments of society and severely hinder community development. When youths become perpetrators of human rights violations, they not only contribute to societal harm but also violate their own potential as agents of change.

The circumstances leading to such behavior often arise from desperation and the desire for survival in an environment that offers limited choices. Young individuals may feel compelled to engage in harmful actions as a means of ensuring their own safety or economic viability. It is a tragic irony that those expected to lead the future are drawn into destructive patterns that undermine their very existence. Addressing this alarming issue requires robust intervention programs that not only educate youths about human rights but also create viable economic alternatives to participation in violence and exploitation. Initiatives that promote peacebuilding, conflict resolution, and social entrepreneurship can empower young people to reject cycles of abuse.

The Path Forward: Mobilizing for Change:

The challenges faced by Liberian youths demand immediate attention. Transformational change is necessary if the nation's young population is to thrive socially and economically in a globalized world. Civil society, educational institutions, and governmental bodies must align their efforts to foster a culture that mitigates peer envy, bad mouthing, lack of vision, participatory corruption, and human rights abuses. Enacting policies that recognize and respond to the unique challenges faced by youths will empower this demographic to embrace their potential.

Training and mentorship programs can encourage young individuals to cultivate their skills and overcome the barriers that hinder their growth. It is equally crucial to create environments where positive peer relationships can flourish, inspiring collaboration and healthy competition. Additionally, fostering an inclusive dialogue among youth about their rights and responsibilities is paramount. When young people feel valued and heard, they are more likely to engage in civic activities and advocate for their communities. Mobilizing youth to participate in governance and community-building efforts can harness their energy and creativity for positive change.

Encouraging a robust civil society that holds both peers and leaders accountable will shift the culture toward one of integrity and progress. As young Liberians begin to embrace their roles as stewards of their society, they can disrupt the cycle of negative behaviors that have pervaded their experiences. Peer dynamics are powerful forces that shape the social and economic landscape for Liberian youth. Peer envy, bad mouthing, lack of vision, participatory corruption, and involvement in human rights abuses pose substantial challenges that must be addressed if young individuals are to thrive.

However, through concerted efforts and communal responsibility, it is possible to foster a more supportive environment where empowerment and growth can take root. The awakening of Liberia's youth to their potential and their capacity to enact change is vital for the nation's future. It is time to cultivate a culture of integrity, vision, and inclusivity so that Liberia's young people can compete on the world stage with confidence, resilience, and hope.

### MORE HEADLINE NEWS

NOVEMBER 15

### MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### Chinese Embassy donates to MCSS

China has donated food and non-food items to the Monrovia Consolidated School System to buttress education in Liberia.

By Lincoln G. Peters

ongo Town, Liberia, November 15, 2024-The Government of China has donated food and non-food items to the Monrovia Consolidated School System (MCSS) to boost the Liberian education sector. Items donated include rice.

public schools provide children with equal access to education, social responsibility, and positive values.

"We hope these resources will help Monrovia's public schools function better, provide students with nutritious meals, facilitate more sports

Boakai, and the two sides announced the elevation of the China-Liberia relationship to a strategic partnership." The Ambassador continues.

He says this means that in the future, China and Liberia will further strengthen bilateral relations, expand practical cooperation and promote people-to-people exchanges.

"China stands ready to implement the outcomes of the



oil, powder milk, among others.

The donation made Thursday, November 14, 2024 at the Chinese Embassy in Congo Town is under the "Supporting Monrovia Public School Activity".

The ceremony was graced by the Mayor of Monrovia Mr. John-Charuk S. Siafa; the Superintendent of the Monrovia Consolidated School System, James A.S. Momoh, along with representatives of various institutions and the Chinese Embassy.

The Monrovia Consolidated School System (MCSS) is responsible for 25 public schools in the capital, serving 25,000 students with 750 teachers.

Chinese Ambassador to Liberia, YIN Chengwu, says it's their hope that the support will encourage students to study hard.

According to him, education

activities, and boost their confidence and happiness. We hope that the support will help mobilize more resources. As the saying goes, 'It takes ten years to grow a tree, but a hundred years to cultivate a person.' Education is a longterm endeavour that requires continuous attention and support from all sectors and partners" Ambassador Yin adds. He assures the Government and people of Liberia that the Chinese Embassy is willing to join collective efforts in Liberia to create a better environment for healthy growth of every student and hard work of every

"We hope that the support will deepen the friendship between China and Liberia. China and Liberia are good friends and partners. Not long ago, the Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation was successfully held in Beijing. President Xi Jinping met with is the bedrock of a society and President Joseph Nyuma

meeting between the two Presidents and the FOCAC Summit. Today's event is a testament. Finally, I wish every teacher success in their work, every student a healthy growth, and the MCSS a prosperous future", he adds.

Meanwhile, in response, Mayor John-Charuk S. Siafa and Superintendent James A.S. Momoh express gratitude and appreciation to the Government and People of

They note that China continues to support Liberia's endeavor in achieving sustainable development and economic growth.

"We want to express our appreciation to you for the donation. You continue to help our educational sector with people to people exchanges. We hope that this partnership continues" the Liberian official's remark. Editing by Jonathan Browne

### community are in Nekoteh scholars

The National Commission on Disability (NCD) is seeking for 10% of the controversial US\$25 Million scholarship with Nekoteh, a private group in partnership with the Government of Liberia.

By Kruah Thompson

onrovia, Liberia, November 15, 2024 -The Executive Director of the National Commission on Disability (NCD), Samuel S. Dean, Sr., is urging the Government of Liberia to allocate 10% of a controversial \$25 million Nekoteh Scholarship program that aims to support Liberian students pursuing higher education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the U.S. and Canada.

Launched by President Joseph Nyuma Boakai on November 7, 2024, the program, which was intended to be a no-collateral loan scheme has sparked concerns regarding its truthfulness and financial credibility, leading many here to question whether it is genuinely a life-changing opportunity as promoted by the Foreign Ministry in Monrovia.

Many, including Liberian

Following Piah's statement, NCD Executive Director Samuel S. Dean Sr., Who also spoke at the regular press briefing Thursday, called on President Boakai to allocate 10% of the scholarship funds to people with disabilities, so they too can contribute to society, and ive a meaningful life like every other citizen.

"We also pray that the new information provided by the minister is accurate, and we urge them to ensure that at least 10% of the beneficiaries of this scholarship are persons with disabilities. Once educated, these individuals can become agents of change and contribute meaningfully to the development of the country," he argues.

In another development, Mr. Dean announces that, for this year's celebration of the International Day for Persons with Disabilities, they have decided to empower and support disabled organizations with funding, including scholarships to disabled communities, and provide livelihood support to



Kollie, have expressed He says they will provide and find it difficult to believe whether the program launched by the government is truly legitimate.

Jerolinmek Mathew Piah announces that the group overseeing the program arrives in the country today, Friday, November 15, 2024, to clarify issues surrounding its

legality. accompany the program's leaders to a press conference

Culture, Affairs, and Tourism.

activist and researcher Martin fifty women with disabilities.

concerns that the government subsidies to 78 disability is being misled by NEKOTEH. organizations, as their budget They are troubled by the has increased from under a figures requested by NEKOTEH million dollars to a million dollars.

He also notes that they plan to offer empowerment aid to over 300 persons with disabilities, as However, Information Minister well as pay school fees or provide tuition assistance to 150 high school, vocational, and university students. "We are also going to provide livelihood support to fifty women with disabilities," he adds.

He says the International Day of According to him, Foreign Persons with Disabilities will be Minister Sara Beysolow Nyanti, celebrated on December 3, also Dean of the Cabinet will 2024, in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County with plans to host over 800 people with disabilities. at the Ministry of Information, Editing by Jonathan Browne

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### MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### Starts from back page CSO predicts danger

"Further heightening these concerns is Liberia's strategic positioning in West Africa, which has historically been aligned with the United States for over a century."

STAND believes that shifting closer to Russia risks alienating a trusted ally whose support has been pivotal to the nation's security and development.

It indicated that such a move could unsettle Liberia's position within the West African region, particularly amid recent democratic challenges and power struggles in the Sahel.

Moreover, STAND suggested that the Liberian government's emphasis on strengthening ties with Russia in areas such as security assistance raises additional red flags.

"Calls for Russian technical security aid come at a time when Russia's involvement in the Sahel has been widely criticized for undermining democratic governance through support for military juntas.'

STAND stated that seeking collaboration in this context risks Liberia's complicity in

in Maryland.

Margibi Bar elects leadership

Marylanders are concern about a recent meeting held between the

county legislative caucus and heads of three companies operating

By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County

aryland, Liberia,

November 15, 2024 -

■ Following a two-day

dialogue with top management

of the Cavalla Rubber

Corporation (CRC), Maryland

Oil Palm Plantation (MOPP) and

Golden SIFCA in Monrovia,

several citizens within the

county are questioning the

The meeting with the

outcome of the meeting.

fostering an influence that may destabilize governance structures across West Africa.

"This policy shift is especially troubling given that Liberia had recently severed ties with Russia and taken a strong stance against its invasion of Ukraine," noted

"The sudden renewal of relations marks a drastic reversal, one that STAND believes requires immediate clarification regarding its impact on Liberia's stability and economic health."

While STAND does not seek to oppose Liberia's outreach to friendly nations for economic and peace-building assistance to support economic revival, STAND cautions the government to tread carefully in ways that avoid consequential national security risks.

Accordingly, STAND calls on the Liberian government, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to provide transparent details on its recent commitments in Russia.

It has urged the government to clarify the strategic benefits of this new relationship and how it aligns with Liberia's longterm security and economic

On behalf of the Liberian people, STAND seeks assurances that these risky maneuvers do not create geopolitical challenges that threaten Liberia's stability and democratic health.

It further cautioned against Liberia becoming a proxy in global power rivalries.

"Providing these assurances is especially important, considering that while the Russian Federation maintained a diplomatic presence in Liberia before the civil war ... the truth remains that Russia has done little to uplift the lives of Liberians or contribute meaningfully to our socioeconomic progress," STAND

In light of this, STAND has urged the government to prioritize Liberia's peace, stability, and security interests, avoid entanglements in foreign conflicts, and uphold the nation's best interests above any external agendas.

Finally, STAND is deeply troubled that the Government of Liberia would overlook serious allegations of human rights violations and disregard for fundamental freedoms associated with Russia.

wronged to have informed the Caucus of Maryland in their two days' meeting that within 2024 they have lost about US\$100 Million in their investments and it's the reasons they haven't been able to build a single school, clinic/hospital, housing units for employees and many other projects, as agreed upon in their concession agreements. He described their statement as

deceptive, emphasizing that the agreements that were signed in 2011 between the Government of Liberia and the management have given management such opportunity to have started implementation of products in their first year of operation, but sadly today, the companies are complaining about losses after years of operation in the county. He also called for strengthening of government's institutions (Police, Immigration, Labour), improvement of infrastructure especially, roads and ports, advice to community members to stop disrupting companies' operations. Editing by Jonathan Browne

## Powerhouse Ministries unveils Gethsemane Experience 2024

The Powerhouse Ministries International rolls out its annual prayer summit here, dubbed Gethsemane Experience.

■ intensive prayer for Liberia, with the flag of Liberia to families and situations.

This year's exercise has been "I received this mandate of the scheduled for November 17 - 22, national prayer summit in 2020 2024 at the worship auditorium of the church on 14<sup>th</sup> Street Sinkor, Gibson Avenue, Monrovia.

t's an Apostolic Gathering of He says this year's summit host a God's people in a time of national leader who will stand intercede for the nation.

> and since then, we have been hosting this summit."

> He calls on the public especially



time to cry to God for our nation before God in prayers for and nations of the world", says solutions to their problems, be it Apostle D. Blojay Wilson, Jr. health, spiritual and financial Apostolic Leader of Powerhouse challenges Ministries International.

During that time, we made a set Christians to come and prostrate

### Man arrested with drugs taken to court

27-year-old Blama Kromah has been charged with illegal smuggling of controlled substances and drugs while visiting the Monrovia Central Prison.

2024/ Authorities at the prosecution. Monrovia Central Prison Meanwhile, Assistant Minister (MCP) arrested Suspect Kromah, for Correction and a resident of Freeport Rehabilitation at the Ministry of Community, Bushrod Island, for Justice, Atty. Gabriel F. possession of controlled Ndupellar, has warned potential substances and drugs

while recently attempting to smuggle them into the Central Prison, posing as a visitor.

He was apprehended with the substances during search conducted by correction officers as part of routine safety and security measures instituted at the prison.

He has been arraigned and charged with unlicensed possession of controlled substances following a writ of arrest issued by Stipendiary Magistrate L. Ben Barco of the Monrovia City Court.

Drugs arrested include: 40 tablets of Tramadol, 7 parcels of a substance believed to be cocaine, 1

plastic bag of marijuana, 1 plastic bag of a substance believed to be Kush.

Illegal possession and smuggling of controlled substances is in violation of sections 14.85 and 14.89 of the New Drug Law of Liberia. Mr. Kromah has been

onrovia, November 15, forwarded to court for



illegal drug smugglers and visitors at the Monrovia Central Prison, emphasizing that such unlawful activities will not be tolerated and that anyone caught will be prosecuted in accordance with the Laws of Liberia. **Editing by Jonathan Browne** 

companies was held Monrovia, bringing together Senator J. Gblebo Brown, Chairman of the Maryland Legislative Caucus, P. Mike Jurry, Representative District #1 and Co-chairman of the Maryland Legislative Caucus; District#2 Representative Anthony F. Williams, also Secretary General of the Maryland Legislative Caucus; Austin Blidi Taylor, Representative, District #3 and member of the Maryland Legislative Caucus, Mr. John Lootvoet, Executive Director, CRC, MOPP, GSI, Mr. John Y.

Barkamine, Consultant, CRC, MOPP, GSI, amongst other top managers and legal counselors of the concession. Their gathering has not only

drawn attention of many citizens of the county, but diaspora Marylanders in U.S., who pointed out that the companies' failure to implement their

responsibilities and projects in about (13) years since 2011 should be questioned seriously. T. Roland Taylor, a former Pleebo

District Relief Commissioner, who now resides in the United States of America, alleged that the legislative caucus' invitation to the top managements at a hotel, instead of in Plenary to at least give opportunity to other lawmakers with expertise from across districts or counties to debate the issues, was never in the interest of the people's but rather to eat Pizza and drink expensive wine, while listening to bunch of lies and deceptions from those companies, who has taken away so much from the county in 13 unbroken years.

The former relief commissioner of Pleebo District alleged on his Facebook page that CRC and MOPP managements was

# rança

Le CDC critique les relations de Boakai avec |

Changement ■Démocratique (CDC) a vivement dénoncé la décision récente du gouvernement Boakai de renforcer ses liens diplomatiques avec la Russie, qualifiant cette initiative de préjudiciable aux intérêts du Liberia, en particulier concernant ses relations avec

e Congrès pour le ses liens historiques avec les États-Unis, partenaires de longue date. Selon lui, cette nouvelle orientation diplomatique pourrait fragiliser la paix et la sécurité dans le pays.

> La Russie, qui cherche à élargir son influence diplomatique en Afrique, a récemment annoncé l'ouverture prochaine d'une ambassade près de Monrovia pour renforcer ses

mardi à Monrovia, M. Koijee a exprimé son inquiétude concernant les avancées du gouvernement Boakai-Koung dans cette coopération avec Moscou, qualifiant l'ouverture imminente d'une ambassade russe de « camouflet » pour les États-Unis.

M. Koijee a affirmé que ce rapprochement valide les allégations antérieures du CDC selon lesquelles le président Boakai aurait collaboré avec la Russie pour financer sa campagne présidentielle de 2023. « Nous rappelons aux Libériens que notre parti avait révélé les liens entre M. Boakai et les Russes, bien qu'il ait nié toute implication dans cette 'mission risquée' », a-t-il déclaré, en affirmant que des réunions secrètes auraient eu lieu entre M. Boakai et des responsables russes pour obtenir un soutien financier. Le CDC, bien qu'indigné, se dit particulièrement préoccupé

par l'impact de ce rapprochement sur la relation privilégiée entre le Liberia et les États-Unis. « Même si l'on a des différends avec les

➤ CONT'D ON PAGE 9



les États-Unis.

Jefferson Koijee, secrétaire général du CDC, a affirmé que l'ouverture de relations diplomatiques avec la Russie pourrait compromettre l'avenir du Liberia et menacer

relations avec le Liberia. Cette déclaration a été faite par le ministre russe des Affaires étrangères, Sergey Lavrov, lors du Forum de Partenariat Russie-Afrique.

Lors d'une conférence de presse

## **USAID et le Gouvernement libérien signent**

signé un accord de subvention d'un montant de 114,4 millions USD, visant à renforcer les efforts de développement du Libéria.

La cérémonie de signature, tenue mercredi au Ministère des Finances et de la Planification du Développement à Monrovia, a officialisé les amendements 14 et 15 de l'Accord de Subvention pour l'Objectif de Développement (DAOG) de 2020, ajoutant une contribution significative pour soutenir des initiatives dans des secteurs prioritaires.

Dans son allocution, le ministre des Finances du Libéria, Augustine K. Ngafuan, a salué cette initiative comme une étape clé dans la relation bilatérale avec les États-Unis. « Le Gouvernement des États-Unis, à travers l'USAID, reste un partenaire constant et fiable, et cet accord en témoigne, » a-t-il déclaré. Exprimant son optimisme pour les futures collaborations, le ministre Ngafuan a souligné l'importance de ce partenariat pour surmonter les défis cruciaux du développement au Libéria. Depuis mai 2020, les États-

Unis ont engagé 640 millions

Le Gouvernement du Libéria USD sur cinq ans pour soutenir la 'développement durable, en et celui des États-Unis ont santé, l'éducation, la gouvernance et la croissance économique au Libéria. Les deux amendements signés viennent renforcer cet engagement en apportant des fonds supplémentaires pour la santé et l'éducation, secteurs essentiels pour le développement social et économique du pays.

> Le ministre Ngafuan a précisé que les investissements prévus sont destinés à promouvoir une croissance économique inclusive, à créer des emplois, et à améliorer les services essentiels à travers tout le pays. Il a également souligné le rôle important du secteur de la santé, avec plus de 55 projets en cours pour appuyer la politique de santé nationale et les vies des citoyens libériens renforcer les services vitaux pour et réaffirmé l'engagement du les Libériens.

nécessité d'une approche de le bien-être national.

mettant l'accent sur des investissements locaux qui génèrent des emplois, notamment dans le secteur privé. Il a souligné l'importance de la transparence et de la redevabilité dans les institutions publiques pour garantir que les ressources profitent efficacement à la population.

« Nous sommes ravis de signer cet accord aujourd'hui, » a-t-il déclaré, exprimant sa gratitude aux équipes ayant travaillé pour obtenir ce soutien renforcé pour le Libéria. Il a reconnu l'impact considérable de ces fonds sur gouvernement envers des M. Ngafuan a insisté sur la partenariats visant à améliorer



## Éditorial

### Les réserves mondiales d'eau douce en équilibre Par Mariana Mazzucato et Johan Rockström

ONDRES - Alors que l'attention du monde entier est tournée vers les élections américaines, le nombre croissant ■d'événements météorologiques extrêmes - des inondations catastrophiques en Espagne à la pire sécheresse que l'Afrique australe ait connue en un siècle - souligne la nécessité de rester concentré sur le changement climatique, la perte de biodiversité et l'<u>évolution du cycle de l'eau</u>.

Ces crises sont liées et les symptômes s'aggravent. Lorsque la sécheresse tue les récoltes, des millions de personnes en souffrent. Lorsque des extrêmes hydriques (trop ou pas assez d'eau) frappent des sociétés vulnérables, les déplacements, les migrations et les conflits qui en résultent peuvent affecter tout le monde.

Pourtant, personne n'est à l'écoute. Le récent sommet de la COP16 sur la biodiversité, qui s'est tenu à Cali, en Colombie, a reçu peu d'attention de la part de la communauté internationale. Il n'a pas permis d'établir une feuille de route visant à accroître le financement de la protection des espèces. Au lieu de cela, les délégués se sont contentés de célébrer leur décision de faire payer les entreprises privées pour l'utilisation des informations génétiques sur la biodiversité et de créer un nouveau groupe de travail pour les populations autochtones.

Bien qu'importants, ces développements sont marginaux par rapport à la tâche d'enrayer la perte de biodiversité. Pire encore, ils pourraient servir d'écran de fumée à l'inaction mondiale, tout comme nous l'avons vu au fil des ans dans les négociations mondiales sur le climat, où de longues sessions sur le commerce et les « pertes et dommages » ont masqué l'absence d'action sur l'élimination progressive des combustibles fossiles. Bien que le cadre mondial pour la biodiversité, adopté à Montréal en 2022, ait fixé des objectifs ambitieux visant à protéger 30 % de la planète d'ici à 2030, 158 pays <u>n'onttoujourspas présenté</u> de plans officiels sur la manière dont ils entendent s'acquitter de leur part du travail.

Cette inaction ne peut plus durer. Les activités humaines menacent la stabilité du climat et des systèmes naturels dont dépend le bienêtre de l'humanité. La sécurité alimentaire, la santé humaine et la stabilité sociale sont en jeu. Les négociations de la COP16 sont censées se poursuivre « <u>à une date ultérieure</u> » ; mais le monde ne peut pas se permettre de laisser passer la COP16 sans progrès significatifs dans la protection de la biodiversité et des écosystèmes de notre planète.

Sans une action collective urgente et systémique, les effets du changement climatique, de la perte de biodiversité et de la crise de l'eau ne feront que s'intensifier. La biodiversité et la nature sont essentielles au maintien de modèles climatiques stables et du cycle hydrologique. Les zones humides et les forêts, qui stockent d'énormes quantités de carbone, dépendent de cycles hydrologiques stables et d'une biodiversité florissante pour fonctionner efficacement.

De même, les écosystèmes terrestres absorbent actuellement 25 % des émissions de dioxyde de carbone, ce qui contribue à empêcher l'augmentation du CO, atmosphérique au-delà de 420 parties par million. Pourtant, des événements hydrologiques extrêmes sécheresses et inondations, combinés à la chaleur du cycle « super El Niño » de 2023 - ont considérablement érodé ce puits de carbone massif. Il s'agit là d'un sérieux signal d'alarme. La perte de biodiversité non maîtrisée pourrait à elle seule nous faire dépasser l'objectif de l'accord de Paris sur le climat de limiter le réchauffement climatique à 1,5° Celsius, avec des conséquences désastreuses pour les communautés vulnérables du monde entier.

Mariana Mazzucato, directrice fondatrice de l'UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, est coprésidente de la Commission mondiale sur l'économie de l'eau et coprésidente du groupe d'experts de la task-force du G20 pour une mobilisation mondiale contre le changement climatique. Johan Rockström, directeur du Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research et professeur de sciences du système terrestre à l'université de Potsdam, est coprésident de la Commission mondiale sur l'économie de l'eau.

## rançais

Starts from page 8 Le CDC critique les relations

NOVEMBER 15

Koijee.

relation américano-libérienne, il un double jeu. » personnelle.

Il a appelé les citoyens et les Nationale du Liberia. acteurs nationaux, notamment Dénonçant la hausse inquiétante avec la Russie.

particulier avec la Russie, mais rappelé. Koung à clarifier sa politique vie.

Américains, il est inutile de les étrangère : « Si le gouvernement offenser ainsi », a ajouté M. croit sincèrement que la Russie peut mieux servir les intérêts du Qualifiant cette alliance russo- Liberia que les États-Unis, qu'il libérienne de « désaveu » de la assume ce choix au lieu de jouer

2024

a mis en garde contre les risques M. Koijee a également exprimé pour le Liberia de s'aligner à la sa préoccupation quant à la fois avec la Russie et les États-disparition inexpliquée Unis, deux puissances mondiales d'Ibrahima Khalil, client de aux intérêts souvent opposés. « l'ancien juge associé Kabinah M. Boakai ne peut pas prendre de Ja'neh, accusé de tentative de risques pour tout un pays », a recrutement d'ex-combattants martelé M. Koijee, affirmant que libériens pour renverser le le CDC et le peuple libérien gouvernement militaire en s'opposent fermement à toute Guinée. Selon l'ancien juge tentative de gouverner le pays Ja'neh, Khalil aurait été arrêté à comme une propriété Lofa par la sécurité nationale, sous la supervision de la Police

les dirigeants politiques, les des disparitions en détention, M. médias, la société civile et les Koijee a appelé la communauté organisations de défense des internationale à intervenir et à droits humains, à s'opposer à exiger que le président Boakai et toute alliance qui pourrait ses responsables rendent des menacer la stabilité du Liberia, comptes. « De nombreuses en particulier le rapprochement personnes ont disparu, certaines dans des circonstances « Nous ne pouvons rester passifs mystérieuses, sans qu'aucun face à la mise en péril de notre responsable ne soit inquiété. pays », a-t-il ajouté. Le CDC, a-t- L'affaire Joyce Musu en est un il précisé, n'a pas de différend exemple tragique », a-t-il

reste préoccupé par la En solidarité avec l'ancien juge diplomatie adoptée par le Ja'neh, M. Koijee a demandé à la gouvernement libérien. Il a police, dirigée par Gregory exhorté l'administration Boakai- Coleman, de retrouver Khalil en

### Starts from page 8 USAID, GUL SIGN US\$114.4

L'Ambassadeur des États-Unis au dans les communautés, et le Libéria, Mark C. Toner, a développement de nouvelles également pris la parole, opportunités économiques dans soulignant l'importance de cet le secteur agricole. près de 489 millions USD.

« Ce soutien va au-delà d'une t-il ajouté. simple aide financière ; il Cet accord marque un nouveau incarne notre engagement chapitre dans le partenariat de inébranlable envers l'avenir du longue date entre les États-Unis Libéria, » a déclaré et le Libéria. Étaient également l'ambassadeur Toner. Il a précisé présents à la cérémonie de initiatives libériennes dans les de la mission USAID, Cllr. Cora N. domaines de la santé, de Konuwa, vice-ministre de la l'éducation et de la croissance Justice chargée de la économique inclusive. Des codification, ainsi que des projets spécifiques sont en ministres adjoints et des préparation, notamment la représentants de l'ambassade formation des enseignants, la américaine à Monrovia. distribution de produits de santé

accord comme reflet de En reconnaissant les défis l'engagement commun des deux existants, comme la corruption nations en faveur du et les contraintes de capacité, développement du Libéria. l'ambassadeur a encouragé une L'ambassadeur a rappelé que cet coopération renforcée pour accord s'inscrit dans un surmonter ces obstacles. programme quinquennal lancé « Ensemble, nous posons les en 2020 et que cette nouvelle bases d'un avenir meilleur pour contribution porte l'engagement le Libéria, un avenir qui inspire total des États-Unis au Libéria à l'espoir, offre des opportunités et encourage la croissance, » a-

que les fonds contribueront aux signature Jim Wright, directeur

# Advertise with

# La Première Dame Boakai inspi les diplômés de l'Université AN



ors de la cérémonie de remise des diplômes de la 24e promotion de l'Université Méthodiste Épiscopale Africaine (AMEU), Mme Katumu Boakai, Première Dame du Liberia, a encouragé les diplômés à faire preuve de résilience face aux défis actuels et à adopter les réalités contemporaines pour atteindre leurs objectifs futurs.

S'exprimant devant un public enthousiaste mercredi à Royesville, dans le comté de Montserrado, Mme Boakai a partagé son propre parcours, évoquant les obstacles surmontés au cours de sa jeunesse. Elle a exhorté les diplômés à utiliser les connaissances acquises pendant leurs études pour contribuer de manière significative à la croissance et au développement du Liberia. "Les défis sont inévitables, mais il est essentiel de rester résilient dans la poursuite de vos rêves", a-t-elle déclaré. "Aujourd'hui, vous avez le pouvoir de transformer vos diplômes en un moteur de progrès pour notre nation."

Le Révérend Dr Alvin E. Attah, président de l'Université, a quant à lui réaffirmé l'engagement de son administration à promouvoir l'excellence académique, la recherche, l'innovation et l'engagement communautaire. Il a salué le travail de l'équipe pédagogique et du personnel administratif, dont l'innovation continue a permis à l'université de se distinguer à l'échelle internationale.

Le Révérend Attah a également souligné l'importance de l'introduction du système d'apprentissage en ligne (Elearning), une initiative visant à alléger la charge des étudiants et à faciliter leur parcours académique. "L'éducation est en constante évolution, et notre université s'efforce d'apporter des solutions innovantes pour mieux préparer nos étudiants à l'avenir", a-t-il expliqué.

En conclusion, le président a exhorté les diplômés à devenir des ambassadeurs de l'Université AME, en portant les valeurs de l'institution au-delà du campus. "En tant que diplômés, vous avez la responsabilité de contribuer au développement de notre société. Soyez des modèles de professionnalisme et d'intégrité", a-t-il conclu.

Le major de la promotion, Ebenezer Morlia, a pris la parole au nom de ses camarades diplômés. Dans un discours émotif, il a rappelé les défis surmontés tout au long de leur parcours universitaire, soulignant que la résilience et la persévérance avaient été des clés essentielles de leur réussite. "Nous avons fait face à de nombreuses difficultés, mais elles nous ont rendus plus forts et plus déterminés. Nous devons continuer à avancer avec la même énergie et la même détermination, pour surmonter les obstacles qui se dresseront sur notre route", a-t-il affirmé.

### Inauguration d'une unité lutte contre tuberculose à l'hôpital militaire 14

es Forces armées du Libéria (AFL), en partenariat avec le gouvernement des États-Unis, ont inauguré une clinique dédiée à la tuberculose (TB) à l'hôpital militaire 14 de Dauzon, dans le comté de Margibi. Ce nouvel établissement joue un rôle clé dans la lutte contre la tuberculose, tant pour les membres des forces armées que pour la population civile du Libéria.

L'ouverture de cette clinique marque un renforcement de l'engagement des États-Unis à soutenir les infrastructures de santé publique du Libéria. La cérémonie, qui s'est tenue le 12 novembre, a été inaugurée par le colonel Dana, vice-chef d'état-major des AFL, et l'ambassadeur des États-Unis, Mark C. Toner.

« Une armée forte ne se mesure pas uniquement à sa capacité à mener des opérations militaires », a déclaré l'ambassadeur Toner. « Elle incarne aussi l'espoir, la guérison et des soins de qualité pour ceux qui en ont besoin. Avec plus de 300 millions de dollars investis depuis la reconstruction de

l'armée libérienne en 2006, les Etats-

Unis demeurent un partenaire de confiance dans les efforts des AFL pour servir la population libérienne comme une 'force pour le bien'. »

Lors de la cérémonie, les responsables des AFL et des États-Unis ont visité les installations récemment rénovées, d'une valeur de 18 000 dollars, et ont observé les équipements de laboratoire dédiés à la clinique.

Cette clinique permettra non seulement de réaliser des tests de la tuberculose, mais aussi de dispenser un suivi médical dans un environnement sécurisé et spécialisé. Elle illustre également la collaboration étroite entre les États-Unis et le Libéria dans le domaine de la médecine préventive, afin de renforcer la capacité du Libéria à faire face aux urgences

La clinique de la tuberculose servira de centre de traitement centralisé, destiné à toute la population libérienne, offrant des soins accessibles à l'échelle nationale.

Depuis l'ouverture de l'hôpital militaire 14 en septembre 2021, les États-Unis ont fourni un soutien considérable, notamment par le biais de mentors qualifiés, de formations avancées et de ressources supplémentaires. Le Major Albertha Clark, commandant de l'hôpital militaire 14, a salué le soutien continu du gouvernement américain.

« La collaboration entre les AFL et le gouvernement des Etats-Unis a été déterminante pour répondre aux besoins en matière de santé publique du Libéria », a déclaré le Major Clark.

« La rénovation de cette clinique représente une nouvelle étape essentielle dans l'amélioration des services médicaux et dans la protection de la santé des Libériens », a-t-elle conclu.

## ARTICLE

# Inconvenient question: Science is gifting us new HIV prevention tools but is it expanding choices for the people?

technologies that are coming out of the said Jim. scientific research pipelines, are accessible to people everywhere especially those who are more at risk of HIV acquisition. Jim Pickett has and phase-3 studies, and then move to passionately called for translating regulatory approvals and get into the scientific gains into public health market, it would be our first-ever outcomes - not with delay, but with equity and justice.

Currently Jim Pickett serves as a Senior Advisor for AVAC and directs their Choice Agenda programme focussed on HIV prevention research and its implementation. Inconvenient truth

When asked what has changed between 2018 and now, he said: "COVID-19 reshaped our entire world. Traumatizing as it was, it also changed some things for the better, I think, globally. We got better at finding new ways to deliver healthcare. We also learned that we could develop a vaccine quickly and that was a win. But we failed to deliver it equitably in many parts of the world." Jim was speaking with CNS at the 5th HIV Research for Prevention Conference of the International AIDS Society (IAS) in Lima, Peru.

Sadly, equity and justice are not driving our health responses. "We have had some exciting scientific developments in the HIV prevention space. We have cabotegravir- a once-in-two months injection that can prevent HIV. But accessibility is a different issue. It is available in our country, but it is extremely expensive. It is also complex to deliver. So the number of users is very low. It is available, but not accessible for many," he said.

what access will look like. Peru, Brazil, Argentina and Brazil are among the countries that have been left out (from the 120 countries list) by Gilead (makers of lenacapavir) to provide it at reduced costs, despite these 4 countries being part of the clinical study of the drug," he added.

Imagine the injustice: people of countries which participated in the clinical study of lenacapavir for a greater common good, will not be able to get the to be cheap, affordable, and accessible to best of benefits when it comes to its everyone anywhere in the world. We rollout, as of now.

"I am also excited about the tenofovirmedicated rectal douche as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for men who have sex

not meant to sit on the shelf but to HIV. In an early Phase-1 study examining rights-based access - for everyone, given to prevent HIV infection in the 1st be used by the people who need it its safety and acceptability, majority of regardless of their means. So there is a place),"he said. to protect themselves from HIV. We have the participants stated that they would conflict of interest in that relationship. to ensure that new HIV prevention prefer the douche over daily oral PrEP," We need people at the negotiating table

> "If PrEP douche passes through phase-2 which means harnessing a behaviour that accountable," rightly said Jim. people already do," he said.

PrEP is a medication for HIV negative people to protect them from getting infected with HIV.

A choice should be accessible

who want to fix this. So, community involvement from the very beginning is very important. It is about having all hands on deck, I think everyone who is involved- from every community person, organisations, governments, policy makers, funders, pharmaceutical behaviourally congruent intervention, companies, we have to hold them

> not need to be priced over US\$ 40,000 per have a decent job, and are struggling to person per year to be profitable. We are find their next meal. If we can get not asking pharmaceutical companies to someone safely housed, make sure they do this for free, but do they deserve have a full meal, it would help a lot in HIV rewards that are exponentially beyond prevention too all on its own," rightly profit and just so high that it can bankrupt remarks Jim Pickett.

ny new HIV prevention method is behind that provides protection against profit; it is not about money; it is about those very drugs (that could have been

Even in richer nations like USA problems and disparities plague the development response. "There are many HIV programmes for people living with HIV around housing, food security and transportation vouchers. And I am happy for that. I am a person living with HIV, and I am happy to see other programmes that help people who need support. But then there are many people who are HIV negative, and who still are struggling-Take the example of Lencapavir. "It does they do not have good housing, do not

> "People who have HIV prevention as their concern have many other concerns as well, and many times those other concerns are more pressing problems for them- like where am I going to sleep tonight? Am I going to get a meal today? When will I get a job? How am I going to continue my education? These are their priorities, which make them more vulnerable to HIV infection," he added.

> Reducing vulnerability of people to HIV requires society-wide structural interventions and political commitment backed with resources. "We are one whole person, and not separated in compartments," says Jim.

> He is right. All health and development enshrined in promises our governments have made are also contributing towards HIV prevention, support and care. We, the people need to connect the dots and call for integrated development responses that are socially just. Shobha Shukla - CNS (Citizen News Service)

(Shobha Shukla is the award-winning founding Managing Editor and Executive Director of CNS (Citizen News Service) the generic manufacturers who are also justice advocate. She is a former senior Physics faculty of prestigious Loreto Convent College and current Coordinator of Asia Pacific Regional Media Alliance for Health and Development (APCAT Media) and Chairperson of Global AMR Media Alliance (GAMA). She coordinates SHE & Rights Media Initiative (Sexual health with equity and rights). Follow her on



Science is gifting us new HIV prevention tools but is it expanding the choices for the people?

SHOBHA SHUKLA - CNS

Science finds new tools to create new HIV prevention options for people, but then to have success in terms of making it accessible to all so that we can reduce "We now have another long-acting new HIV infection rate, continues to injectable lenacapavir- two shots a year- remain a struggle. "It is like science gets that is on its way to being approved. And you to the top of one Mount Everest and people are calling it game-changing and then we find that there is a second Mount transformative in terms of HIV Everest of 'access' to climb. And that prevention. But it remains to be seen might even be a taller version of the first Mount Everest," rightly said Jim.

> choices that we will have, I am also frustrated that they will not be real choices, unless people can truly access them. There is no change in the game if you cannot get on the field, and there is no 'transforming' anything if that drug looks really good on paper, and then it sits on a shelf, and the people, who really need it, do not have access to it. It needs definitely need to have some strategy for this," he added. We cannot put profit above people's health

"The focus of pharmaceutical companies with men- a douche that provides hygiene is on their shareholders and on making before anal sex, and then leaves the drug money. But public health is not about

health systems? Or make health systems say that it is beyond their financial capacity to pay that kind of money? We cannot bankrupt our health system for one innovation when we have multiple health needs for the community. We cannot subsidise products that are so grossly expensive. We do not know how much the price of lencapavir will be decreased through voluntary licensing by and is a feminist, health and development for-profit companies. So there is a lot to do to make sure that when it moves forward and it gets produced, it is priced "While I am really excited for these new in a way that is affordable for the people," he said.

> PrEP approved in 2012 but many high burden nations yet to roll it out in public Twitter @shobha1shukla or read her programmes there are countries like India writings here www.bit.ly/ShobhaShukla) where even the oral daily PrEP is not in the government programme even 12 years after it was approved in 2012, forget about the long-acting new PrEP products. It is ironical that HIV treatment is free in India, but HIV prevention options like PrEP are not. "So, in a way you are putting people at risk of getting infected with the virus and then offer them lifelong treatment, but not giving them prevention medication for free. What sort of economy is this? If you have HIV, you get

### ourt gives gov't 72-hour ult

NOVEMBER 15 | 2024

A local Court has given the Liberian Government 72 hours him a Guinean national, as being ultimatum to produce the living body of an alleged Guinean falsely circulated by Liberian mercenary who was detained at the country's prison facility.

By Lincoln G. Peters

riminal Court 'A' Judge Roosevelt Willie has given the Liberian Government 72 hours ultimatum to produce the living body of an alleged Guinean mercenary identified as Ibriam Kahli Cheriff.

The judge's decision follows the hearing of a petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed by Khali's lawyers against the government amid reports that the defendant may have disappeared from his

first-degree felony crime in Liberia.

According to Cllr. Ja'neh, Khali's house was raided more than six weeks ago, and he was later committed to the Monrovia Central Prison by a court order.

However, Cllr. Ja'neh further claimed that early Sunday morning on November 3, 2024, between 3 and 4 a.m., Col. Coleman headed a team of



prison cell. Judge Willie said that the state should inform him before the 72 hours can elapse.

A writ of habeas corpus is a court order which demands that a public official deliver an imprisoned person to the court and show good cause for their detention. The writ allows a prisoner to challenge the legality of their confinement.

Last week, former Associate Justice Cllr. Kabineh M. Ja'neh accused Justice Minister Oswald N. Tweh and Police Chief Gregory Coleman of allegedly kidnapping his client, Khalifa Charif (Sheriff). Kidnapping is a security officers and bulldozed their way into the Central Prison compound.

Ja'neh claimed that without any reference to the court, which committed Mr. Khali to detention, the security forces took him away.

Cllr. Ja'neh also said that senior Liberian government National Security Actors ordered his client's removal from Monrovia Central Prison.

"Although my client, Khalifa Charif, spent most of his early childhood in the Republic of Guinea due largely to the Liberian civil conflict, that does not make

state Security officials," Jaineh explained.

According to Cllr. Ja'neh, his client Khali's money was allegedly seized by a joint team of Liberia National Police (LNP) and National Security Agency (NSA) officers who raided his home.

The former Associate Justice alleged that the officers did not present any warrant during the

"To date, the officers who raided Mr. Charif's premises under the instructions of the Inspector General of Police and the Solicitor General, Ministry of Justice, have continued to defy the court's orders to bring to court all of the items seized, including cash and two vehicles," Cllr. Ja'neh said.

This act, according to Cllr. Ja'neh is a concrete demonstration of lawlessness under the Boakai Administration.

Cllr. Ja'neh has vowed to ensure that Mr. Charif is released as ordered by the court without any further delay.

"The demonstrations against police officers will continue, according to Cllr. Ja'neh, until the court's orders releasing Mr. Charif are FULLY COMPLIED WITH," a release issued in Monrovia said.

On Tuesday, October 1, 2024, prosecution lawyers, after being summoned by Judge Willie for failing to present to court oral and documentary evidence seized from the Guinean for reportedly attempting to overthrow the current Guinean President Mamady Doumuyah, brought the pieces of evidence to court. edited by Othello B. Garblah.



NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY



### **PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE**

The National Ports Authority (NPA) announces a Public Auction scheduled for Saturday, November 23, 2024. The auction will involve the disposal of assets in two categories: Scraps and Marine Equipment.

### **Auction Details**

- 1. The Public Disposal Booklet, which contains a list of all auction lots, will be available for purchase from Monday, November 18, 2024, to Saturday, November 23, 2024, at a non-refundable cost of US\$100.00.
- 2. The booklet will be sold in two categories: Scraps and Marine Equipment

### **Important Requirements**

For Heavy Scrap Bidders: You must provide proof of authorization to buy scrap materials and demonstrate your ability to remove the scraps from NPA's premises within the stipulated time frame. Required documents include:

- Business Registration
- Tax Clearance Certificate
- Scrap Broker License or Dealership License

Forms/Letters of Intent: Must be individually enclosed in an envelope and addressed to the Disposal Committee with the specific Lot # (number) of interest clearly indicated. These forms will be provided by the Auction Committee.

### **Auction Process**

- 1. The auction will be conducted via sealed bid. Bids will be evaluated by the Disposal Committee, and the highest bidder for each lot will be declared the winner.
- 2. No sharing of booklets will be allowed. Only one bidder per booklet.
- 3. Sealed Bids: All sealed bids must be submitted into the appropriate boxes at the designated location. Incorrectly submitted bids will be disqualified.

1.Bidders who purchase the auction booklet must assemble at the Alpha Gate 1.Bidders who purchase (Old Transport Office), behind the GT-Bank NPA Compound, to access the (Old Transport Olivering the lots before the auction.

### Important Notes

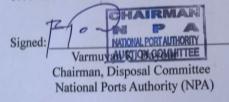
- 1. Tie Bids: If two or more bidders offer the same amount for an item, the tie will be broken by alphabetical order of first names.
- 2. Late Bidders: Late submissions (after 11:15 AM on Saturday, November 23, 2024) will not be accepted.
- 3. Complaint Process: Any complaints must be submitted in writing to the Disposal Committee within 2 hours after the announcement of the winning bid.

Auction Date: Saturday, November 23, 2024

Bidders are not required to be present at the bid opening event.

Note: the items to be auctioned are at the Freeport, Buchanan Port, and Greenville Port.

For more information, please contact the Disposal Committee at: 0777403838/0775210421/0880347277/0776955129



### eria never broke ties with Russia the main opposition Congress for Democratic Change (CDC)

By: Kruah Thompson

onrovia, Liberia, November 15, 2024 - The Government of Liberia clarifies that it has never severed diplomatic relations with Russia since it was established in 1972, noting that the Russian Embassy near Monrovia had been closed as a result of the prolonged civil crisis in Liberia.

On Tuesday, November 14, 2024, local media outlets reported that Russia plans to open an embassy in the country as part of efforts to expand its presence across Africa.

Discussions were reached by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and Liberia's Deputy Foreign Minister for International Cooperation and Economic Integration, Ibrahim Al-bakri Nyei, who addressed attendees at the first Russia-Africa partnership forum on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister Sara Beysolow Nyanti and President Joseph Nyuma Boakai. According to report, Deputy

Minister Nyei, who was eager to

Russia in various areas such as by the government, stating that trade, technical exchange, the decision could harm Liberia's peacebuilding, as well as climate future relationship with the change, insecurity, poverty, and United States. inequality, emphasized that the But Information Minister discussions laid a foundation for Jerolinmek Mathew Piah, says partnerships that could contribute both the news outlets and the to shared prosperity.

However, the Secretary General of

deepen Liberia's collaboration with Jefferson KoiJee, criticized move

CDC are misinformed.



November 8, 2024

### SURVEY NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that the undersigned Registered Land surveyor, had been duly authorized based upon the request of Musa A. Sheriff to conduct a resurvey of a parcel of land that contains three (3) lots of land. This parcel of land is lying and situated at Peace Island, Paynesville, Montserrado County and adjacent Timothy's

The field survey exercise will commence on Saturday the 16th day of November, 2024 at the hour of 11:00Am.

Therefore, all those concerned are asked to be present and on time with all their deeds along with their surveyors to verify their claims as to avoid future land dispute.

Those concerned are:

- 1. Timothy
- 2. Mama K
- 3. Brama Kamara
- 4. The Manager of Amagashie Compound
- 5. Lasana Kamara
- 7. The Nearest Police Station
- 8. The Community Chairman,
- 9. All adjoining property owners

Signed by:

Samuel W. Danway, Jr Regd. Land Surveyor Lic. #075

0777675078/0886579905



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024 VOL. 14 NO. 203

**PRICE LD\$50.00** 

## predicts danger

### liberia-Russia realignment

The CSO has urged the Liberian government to clarify the diplomatic relations with strategic benefits of its new relationship with Russia and how it aligns with Liberia's long-term security and economic goals.

onrovia, November 15, 2024: A grassroots Liberian civil society organization (CSO) has predicted danger in Liberia's "surprising realignment toward Russia" in the long term.

Liberia's surprising realignment toward Russia could introduce complexities that may prove dangerously unfavorable to Liberia in the long term.

According to STAND, Dr. Nyei concerns over recent policy conveyed Liberia's intent statements reportedly made by during the inaugural Ministerial Conference of the Russia-Africa Partnership Forum in Sochi, Russia. "This unexpected diplomatic

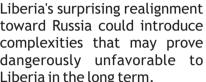
> security and economic future," STAND warned. It pointed to the geopolitical implications of this critical foreign policy reversal and its impact on Liberia's traditional alliances and protocols to which it holds

Russia.

direction.

ranking memberships. "STAND's concerns stem from Liberia's longstanding, vital relationship with the United States and its European partners-alliances that have brought billions of dollars in aid, as well as decades of substantial security and economic guarantees," the

statement said. **CONT'D ON PAGE 7** 



The CSO expressed serious

Solidarity and Trust for a New a Liberian government

Day (STAND) issued a statement in Monrovia dated 13 November, warning that Russia is a state with vested interests and growing influence in the African region.

delegation to Russia.

According to STAND, the Liberian delegation led by Deputy Minister for International Cooperation and Economic Integration, Dr. Ibrahim Nyei, conveyed STAND expressed fears that Liberia's intent to renew



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