



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

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR **BUYING** DATE **SELLING** WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025 L\$190.3339/US\$1.00 L\$188.5880/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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VOL. 14 NO. 237

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025

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Continental News

Sudan shelling kills more than 100 civilians near capital under army control while the RSF holds the capital and part of the greater Khartoum area.

t least 120 people are killed tens of thousands,

Salam area of the Sudanese describes as one of the world's

reported to have been uprooted over 12 million and killed in random pushed the country to the brink shelling on Monday in the Dar- of famine, in what the UN



city of Omdurman, across the worst humanitarian disasters. Nile from the capital, Khartoum, according to a local volunteer network.

The Ombada Emergency Response Room said the death toll was provisional, suggesting that the number of victims could rise.

are running low as health Omdurman. workers struggle to treat large Volunteers and emergency

It began last year after the leadership of the army and a paramilitary force, the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), fell out over the future direction of the country.

The Ombada Emergency Response Room did not specify Rescuers say medical supplies who was behind the attack in

numbers of people with response teams have faced injuries from challenges accessing certain bombardments. Sudan's civil areas because of ongoing war, now 21 months old, has fighting. Most of Omdurman is

of the greater Khartoum area. In the last past few weeks, the army has stepped up its offensive in Omdurman aiming to regain control. The army is reported to have seized three areas and confiscated weapons left behind by the paramilitary forces.RSF fighters are pushing back from positions in two neighbourhoods. Residents on both sides of the Nile have reported shelling across the river, with bombs and shrapnel regularly striking homes and civilians.

"The area has been devastated by prolonged fighting exposing residents to stray bullets and shrapnel striking homes," the Ombada Emergency Response Room said.

Both sides have been accused of targeting civilians, including health workers, and indiscriminate shelling of residential areas.

The recent skirmishes have forced emergency response rooms, which support local communities amid the ongoing conflict, to shut several health centres affecting provision of medical services to thousands of residents.BBC

escuers have spent But now that's not the point. The Tuesday pulling body bags and survivors from a South African mine where scores of illegal miners are still thought to be at least 2km (1.2 miles) underground.

Eighty-two people have surfaced alive from the shaft in Stilfontein since the rescue mission began on Monday, police say, while 36 dead bodies have been retrieved.

On Tuesday, the BBC saw dozens of emaciated miners wearing tattered clothes and no shoes or socks - being escorted to a medical tent.Some of the body bags appeared so light that they were only carried by one person. This story contains a video that some people may find distressing.

The men have been underground since police operations targeting illicit mining started last year across the country. More than 100 of the illegal miners, known locally as "zama zamas", have reportedly died underground since the crackdown on their activities began at the mine

point is that we want to save him. We want him out," she said.

Some of the miners that managed to escape have told Ms Tom that her brother is not well. She hopes he will be one those rescued soon. Ms Tom describes her brother as quiet and private, adding: "I need to be strong for him, because I can't be weak now. He needs me more than ever."

The mood among the relatives outside the mine turned sour when a convoy carrying Mineral Resources Minister Gwede Mantashe and the police minister arrived at the site. The government has been criticised

for taking a hard line on the illegal miners by blocking their food and water supplies. They also shut off all but one of the mine's exits. Last week a court ordered the government to facilitate a rescue

operation that had been longdelayed. The authorities have defended their robust response to the miners and in a press conference outside the mine Mantashe said the "fight

intensified. "It's a crime against the economy, it's an attack on the economy," he

against illegal mining" should be



Nigerians mourn woman allegedly beheaded by gospel singer igerians on social media Investigations into the incident

are mourning the death of are ongoing, the police said. allegedly beheaded by a man Nigerian government to reported to be her boyfriend in thoroughly investigate and Nasarawa state.

Police arrested Timileyin Ajayi, her death. a gospel singer, on Sunday with A friend of the deceased, Abby the severed head of his victim, Simon, told BBC Pidgin that it 24-year-old Salome Adaidu, near was a sad experience for Ms a church.

carrying the head in a bag which She said the mother had fainted drew attention from other from the shock of losing her people who accosted him before daughter. She also said the police took over and arrested him.

Other dismembered parts of the deceased's body were alleged to be have been recovered later in his home.Mr Ajayi has not commented on the allegations.

"The suspect was found with a fresh human head, and when we got to the scene, we rescued him from being mobbed," Nasarawa police spokesman Ramhan Nansel was quoted by the Punch news website as saying. The deceased was identified as a member of the National Youth Service Corps who was serving in the federal capital, Abuja.

a woman who was Ms Adaidu's family has urged the prosecute those responsible for

Adaidu's mum who lost her He is alleged to have been husband only seven months ago.

deceased was not in a relationship with the suspect.

"Nobody deserves to die this way. Even if she was his girlfriend, she didn't deserve to die this way," she said. The deceased's sister, Patience Adaidu, told local TV outlet News Central that she was disappointed at the way the police were handling the case and called for help from Nigerians.

"Police have not given us any information about my sister... They have not answered our questions... We demand justice, we need help from Nigerians."

year.

The authorities however, have is yet to be "verified by an official source", a spokesperson told the BBC.Relatives and community members have been protesting at the mining site, armed with placards urging the authorities to rescue the miners.

They look weary and tell the BBC on Tuesday that they have tired of speaking to the media.Zinzi Tom explained that her 29-year-old brother, Ayanda, went down the mine in June because he was unemployed and wanted to make a living.

"We questioned whether he should do it, but he's of age,

he can do whatever he wants.

some 145km (90 miles) south- said. Sanco, a national umbrella west of Johannesburg last body for NGOs, has been sending volunteers down the shaft with the rescue teams and advocating for not confirmed this figure as it the miners. "We had initially requested that we take out the dead bodies first, so that we avoid a situation where they decompose to an extent that their families cannot identify them anymore, because these are the dead bodies which have been there for quite some time," Sanco provincial spokesperson Mzukisi Jam told the BBC.He added that they are also prioritising getting out the very sick and have sent some food and water down the shaft. On Monday, disturbing videos emerged showing the dire situation at the disused gold mine. In one of the films, which the BBC has not independently verified, corpses wrapped in makeshift body bags can be seen. A second shows the emaciated figures of some mine<u>rs who are still alive.</u>

EDITORIAI

We need the donation from the AU

he Government of Liberia seems to be dragging its feet in providing transportation funding for logistical equipment donated by the African Union to the Armed Forces of Liberia. The AFL faces serious logistical challenges and needs the donation so badly to enhance its mobility and service-delivery capacity to the state.

But the government, under Commander-In-Chief President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, seems to be moving at a very slow pace in providing US\$1.3 million to transport equipment valued at about US\$20 million from Cameroun to Liberia for its military.

The donation includes military vehicles, earth-moving machines, fire trucks, and other essential assets left| over from AU peacekeeping missions that are useful for Liberia and could go a very long way in boosting operational functions of the Armed Forces of Liberia.

But it is lingering at the AU's Continental Logistics Base | in Douala, Cameroon, according to Chief of Staff of the | Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) Brigadier General| Davidson F. Forleh, who appears to be restless in knocking on every door in the government for the US\$1.3 million transportation cost to have it in the country.

Liberia seems to be behaving in a manner that we say here that you gave a man to a woman, and then he looks | up to you for a mattress. The government of President Boakai should source funding immediately to have the equipment transported to the country; it is vital for our security sector, especially the military.

We believe that further delays could be dangerous, as | other countries could take advantage of the opportunity if we failed to act urgently as a country. We cannot be lackluster about everything and expect to move ahead in this contemporary era.

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By George Papaconstantinou, Jean Pisani-Ferry

Global Cooperation in the Age of Trump

What will another Trump presidency mean for preferences. global cooperation? What hope is there for economic interdependence?

global governance as an obstacle to American targets, and galvanize civil society. primacy. Rather than adhering to principles tariffs.

aberrant expression of a fundamental shift in with Latin America's Mercosur countries). US attitudes toward global leadership. With analysis of the Great Depression: the crisis behavior that is merely undesirable. reflected not only Britain's relative loss of power but also America's unwillingness to assume the mantle of global leadership.

other things - while bearing responsibility for whopping 44% of World Bank loans last year. global monetary and financial stability. This implies providing dollar liquidity to partner To preserve the international financial safety open when global demand is low.

and diverse for any single country to dominate. various middle powers. Though America remains the sole financial responsibilities.

Fortunately, not all problems require Global Cooperation in a World of Geopolitical and more fragmented terrain.

ARIS - With Donald Trump's presidential Rivalries, we analyze governance arrangements inauguration approaching, the mood in across a variety of policy domains - from the Brussels and across European capitals global commons to traditional economic ranges from panic to resignation, with many interdependence and what we call "behind-thehoping that a transactional modus vivendi border integration" issues. In each case, the might be found. But ad hoc dealmaking will not goal is to salvage collective action in a world answer the big question hanging in the air: defined by fragmentation and divergent

collective efforts to safeguard global public On climate, the most emblematic - even goods such as the climate and public health, existential - global commons, the US is likely to and to preserve prosperity by upholding repeat its withdrawal from the 2015 Paris agreement (which the Biden administration rejoined). But the US is a secondary player here, Trump's election is undoubtedly bad news for accounting for only 13% of global emissions, and those who believe that we all have a duty to many US state-level emissions-reduction efforts the global commons, and that will continue. Moreover, the European Union interdependence must be managed with clear, and China could jointly provide the necessary stable, and consistent rules. Trump is a die-leadership to rally big emerging economies, hard nationalist who fundamentally regards mobilize private financing toward net-zero

and rules, his approach is wholly transactional. On international trade, the main channel of He has already threatened Canada and Mexico economic interdependence, Trump's tariffs with trade tariffs unless they stop fentanyl and could be the final nail in the coffin of the migrants from entering the United States, as multilateral rules-based regime. He will well as warned the nine BRICS countries that attempt to divide European countries by any attempt to create a rival to the dollar will differentiating tariffs to punish or blackmail be met with harsh retaliation and told Europe individual governments. Still, Europe can resist to buy more oil and gas from the US or face by maintaining a united front (along with the United Kingdom). That would allow it to offer Trump a deal that includes energy and defense Worse, there is good reason to think that purchases, retaliate effectively, or form Trump is not a temporary aberration, as US coalitions with third countries (hence the President Joe Biden said in 2020, but rather an importance of the EU's recent trade agreement

In any case, it has become apparent that America tiring of its longstanding role at the prevailing multilateral trade rules are too helm of the international community, the demanding for a fragmented world. The EU world has come to a crossroads. Recall should liaise with key partners to distinguish economic historian Charles Kindleberger's behavior that is truly unacceptable from

On macro finance, the other main channel of international economic interdependence, the trend toward deglobalization began some time Since World War II, however, the US has fully ago. While the institutions at the core of the embraced that role - one that combines system (the International Monetary Fund and exorbitant privileges with outsize duties. the World Bank) remain robust, Trump could use America reaps enormous benefits from the US America's veto power to change their policies dollar's global supremacy - which provides on a range of issues, not least climate mitigation international seigniorage revenues, among and adaptation - which accounted for a

central banks in times of monetary stress (as in net, Europe should focus on the 2008-10) and keeping the US goods market complementarities between regional institutions. But to foster constructive cooperation, it will need to accept that its role But the US no longer accepts this implicit in the main global organizations should be contract, and today's world is too fragmented diluted to accommodate the rise of China and

superpower (with a near \$60 trillion stock- Beyond these core policy areas are behind-themarket capitalization, against China's \$9.5 border integration matters such as competition, trillion, and an even larger lead in innovative banking, and tax governance, where market segments), it no longer wants the widespread acceptance of extraterritoriality obligations that come with leadership. and informal networks can produce desirable Europe's declining demographic and economic results even in the absence of hard rules. Tax weight have effectively eliminated it from the cooperation seems unlikely to survive another running. AndChina is too inward-looking to Trump administration, at least as far as become the next hegemon. It may be the multinationals are concerned; but some world's manufacturing superpower technical discussions and processes could still (accounting for 35% of global production), but continue below the radar. A more incremental, it is a long way from assuming global granular approach may be the best way to preserve the progress that has been made to

leadership from a single dominant country. In $\;\;$ On all these issues and more, policymakers will the third decade of the twenty-first century, have to adapt to a world in which no single the world must move to new arrangements power is in charge. That requires defining, for whereby global responsibilities are more each field, which forms of global governance widely distributed. In New World New Rules: are best suited to an irreversibly more diverse

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By Mohamed A. El-Erian



Let the Capitol Building Fire suspects be held accountable

uspects of the December 18, 2024, arson attack on Capitol Building should be held accountable has been the cry of every peace-loving Liberian since the fire incident on Capitol Hill. The move will serve as a deterrent to those emboldened by impunity to stop their attacks on the nation's fragile democracy, most Liberians angered by this display of irresponsible greed for power have said.

It appears this call to bring the fire suspects to book is gaining traction, and rightfully so. The arson attack clearly exposed the actual intention of people, including some lawmakers, who mobilized citizens to protest at the Capitol against the removal of embattled Speaker J. Fonati Koffa.

Despite repeated advice from the international community, it is a shame that Liberians, especially those at the echelon of power who should know better, would conduct themselves in such a manner that even rebel soldiers who fought during the country's three decades of the civil war did not-attacking national assets such as the Capitol Building.

Last week, authorities at the Liberia National Police confirmed widely held public perception that the fire outbreak at the Capitol Building, the seat of the Liberian Legislature, was an arson attack. "From the day that incident occurred and based on the expertise on the ground, we knew that the occurrence was consistent with that of arson," Police Inspector General Col. Gregory Coleman said.

According to Col. Gregory Coleman, the confirmation was an outcome of a joint investigative effort of the LNP and officers of the Liberia National Fire Service with forensic experts from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Liberia National Petroleum Company (LPRC).

Although Col. Coleman revealed during the briefing that the government had invited foreign experts to investigate the evidence, he quickly added that the unnamed foreign experts would agree with their preliminary findings.

Late last year, fire gutted the Rotunda of the Capitol Building here early Wednesday morning, December 18. The Rotunda is the Joint Chambers of the Liberian Legislature. Until what has now been confirmed as an arson attack, it was being used by members of the majority bloc from the House of Representatives who had at the time refused to sit under the gavel of embattled House Speaker J. Fonati Koffa.

Weeks before the arson attack, unidentified individuals entered the same joint chamber and removed all chairs with no report of arrest. Other uncouth behaviors were displayed, such as throwing tear gas into the chambers while the majority of members held their session.

It was in the wake of these activities amidst the unresolved political turmoil between members of the majority bloc led by Representative Richard N. Koon on the one hand and a minority bloc headed by embattled Speaker Koffa that the fire incident occurred.

A day after the incident, Col. Coleman announced the arrest of 73 persons who were part of an Antti-government demonstration at the Capitol a day before the fire incident, and a dozen others considered persons of interest among them was Representative Frank Saah Foko.

A day before the fire incident, the Montserrado County District #9 Representative Foko had announced on Spoon Talk that he was reporting for work at the Capitol and would be accompanied by his people from the district.

Also among the arrested individuals were security officers who were present on duty the night of the arson. Some were immediately released based on the information provided.

In this case, the public expects nothing less than accountability at the highest level if the country and its people are to be taken seriously, regardless of political persuasions.

Liberia is a country of law, and as such, this should be demonstrated. The country cannot progress in an environment where uncouth individuals with state power continue to undermine the very democratic process that brought them to stardom in the first place.

No one is above the law, and this is why these suspects should be made to account for their actions against the Liberian people. If it is established that sitting lawmakers were behind this arson, they should be barred from holding public office for life.



Shock-Proofing the UK Economy

AMBRIDGE - The British government was right to describe the recent bout of market volatility in the United Kingdom as having been fueled → principally by "global factors" - in particular, a sharp rise in US bond yields. It was also right in touting how well UK markets have coped with the turmoil. But no one should downplay the additional challenges the UK economy will confront in the months ahead, the structural weaknesses that are compounding its vulnerability, or the policy action that is urgently needed.

The recent surge in US yields has three main causes: a string of data releases indicating that actual and potential economic growth are outpacing consensus estimates, higher-than-projected inflation (together with a meaningful rise in consumers' inflation expectations), and increased market sensitivity to the bond issuance that comes with large deficits and debt. Given that advanced economies compete for funding from global investors, it should be no surprise that higher US yields caused borrowing costs in most other countries to rise as well.

This effect was particularly pronounced in the UK, with ten-year government bond yields rising faster than yields in the US and, by a much larger margin, those in the eurozone. They will not fall significantly anytime soon; they could even rise further. The result will be higher borrowing costs for companies, households (including through mortgages), and the government - a development that will undermine GDP growth.

But there is more: despite these higher yields, the British pound has endured a pronounced depreciation. This development - which one is more likely to see in developing countries than in advanced economies - can intensify inflationary pressures. As a result, fears of stagflation are growing, even though the moves in foreign-exchange markets were relatively orderly.

The combination of higher yields and a weaker currency presents a particularly thorny challenge, because it impedes the government's ability to mount a fiscaland monetary-policy response. Higher debt costs eat up tax revenues, shrinking the government's fiscal headroom and, potentially, raising the need for spending cuts, tax hikes, and/or increased borrowing. The inflationary effect of a weaker currency makes the Bank of England more hesitant to cut interest rates.

Beyond the immediate economic outlook looms a long-standing cause for concern. Though Prime Minister Keir Starmer's government has been working to improve productivity, foster investment, and promote durably faster growth, the British economy remains beset by long-term structural weaknesses that leave it exposed to external shocks. If anywhere in the world sneezes, the UK is at risk of catching a cold.

All this has fueled a decidedly, and often excessively, unflattering image of the UK economy. The perception that it is a mire of sluggish growth, anemic productivity and investment, deteriorating public services, high deficits, and large debts will be difficult to dislodge. In fact, as price movements and analyst commentary alike make clear, markets are not giving the government enough credit for its handling of the economic and budgetary mess it inherited.

Against this backdrop, Starmer's government needs to do a better job of communicating what it is already doing to improve UK economic conditions - and it must do more. Messaging must be consistent, and it must address head-on the widespread, long-held, and excessive skepticism about the UK's economic situation. And policy action must be timely and broad-based. While there is no magic bullet that would transform Britain's economic outlook, a wide range of measures - extending beyond housing and planning to address more comprehensively infrastructure, research and development, innovation, skill accumulation, and labor retraining - can make a difference.

Strengthening trade linkages would also help. Current political and geopolitical realities suggest that these efforts might have to focus more on Europe and the US, and less on China.

Together, such policies can reach a kind of critical mass, at which point the UK could pull back decisively from the brink of a self-reinforcing vicious cycle of rising borrowing costs, currency depreciation, intensifying inflationary pressures, and slowing growth.

No country wants external developments to worsen its economic and financial outlook and, at the same time, erode its policy flexibility. That is especially true of the UK today, given the cyclical and structural challenges it faces. But rather than view recent market volatility exclusively negatively, the government has an opportunity to frame it as a moment to improve the public's understanding of what it is already doing to improve the economic outlook and to accelerate and expand its efforts.

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OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

TEMPLE OF JUSTICE

MONROVIA, LIBERIA

JUDICIAL BRANCH

SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA

OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

TEMPLE OF JUSTICE

MONROVIA, LIBERIA

QUANTITY BID SECURITY

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING INVITATION FOR BID FOR Cleaning Materials

DATE: December 24, 2024

IFB NO.JUD/SBA//NCB/002/2025

- The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2025 national budget for the procurement of Cleaning Materials. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers of Cleaning Materials. This invitation for the special procurement notice for this project which appears in two local dailies
- 2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the purchase of the goods described below. Bid submission begins on December 24, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM daily; and the final date of submission is January 28, 2025 @ 1:00 PM for Cleaning

Package: Cleaning Materials

	JUDISBAINCB/002/2025	LOL-1	Cleaning waterials	Assorted	270 OI DIG COSt
3.	Bidding will be conducted th	rough Nationa	Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedure	es as specified in the REPUB	LIC OF LIBERIA Amended an

- Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC Act) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC quidelines A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Printing Materials that can be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the
- Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US \$75.00

Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses

- ((a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry) with the code or another appropriated code Current Tax Clearance Certificate (LRA):
- Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);
- and Telephone Numbers; Updated PPCC vendor registry certificate

DESCRIPTION

- Proof ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents Include Business Activity Code.
- Bid security should be two (2 %) percent of the bid price in the form Bank Guarantee
- Manufacture authorization
- Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501/ 505, Monrovia, Liberia; from Monday - Friday from 9:00 A.M. thru 3:30 P. M.
- All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates including other requested information.

 (1) IFB NO.JUD/SBA/NCB/002/2025 CONFIDENTIAL BID for the purchase of Cleaning Materials for the Judiciary for the Fiscal Year 2025.

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501

- All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest January 28, 2025 @ 1:00 P. M. Moreover, electronic bids will not be accepted and late bids will be rejected
- A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on January 17, 2025 @ 1:00 PM in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #:501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswered
- Sealed bids will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on January 28, 2025 @ 1:00 PM. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission
- 11. Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.





JUDICIAL BRANCH SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING INVITATION FOR BID FOR Stationery Materials

DATE: December 24, 2024

IFB NO.JUD/NCB/001/2025

- The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2025 national budget for the procurement of Stationery. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers of Stationery. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this project which appears in two local dailie
- 2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the purchase of the goods described below. Bid submission begins on December 24, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM daily; and the final date of submission is January 23, 2025 @ 1:00 PM for Stationery

Package: Stationery

IFR NO

JUD/NCB/001/2025 Lot -1 Stationery Assorted 2% of hid cost
JUD/NCB/001/2025 Lot -1 Stationery Assorted 2% of bid cost

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC Act) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC guidelines
- A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Stationery Supplies that can be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US \$100.00
- Qualification requirements include the following ((a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry) with the code or another appropriated code. Current Tax Clearance Certificate (LRA);
 - Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);
 - Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;
 - Updated PPCC vendor registry certificate Proof ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents

DESCRIPTION

- Include Business Activity Code
- Bid security should be two (2 %) percent of the bid price in the form Bank Guarantee Manufacture authorization.
- Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501/505, Monrovia, Liberia; from Monday - Friday from 9:00 A.M. thru 3:30 P. M
- All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates including other requested information (1) IFB NO.JUD/NCB/001/2025 - CONFIDENTIAL BID for the purchase of Stationery for the Judiciary for the Fiscal Year 2025.

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501 MONROVIA, LIBERIA

- All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest January 23, 2025 @ 2:00 P. M. Moreover, electronic bids will not be
- A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on January 17, 2025 @ 12:00 noon in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #:501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswere
- Sealed bids will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on January 23, 2025 @ 2:00 PM. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.
- Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.



Director of Procurement

OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MONROVIA, LIBERIA



NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING **INVITATION FOR BID FOR Printing Materials**

DATE: December 24, 2024

- IFB NO.JUD/SBA//NCB/001/2025
- The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2025 national budget for the procurement of Printing Materials. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers of Printing Materials. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this project which appears in two local dailies.
- 2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the purchase of the goods described below. Bid submission begins on December 24, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM daily; and the final date of submission is January 23, 2025 @ 1:00 PM for Printing

Package: Printing Materials

IFB NO.		DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
JUD/SBA/NCB/001/2025	Lot -1	Printing Materials	Assorted	2% of bid cost

- Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC Act) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC guidelines
- 4. A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Printing Materials that can be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US \$75.00
- Qualification requirements include the following:
 - Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry) with the code or another appropriated code

Current Tax Clearance Certificate (LRA); Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs); Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses

- and Telephone Numbers: Updated PPCC vendor registry certificate
- Proof ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents Include Business Activity Code Bid security should be two (2 %) percent of the bid price in the form Bank Guarantee
- Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501/ 505, Monrovia, Liberia; from Monday – Friday from 9:00 A.M. thru 3:30 P. M
- All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates including other requested information (1) IFB NO.JUD/SBA/NCB/001/2025 - CONFIDENTIAL BID for the purchase of Printing Materials for the Judiciary for the Fiscal Year 2025.

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501 MONROVIA, LIBERIA

- All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest January 23, 2025 @ 1:00 P. M. Moreover, electronic bids will not be accepted and late bids will be rejected
- A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on January 17, 2025 @ 11:00 AM in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #:501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unans 10. Sealed bids will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on January 23, 2025 @ 1:00 PM. All potential bidders are
- asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission 11. Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.

Director of Procurement

Starts From Page 11

PYJ promised to

surprise without discussion and preparedness, and he never trusted Senator Johnson's statement. However, the VP adds that when the issue got to the press, he didn't confirm it because Senator Johnson could flip-flop; therefore, he was careful.

"But, I didn't know Senator Johnson was serious about this. Senator Johnson, as we all know, is a chicken, and when he crows, no other person should crow. Now, why does he want me to be his leader? Later, when we got to Ganta City, Senator Johnson cast the white ballot and said that he was old and Senator Koung would take it from there and continue. After that, we got to Monrovia, and I got a call from former Vice President and now President Joseph N. Boakai."

He says President Boakai told him that he wanted to meet with him, and when they met, the now President told him that he needed his support for the Presidency, which he (Koung) promised to give, but first, he would discuss with PYJ, noting that when he told the late Senator, that former Vice President Boakai called him and asked for his support, the late Johnson agreed that they should support Boakai for the Presidency but that he (PYJ) had not spoken with Boakai since 2017 and so, he needed his number to start conversation.

"I gave his number, and Senator Johnson called him about three times, but he didn't answer, so it's like he has been angry with him since 2017. Later, they both spoke, and he was upfront and said, take my son, and we will support you. President Boakai is someone who likes to do things, and nobody should push him. And said, senator, I heard you, but I will make my decision." Koung further narrates his journey to the Vice Presidency.

He adds that after the conversion, President Boakai called him, and he (Koung) promised to support him, but he never had any idea of becoming Vice President, but that was the late Senator Johnson's quest because PYJ was someone who didn't beat around the bush with diplomacy on what he wanted.

"Senator Johnson called the Nimba Kwardo people and cried, begging them to support me. 2017, we all know the story; Senator Johnson is somebody who, when you are in Kakata now, called him and say I have your 5k. He will come for it. Millions were made available to him. He said no. This is a mission; I will complete this mission, and if I die, I will die a happy man. There are videos of some of the things I am saying. We went to every village and town in Nimba, and I am here today. Senator, thank you," he expresses his gratitude as he ends his tribute to the man who influenced him to ascend to the second highest seat of the land.

Meanwhile, all roads to the economic district of Ganta, Nimba County, birthplace of the late Sen. Johnson, where he will be interred following

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Dr. Conteh denies mismanaging funds at UL

2025

Former interim president of the University Liberia, Dr. Al-Hassan Conteh, dismisses allegations of mismanagement.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah of the University of Liberia (UL), clarifies. Dr. Al-Hassan Conteh, firmly The University's 2024 budget, denies allegations that his amounting to over US\$33 administration mismanaged over million, was largely controlled

to identify infrastructure onrovia, Liberia, January deficits, prepare budgets, and 15, 2025 - The immediate present recommendations to ▼ former Acting President the government," Dr. Conteh

US\$34 million intended for by the Ministry of Finance and



renovation of the UL campuses. In a recent interview at the UL Dr. Conteh explained that 80 Convocation, and launch of Fendall Campus, Dr. Conteh percent of this budget was UL's first doctoral programs in provided a comprehensive allocated to personnel costs, biomedical sciences and public explanation regarding his tenure including faculty salaries, health. and the University's financial while the remaining 20% was Additionally, Dr. Conteh's challenges.

reports, no fund were allocated maintenance and fuel. He buses for Straz-Sinje campus in to the UL during his time as highlight financial challenges Grand Cape Mount County, with Acting President.

"During my tenure, the that for the past nine years, the endowment managed by the University of Liberia did not "UL had received minimal Trustees of Donations for receive any renovation funds. My operational funding, with a responsibility, along with the significant portion of its budget Interim Management Team, was earmarked for salaries. As a

Development Planning.

result, payments to part-time instructors were often delayed", he explains.

Regarding renovation efforts, Dr. Conteh says that an assessment carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Works, estimated that \$13.1 million would be required to renovate the UL's various campuses, including \$3.92 million for building renovation and \$9.25 million for construction of concrete access roads. However, he reiterates that no fund was disbursed for these projects during his interim leadership.Despite lack of renovation funds, Dr. Conteh outlines several achievements under his interim leadership from July 2024 to January 2025.

These include plan for resumption of academic activities after months of disruptions, successful graduation of 2,685 students at the 104th Commencement

used for basic operational administration facilitated He says contrary to media needs such as facility procurement of two 17-seater faced by the university, noting funding from the university's

CONT'D ON PAGE 7

Sembehun Community welcomes Eco Guesthouse

Bv: Naneka A. Hoffman

he United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the Environment Protection Agency (EPA) has officially handed over a newly constructed eco-guesthouse with solar installation to authorities of Grand Cape Mount County and Mutamu Women Group of Sembehun.

Performing the handover recently, the Paramount Chief of Tombey District, Haji A. Sombai says the facility will create jobs for residents and improve household incomes.

He praised the Liberian government and UNDP for the initiative that he described "a legacy for the Sembehun Community", while appealing for similar development to be extended to other communities.

For his part, UNDP Resident Representative Mr. Aliou Dia, hailed the people of Sembehun community for their commitment and reaffirmed UNDP's support to empowering women and youth. Mr. Dia noted that UNDP remains supportive of furnishing the facility.

EPA Chief Technical Advisor, Benjamin S. Karmorh, Jr., reiterates government's facilities, tour mangrove areas,

opted for an eco-guesthouse to boost their economy. The Women's Organization of Sembehun also known as Mutamu, provided the land to build the guesthouse as a sign of commitment and willingness to the process.

Residents and leaders agreed to the architectural design for the guesthouse and the demolition of an unfinished structure on the land.

UNDP says this initiative marks commitment to strengthening sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, and biodiversity at the national and community levels, being environmentally friendly and energy-efficient, and supporting institutions and policies. The project will also support Sembehun's women-led initiatives, allowing women to take leadership roles in critical economic endeavors, showcasing their capabilities, and fostering confidence. It will also stimulate local livelihood income and attract tourists seeking unique eco-tourism experiences.

The solar-powered ecoguesthouse cost over a hundred thousand United States dollars. Tourists will access the



Liberia selected for Mission 300 electrification program

The joint World Bank and African Development Bank "Mission 300" initiative emphasizes investments in energy generation, transmission, distribution, regional interconnection, and sector reforms.

selected as one of 15 their various countries.

over 300 million Africans by consumers in Africa. 2030. It seeks to accelerate On Tuesday, Liberia's Finance electrification in Sub-Saharan Minister Augustine Kpehe Africa by promoting diversified, cleaner energy sources to meet growing demand, foster economic growth, and create jobs.

The initiative emphasizes investments in energy generation, transmission, distribution, regional interconnection, and sector reforms to ensure reliable and affordable power supply across

As part of the program, each participating country will develop an "energy compact," a detailed plan outlining their

onrovia, January 15, strategies to increase and 2025: Liberia has been improve electricity access in

African countries to benefit In Western and Central Africa. from the World Bank's and Liberia joins Sierra Leone, Togo, African Development Bank's and Chad as beneficiaries joint initiative, "Mission 300." focusing on increasing will travel to Tanzania in The program aims to provide renewable energy capacity to February 2025, to attend the affordable, reliable, and deliver cheaper, grid-connected Summit. sustainable electricity access to electricity to millions of He added that the summit will

Ngafuan addressed a press conference providing updates on the program.

He disclosed that President Joseph Boakai, along with delegates from the Ministry of Mines and Energy, Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC), Rural Electrification Agency, and private sector representatives,

bring together leaders of the 15

CONT'D ON PAGE 7



and the people of Sembehun. Karmorh urges community an eco-tourism experience. kill animals in the water.

The project represents a significant step toward communities, and women-led community empowerment, sustainable tourism, and economic development in the sub-region. It is expected to their development, and benefit over one thousand (1,035) people living near Lake support inclusive and Piso. It also aims to empower the sustainable growth. community to take ownership of initiative follows a feasibility study and engagement with residents about income generation needed for communities around Lake Piso to preserve protected areas

readiness to work with partners and travel to surrounding beaches by kehkeh and boat for

dwellers to preserve protected This Public-Private Partnership area along Lake Piso and (PPP) project inspired by UNDP, cautioned against use of showcases the power of explosive chemicals that would collaboration between development partners, government agencies, local organizations. It is a testament to what can be achieved when communities take ownership of partners work together to

The UNDP Energy & the property and promote Environment Programme aims entrepreneurship. This to promote sustainable development by supporting community-led projects that balance economic growth with environmental conservation. Press Release

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Take politics out of Education

2025

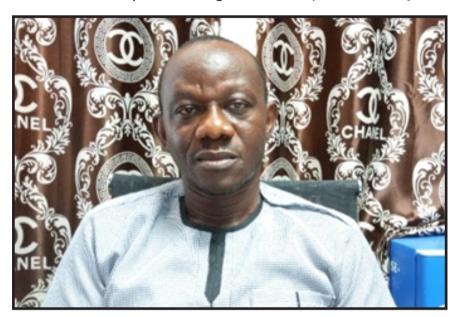
SE Proiect Coordinator Kiazolu A Liberian educator wants politics separated from education.

By Naneka A. Hoffman

■of Education, Mr. Abraham education in Liberia.

ead Coordinator of the grant in 2018, has significantly become commercial motorbike IRISE Project at the Ministry contributed to enhancing riders.

particularly politicians, to initiative, teachers have been the classroom, while appealing



Education Officers (CEOs) and necessary qualifications and District Education Officers skills are assigned to classrooms, (DEOs) if the country's education emphasizing "Not everyone who sector is to achieve meaningful graduates from college is fit to transformation.

In an exclusive interview on He reveals that studies January 14, 2025, Mr. Kiazolu conducted across various stressed that appointments in education districts showed a the education sector should be lack of high schools and based on merit, rather than increasing student population in political influence.

He says that assigning Mr. Kiazolu, explains that since positions jeopardizes coordinators in government-run development of said sector.

He highlights that the Improving substantial increase in Results in Secondary Education enrollment of girls than (IRISE) Project, funded by the compared to boys.

appointment of County ensuring that only those with teach."

many areas.

unqualified individuals to key the deployment of gender schools, there has been a

However, Mr. Kiazolu points out that a growing number of boys, particularly in rural areas, are World Bank with a US\$40 million dropping out of school to

He calls for innovative strategies A. Kiazolu, urges stakeholders, He notes that through this to encourage boys to return to refrain from politicizing trained in specialized subjects, to the Liberian government and the Ministry of Education to collaborate with the World Bank to extend the IRISE Project's programs. Meanwhile he emphasizes that the IRISE Project focuses on improving senior secondary education (grades 10-12) through innovative approaches that enhance access, teaching quality, and system development in a resourceconstrained environment.

> He mentions that the project comprises six key components: Improving teaching in senior secondary education; closing access gap in secondary education, and increasing completion prospects for girls.

> Others include leveraging technology for learning and digital skills, capacity building, technical assistance, and program coordination.

The IRISE Lead Coordinator said his institution is instrumental in supporting the project by providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Education and universities.

He reiterates the importance of depoliticizing education to ensuring that qualified personnel lead the sector to guarantee its transformation and sustainability. Editing by Jonathan Browne

Public Works is firm on enforcing zoning laws

The Ministry of Public Works takes a firm stance here, in enforcing zoning laws and regulating construction across Liberia.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

inister Roland Layfette Giddings emphasizes that the Ministry will no longer tolerate unauthorized constructions, especially in alleys, and is committed to clearing these areas to improve accessibility in cities. Giddings, in providing a general infrastructure plan for 2025, made it clear that anyone building without necessary approvals will face consequences, including stop orders or demolitions, especially if construction violated established standards.

The Ministry is actively working with local governments and the police to ensure that these rules are enforced without exception. Giddings also reveals that a new, more comprehensive zoning law has been submitted to the legislature, which aims to bring clarity and consistency to urban planning.

The Ministry's focus for the year

construction does not meet the standard required, we are going to take it down or bring you to the table and see how we can help you fix it".

"One of the things we are doing is to be able to investigate documentations including deeds. Our legal people will assess your deed and get to the point whether you are in the ally and give you time to relocate. Now, if you do not relocate in the specified period, we are going for demolition. Nothing can stop that."

He further emphasizes that no one, regardless of status, would be exempt from these regulations, and even highranking individuals or government officials would not be able to intervene.

The Ministry of Public Works is resolved to enforce zoning laws strictly to create more organized, accessible cities, with the full backing of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, according to Minister Giddings.



is on road construction and improving infrastructure, but it is also addressing legal aspects of property ownership, ensuring that buildings align with zoning laws, and requiring compliance with permits.

he emphasized, "If a infrastructure across Liberia.

"Public Works gets the President's blessing and I said to him that, Mr. President, I know you will not call me. And if you will not call me to say stop, no one else will call me", he notes. The works ministry is Speaking in an interview on responsible for planning, January 14, 2025 in Monrovia, building, and maintaining public

Starts From Page 6

Liberia colocted for Mission ringlig Zeibeibn int Mi22inii According to him, the delegation

selected countries to commit to concrete reforms and plans to attract public and private investments in energy access. "President Boakai and the delegation will present Liberia's energy compact, which outlines how we plan to significantly increase electricity generation, distribution, and transmission from the current 33% to between 80% and 95% by 2030," Minister Ngafuan stated.Highlighting recent developments, Ngafuan mentioned the World Bank Vice President for West and

Central Africa, Ousman

Diagana, and the Delegation

visiting Liberia recently.

visited the 90-megawatt solar plant for which President Joseph Nyuma Boakai broke ground a few months ago. He pointed out that they are also thinking about potential investments in projects such as the St. Paul River hydropower plant to further expand the nation's energy infrastructure. "So why we are on this path of

development, we did not say that there will be no challenges and that we will not have the situation," Minister Ngafuan said. With the support of programs like Mission 300, he noted that the government is confident in achieving its energy goals and

driving economic growth.

Govt. launches Developmen lan todav

The Government of Liberia launches its ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development here today.

By Kruah Thompson

onrovia, Liberia, January tourism. and Development Planning officially launches the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID) and the County Development Agendas (CDAs) today January 15, 2025 in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County.

The Arrest Agenda for Inclusive Development, which was developed through extensive consultations with stakeholders from all 15 counties in 2024, is a national development policy that seeks to prioritize welfare of Liberians.

The Agenda focuses on six major pillars, including critical and essential areas such as agribusiness, roads and infrastructure, rule of law and governance, education and human capital, sanitation, and

Government of Liberia from 2025 to 2029 with focus on be going for the next five years", through the Ministry of Finance identifying aspirations, needs, Minister Ngafuan says. and challenges of the Liberian He indicates that the launch will people.

> Making the disclosure at MICAT regular press briefing Tuesday, January 14, 2025, Finance Minister Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan revealed that the plan is

going to cost about US\$8.4 Billion, and that any budget appropriation for this 2025 fiscal year will be guided by it.

"Any budget appropriation in 2025 will be guided by the plan, and the scope of this plan will 15, 2025 - The The document is expected to run determine were the country will

> be graced by President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, leaders from 15 counties, executives of the World Bank and alongside other national development partners.



rançals

Je serai à Nimba" déclare l'exprésident George Weah, fils de Nimba

George Weah a **■**annoncé, ce lundi, qu'il se rendrait aux funérailles de l'ancien sénateur du comté de Nimba, Prince Johnson, une figure emblématique et un héros respecté par ses compatriotes.

WEDNESDAY

'ex-président libérien refus de tendre la main au vice- Nimba, je serai là », a-t-il président Koung et à d'autres membres de la région, George Weah a réaffirmé sa détermination à assister à la cérémonie funéraire de l'ancien sénateur.

> S'exprimant devant la presse à Capitol Hill, après avoir signé le livre de condoléances pour

déclaré, avant d'ajouter : « Je suis un ancien sénateur et ancien président de la République, et je dois être présent pour rendre hommage à un homme qui a servi ce pays. »

Ces déclarations interviennent après des rumeurs selon lesquelles M. Weah aurait envisagé de ne pas assister aux funérailles en raison de critiques liées à un incident en novembre 2024. Lors de sa première visite au domicile de la famille de l'ex-sénateur Johnson pour exprimer ses condoléances, M. Weah avait évité de serrer la main du vice-président Koung et du député Samuel Kogar, un geste qui avait suscité des controverses.

L'ex-président a depuis défendu son geste, expliquant qu'il n'avait aucune animosité envers le vice-président Koung et que son refus de tendre la main n'était qu'une forme

CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Alors que certains Prince Johnson, M. Weah a mécontentement, menaçant de s'opposer à sa défunt sénateur.

habitants de Nimba ont précisé qu'il se rendrait aux exprimé leur funérailles en tant qu'exprésident du Libéria et allié du

présence, en raison de son « En tant que fils du comté de

Désaccord entre la Présidente Pro-Tempore du Sénat et le personnel concernant les salaires et avantages

oppose les employés du Sénat libérien à la présidente pro-tempore, Nyonblee Kangar-Lawrence, à la suite de différends sur les salaires et avantages liés aux sessions extraordinaires. Lors de l'ouverture officielle de la deuxième session de la 55e législature, le 13 janvier 2024, Mme Kangar-Lawrence a fermement mis en garde l'Association des employés contre toute perturbation illégale ou diffusion de fausses informations.

Les employés avaient, lors d'une recente conference de presse, accusé la présidente pro-tempore de ne pas avoir versé les avantages financiers dus à l'issue de la session extraordinaire.

La riposte de Mme Kangar-Lawrence

En réponse, Mme Kangar-Lawrence a rejeté ces accusations, les qualifiant de fausses et trompeuses. Elle a affirmé que le Sénat ne tolérera plus d'actes de perturbation ou de désinformation.

« Nous informons la direction des employés du Sénat que toute perturbation illégale ou diffusion d'informations erronées visant à discréditer

ne tension palpable l'institution ne sera plus acceptée. Les affirmations selon lesquelles les employés n'auraient pas reçu leurs avantages liés aux sessions extraordinaires sont inexactes. Le président du Comité des Règles, de l'Ordre et de l'Administration (ROA) a été mandaté pour enquêter sur cette affaire et prendre les mesures appropriées », a-t-elle déclaré.

> Paiements et sessions extraordinaires

> Mme Kangar-Lawrence a expliqué que le Sénat avait organisé trois sessions extraordinaires en 2024. Les employés ont été payés pour deux de ces sessions, tandis que le paiement de la dernière session est en cours de traitement. Ce retard est attribué à l'approbation récente du budget national 2025

par le président Joseph N. Boakai.

Elle a exhorté la direction des employés à privilégier le dialogue et la coopération pour résoudre les différends. « Le président du Comité ROA a toujours été disponible et ouvert aux discussions pour traiter les préoccupations légitimes », a-t-elle ajouté.

Rationalisation du personnel et mesures de sécurité

Concernant la gestion des ressources humaines, Mme Kangar-Lawrence a annoncé que, en collaboration avec l'Agence de la fonction publique, 43 employés ont été mis à la retraite.

« Ces employés, ayant servi le



Éditorial

NEW DAWN

Le Libéria doit agir sans délai pour sécuriser la donation de l'Union africaine

Par Daron Acemoglu

Le gouvernement libérien tarde à mobiliser les fonds nécessaires au transport d'équipements logistiques offerts par l'Union africaine (UA) aux Forces armées du Libéria (AFL). Cette donation, d'une valeur estimée à 20 millions de dollars, comprend des véhicules militaires, des engins de chantier, des camions de pompiers et d'autres matériels stratégiques. Ces ressources vitales, capables de renforcer significativement les capacités opérationnelles de l'AFL, restent immobilisées à la Base logistique continentale de l'UA à Douala, au Cameroun.

La somme requise pour assurer leur acheminement au Libéria, fixée à 1,3 million de dollars, n'a toujours pas été débloquée. Le général de brigade Davidson F. Forleh, chef d'état-major des Forces armées, multiplie les appels au gouvernement pour obtenir ce financement crucial, mais l'administration sous la direction du président Joseph Nyuma Boakai semble avancer à un rythme préoccupant face à l'urgence de la situation.

Ce retard met en lumière une certaine négligence qui pourrait avoir des conséquences graves. Si le Libéria ne prend pas rapidement des mesures, d'autres pays pourraient revendiquer ces équipements, compromettant ainsi une opportunité précieuse pour moderniser les capacités de ses forces armées. Une telle inaction constituerait une perte stratégique majeure pour le secteur de la défense, déjà fragilisé par des défis logistiques importants.

Il est impératif que le Libéria accorde une priorité absolue à son secteur sécuritaire. Une armée insuffisamment équipée affaiblit non seulement la défense nationale, mais expose également le pays à des vulnérabilités dans une région où les défis sécuritaires sont croissants. Le Libéria, bien que petit par sa taille, a toujours été reconnu pour son courage et sa résilience. Laisser cette opportunité lui échapper serait un affront à ces valeurs fondamentales.

Selon le général Forleh, les négociations pour cette donation avaient été initiées dès 2018, lorsqu'il représentait le Libéria en tant qu'attaché de défense auprès de l'UA. Aujourd'hui, il revient à la 55 Législature de démontrer la même réactivité dont elle a fait preuve récemment en allouant 1,8 million de dollars pour rénover une section endommagée du bâtiment du Capitole. Les priorités budgétaires doivent refléter les enjeux stratégiques du pays.

Le transport de ces équipements au Libéria représente bien plus qu'une simple opération logistique. Il s'agit d'une opportunité unique de moderniser les Forces armées et de renforcer leur capacité à protéger la souveraineté nationale. Ce soutien logistique est essentiel pour faire des AFL une force véritablement opérationnelle et efficace, capable de relever les défis sécuritaires contemporains.

Dans un contexte mondial marqué par des menaces croissantes et des attentes élevées en matière de sécurité, le Libéria ne peut se permettre d'hésiter. Il en va de l'avenir de ses forces armées, de la sécurité de ses citovens et de l'honneur de la nation. Fin.

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r'ranç

"Je serai à Nimba" déclare l'ex-Starts from page 8

alternative de salutation respectueuse envers un collègue.

« Je n'ai rien contre le vice-président Koung, c'est mon petit frère. Koung aurait dû venir me donner un câlin quand il m'a vu sortir de ma voiture », a-t-il précisé à l'époque.

Cependant, malgré cette clarification, un groupe de Nimbiens, sous la bannière de la « Brigade intellectuelle de sauvetage pour le vice-président Koung et le défunt sénateur Johnson », avait mis en garde contre les conséquences potentielles de la présence de M. Weah à Nimba lors des cérémonies funéraires. Le groupe avait menacé de prendre des mesures à l'encontre de l'exprésident s'il persistait à assister à l'événement.

« Nous ne cherchons pas à interdire l'entrée de M. Weah à Nimba, mais il doit s'abstenir de participer aux funérailles de notre père, car il n'est pas venu nous présenter ses condoléances, mais a choisi d'agir de manière provocante », avait déclaré le groupe en novembre 2024.

Malgré ces menaces, M. Weah a réaffirmé qu'il se rendrait à Nimba ce week-end pour

honorer la mémoire de Prince Johnson.

« Je suis un fils du comté de Nimba. Pourquoi ne serais-je pas là pour rendre hommage à une personne honorable, qui a œuvré pour ce pays ? En tant qu'ex-président et ancien sénateur, il est de mon devoir d'être présent », a-t-il insisté.

L'ex-président a également évoqué ses souvenirs de collaboration avec le sénateur Johnson, soulignant leur amitié et leurs efforts communs au sein de la CEDEAO.

« J'ai eu l'opportunité de travailler avec lui à la CEDEAO, où je dirigeais notre équipe parlementaire. Nous avons travaillé ensemble pour le bien des Libériens et avons mené des campagnes ensemble. Nous étions de très bons amis », a-t-il ajouté.

Les funérailles de l'ex-sénateur Johnson se dérouleront le samedi 18 janvier 2025, après une série d'activités funéraires, qui commenceront mercredi par le départ du cortège funéraire vers le comté de Nimba. Le sénateur Johnson est décédé le 28 novembre 2024 à l'hôpital Women of Hope à **Paynesville**

lgafuan appelle à une gestion igoureuse des dépenses publiques

-Le ministre des Finances insiste sur la maîtrise des fonds alloués dans le budget national

ugustine K. Ngafuan, ministre des Finances et de la Planification du Développement, a appelé ses collègues du gouvernement et les responsables des institutions publiques à adopter une gestion stricte des fonds alloués dans le budget national, en évitant toute dépense superflue.

Lors de son intervention le jeudi 9 janvier 2025, au complexe ministériel Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, à Congo Town, à l'occasion de l'ouverture d'un atelier de trois jours sur l'exécution du budget national pour l'exercice fiscal 2025, Ngafuan a insisté sur la nécessité de limiter les dépenses inutiles et de gérer avec parcimonie les ressources disponibles. « Je vous invite, chers ministres et responsables d'institutions publiques, à mettre en place des restrictions sur les dépenses superflues et à gérer de manière responsable les ressources qui vous sont allouées », a-t-il déclaré.

Une gestion prudente pour une exécution efficace

Le ministre a particulièrement mis en garde les responsables nommés en avril dernier, leur conseillant de ne pas adopter une approche consistant à épuiser leurs budgets en seulement neuf mois. Selon lui, cette méthode pourrait entraîner une rupture de financement avant la fin de l'exercice budgétaire.

« Pour assurer une gestion budgétaire efficace, il est essentiel d'adopter des mesures de restriction strictes. Sans cela, vous risquez de vous retrouver sans fonds avant la fin de l'exercice », a averti Ngafuan.

Il a aussi rappelé que le budget est conçu pour une période de 12 mois, et non de trois, six ou neuf mois, soulignant l'importance d'une planification trimestrielle et annuelle pour une gestion budgétaire

La gestion des ressources : un défi constant



Le ministre a insisté sur le fait que ce n'est pas la taille du budget qui importe, mais la manière dont il est géré. « Deux ministères peuvent avoir des budgets similaires, mais l'un peut réussir son exécution tandis que l'autre échoue, en fonction de la gestion financière de chaque entité », a-t-il expliqué.

Ngafuan a fait état des difficultés rencontrées l'année précédente, notamment les ajustements budgétaires tardifs et les problèmes liés à la transition gouvernementale. Cette année, a-t-il ajouté, les ministères ont suffisamment de temps pour mieux préparer et exécuter

Fort de son expérience, ayant déjà servi sous l'administration de l'exprésidente Sirleaf, Ngafuan a souligné que l'administration actuelle attend une gestion plus rigoureuse et une exécution plus transparente des budgets pour l'année en cours.

Renforcement des capacités des responsables publics

De son côté, Tanneh Brunson, ministre adjointe des Finances en charge du budget, a insisté sur l'importance de l'atelier pour renforcer les compétences des responsables publics. « Aujourd'hui, nous ne sommes pas seulement des représentants d'institutions, mais des gardiens de la confiance publique, chargés de gérer efficacement les ressources financières de la nation dans l'intérêt de tous », a-t-elle souligné.

Elle a rappelé que la 55e législature a récemment adopté un budget national de 880 millions de dollars pour l'exercice fiscal 2025, une somme importante qui représente une occasion unique de stimuler le développement du pays. Cependant, elle a averti que cette opportunité impose également une responsabilité accrue en matière de gestion financière transparente et de respect des principes budgétaires.

L'atelier, qui se termine le samedi 11 janvier 2025, réunit des responsables ministériels, des agences gouvernementales, des commissions ainsi que des partenaires au développement. L'objectif est de renforcer les connaissances sur la gestion des finances publiques et d'assurer une exécution efficace du budget national.

Désaccord entre la Présidente Pro-Tempore du Sénat Starts from page 8

Sénat pendant plus de 15 ans ou ayant atteint l'âge de 65 ans ou plus, ont reçu, en plus de leurs prestations civiles, une enveloppe symbolique en reconnaissance de leurs services. Notre plus ancien retraité a 83 ans », a-t-elle précisé.

Par ailleurs, elle a indiqué que le Sénat avait révisé son règlement intérieur lors d'un séminaire tenu à Buchanan, dans le comté de Grand Bassa, en juin 2024. Ces amendements ont été adoptés en plénière et distribués à tous les sénateurs. Initiatives pour renforcer la sécurité et les infrastructures

Pour améliorer la sécurité au sein et autour du Capitole, Mme Kangar-Lawrence a révélé que la Police nationale libérienne a été sollicitée pour collaborer avec le service de sécurité du Sénat. En outre, des discussions sont en cours avec le ministre des Travaux publics pour l'installation de lampadaires solaires afin de renforcer l'éclairage nocturne et réduire les activités

criminelles. Elle a également annoncé la mise en place prochaine d'un système de vidéosurveillance moderne couvrant les zones stratégiques du Capitole, permettant une surveillance en temps réel et une réponse rapide aux incidents. Condoléances pour les disparus

Enfin, Mme Kangar-Lawrence a exprimé ses profondes condoléances pour la perte de plusieurs anciens et actuels membres du Sénat, dont les sénateurs Sumo Kupee (comté de Lofa), Prince Y. Johnson (comté de Nimba), Joyce Musu Freeman-Sumo (comté de Montserrado), l'ancien vice-président John D. Gray et l'ancien président pro-tempore Cletus Segbe Wotorson (comté de Grand Kru).

Un livre de condoléances a été ouvert pour le sénateur Prince Y. Johnson, décédé en novembre 2024 à l'âge de 72 ans. Il sera inhumé cette semaine dans son comté natal de Nimba.

Récit de torture et de coercition Un suspect dénonce des abus présumés des forces de sécurité de l'État

quant aux méthodes larmes aux yeux. employées pour obtenir des Etheridge a par ailleurs aveux qu'il affirme avoir faits évoqué des liens fabriqués par sous la contrainte. Accusations les autorités, qui auraient de manipulation et de cherché à l'associer à d'autres menaces

M. Etheridge affirme que les tels qu'Eric Susee et Amos enquêteurs l'ont poussé à Kofa. Il a dénoncé des aveux

Koffa, et désigné comme que j'avais convoqué des personne d'intérêt dans personnes chez "Boss Man" l'enquête sur l'incendie du depuis le siège du CDC. Capitol Building, a livré un Lorsque j'ai nié, ils ont coupé témoignage troublant sur son l'enregistrement », a-t-il traitement par les forces de déclaré. Il décrit également un sécurité. Selon ses interrogatoire prolongé et déclarations, il aurait été éprouvant, durant lequel il soumis à des actes de torture, aurait été maintenu dans un de coercition et à une sous-sol de 11 h à 15 h. « Ils manipulation de ses propos m'ont menacé de violences lors des interrogatoires. Ses sexuelles si je ne leur donnais révélations soulèvent de pas les réponses qu'ils sérieuses préoccupations voulaient », a-t-il ajouté, les

individus présumés impliqués,

homas Etheridge, admettre une implication falsifiés, notamment une collaborateur du fictive dans l'incendie du déclaration attribuée à Eric Susee, président de la Chambre Capitol et d'autres activités affirmant qu'il aurait acheté de des représentants, J. Fonati connexes. « Ils ont affirmé l'essence pour l'incendie. Susee aurait ensuite nie ces propos, affirmant qu'ils lui avaient été extorqués sous la contrainte.

Contexte de l'incident

L'incendie du Capitol Building, survenu le 18 décembre 2024, a détruit la Rotonde et les Chambres conjointes de la Législature libérienne. Ce sinistre, confirmé comme un acte criminel, s'inscrit dans un contexte de tensions politiques exacerbées, marqué par une lutte de pouvoir entre le bloc majoritaire dirigé par le représentant Richard Nagbe Koon et le président de la Chambre, J. Fonati Koffa.L'incident s'est produit un jour après une manifestation au Capitol. entraînant l'arrestation de 73 personnes, parmi lesquelles des figures de l'opposition et des

A call to the media to seek clarifications on the use of private jets



community

WEDNESDAY

County Senator and a staunch supporter of the Rescue Mission, Darius Dillon, extended an open apology to former President George greater public. Weah over numerous criticisms of the ex-president's constant use of a private jet when he was President.

compelling need for heads of state to same? move around in private jets.

has himself been involved. Nyuma Boakai, using private jets.

But we need to go beyond this to know the terms and conditions under which

Dear Members of the media the two Presidents have been involved with the use of private jets, in terms of costs, before agreeing or disagreeing with the Yesterday, on OK FM, Montserrado vocal Senator. This requires fact-finding.

> The media community needs to establish some facts about this for the benefit of the

I, therefore, write to urge and appeal to you to do an extensive, independent and rigorous investigation into the terms and Dillon implied that he and others conditions of the use of private jets criticizing President Weah at that time involving Presidents Joseph Nyuma Boakai had done so without knowing the and George Manneh Weah. Are they the

The investigation should find out He was in essence alluding to the fact everything, including the conditions under that the current President, Joseph which the private jets were and are

> My plea for investigation into the use of private jets comes against my belief that it is not necessarily the flying of private jets

that the country is opposed to. Rather it is the cost of doing so that matters.

So again, this is not about condemning Senator Dillon for his assertion or siding with President Boakai. It's about investigating facts surrounding the use of private jets ---- to know what is similar or different, in terms of costs to the nation, in the two Presidents' use of private jets.

Media community, please take interest in this investigation to enlighten us.

It would be even more helpful if the Senator could assist with information he may have regarding the costs of the use of private jets by the President and former.

Jonathan Paye-Layleh Liberian Citizen

Senator Johnson was one of Liberia's longest-serving senators, but he did not end his third nine-year term when he died last year.

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, January 15, 2025: The state funeral for Nimba County Senator Prince Yormie Johnson at the

people of Peace Island Community in Congo Town, Montserrado County.

Additionally, there was another group dressed in



Capitol was married by a display of traditional practices.

The mourning crowd that escorted Senator Johnson's coffin at the Capitol was mixed with a group attired war-time paraphernalia. Johnson lied in state at the Capitol Building on Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

During the state funeral, a group of women dressed in dominant red carried wooden toy guns as their way of symbolizing their late kinsman's relationship and contribution to Liberia's civil war.

The late Senator Johnson is notorious for leading the defunct Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL) rebel faction under whose watch then sitting President Samuel Kanyon Doe was brutally murdered. Meanwhile, the group of women carrying the wooden toy guns said they did so to remember that PYJ provided them when he died last year. during the war.

They recalled that he used the gun to liberate Liberia,

dominant black with a red cap, and decorated with leaves over their bodies. They were said to be supporters of the late Senator Johnson's political party the Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction (MDR).A barefooted man dressed in white underwear and a short trouser with leaves in his mouth was seen performing some rituals at the state funeral.

Senator Johnson's remains were taken from the Samuel A. Striker Funeral Home in Sinkor and paraded through the principal streets to the Capitol Building for the state funeral. The occasion attracted a huge gathering at the Capitol on Tuesday.

Members of the Liberian Senate and the House of Representatives, sympathizers, well-wishers, and the people of Nimba County graced the occasion.

Senator Johnson was one of Liberia's longest-serving senators, but he did not end the security and protection his third nine-year term

> While in the Senate, he served as Chair of Defense. National Security and

Representative to ECOWAS | Yormie Johnson. Parliament, and former Nimba County Legislative Caucus chairperson.

The Ex-warlord was born July 6, 1952, and died November 28, 2024, following a brief period of illness.

Meanwhile, giving tribute on behalf of the Liberian Senate, the Chair on Rules, Order, and Administration and Maryland County Senator, J. Gbleh-bo Brown, said that they want to leave the people of Nimba and their family at the cross of Jesus.

He noted that they can't provide the answer that they seek, but rather the cross of Jesus Christ.

According to him, it's at the cross of Jesus Christ that they can find comfort.

Senator Brown described the gathering as a day of great sorrow and reflection, adding that Senator Johnson served the Senate in various capacities on several committees.

Speaking earlier on behalf of the Nimba County Legislative Caucus, Senator Nya D. Twayen, Jr., said that Senator Johnson's legacy has taught them that county and country go beyond everything.

Twayen said it is that principle that will guide them."The Nimba County Legislative Caucus lost its arrowhead. Every one of us standing here besides being elected, we promised how to work with the Senator," he noted."That is why we have been peaceful because we understood what our leader wanted. Senator Johnson was someone who loved. Development and progress And so, he never joked with the interest of Nimba," he concluded.

promised to make me Presider

Vice President Jeremiah Koung recounts his journey to the Liberian protect Nimba, and save the Veteran Affairs, former Presidency under the tutelage or guidance of late Senator Prince

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, Liberia, January 15, 2025 -Vice President V Jeremiah Koung says fallen Senator Prince Y. Johnson had promised to make him (Koung) President of Liberia, revealing that on series of engagements, the late Senator Johnson told him that he had prepared him for the Presidency of the country.

Giving a heartbreaking tribute here Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at the Capitol Building during the state funeral for the late Senator, Vice President Koung continues that after PYJ lifted his hand in Nimba and made him elected twice in the House and as Senator, the late political godfather told him to get prepared for the Presidency.

According to the Vice President, when the late Senator Johnson told him so, he underestimated his commitment because he was

members of the Liberian Senate and the House of Representatives graced by sympathizers, well-wishers, and the people of Nimba County commemorated the lying in state of the late Senator Prince Y. Johnson.

He was the longest-serving senator of Liberia, serving as Chair of Defense, National Security, and Veteran Affairs. He was also a former Representative to the ECOWAS Parliament and former chairperson of the Nimba County Legislative Caucus, respectively.

The Ex-warlord was born July 6, 1952, and died on November 28, 2024, at his residence in Paynesville, outskirts of Monrovia.

According to Vice President Koung, from the way he answered, the late Senator Johnson asked him if he was afraid, but he says he told him

no, and later, when he came to

the session, PYJ again called him

to his place, and told him to run

"Senator Johnson called me to

his house and told me to run for

the Presidency. He told me he

has grown me because he wants

me to be after him, and Nimba is

not running for the presidency

but rather for his senatorial

seat. And so, I must fill in the

gap. Senator Johnson told me

that he will resign from the party

and I will take over the party as

Political leader and standard

bearer. He told me that he is old

and has tried the presidency two

times, and the Liberian people

said no and 'so, let me try you.'

He quoted his late political

mentor as saying.

for the Liberian Presidency.



not thinking in that direction on the grounds of how Senator Johnson would want to make him his leader.

Both VP Koung and the late PYJ hail from the same county and were close political allies to the extent that he made him become the standard bearer of his political party, Movement for empty. If you don't run, Nimba Development and Reconstruction could lose because he (PYJ) is (MDR), propelled Koung to have been chosen by President Boakia as running mate in 2023.

"In 2010, around November and December, getting ready to come for a session, I got a call from Melvin Yealue; when I picked up the call, he told me to talk to Senator Johnson. Senator Johnson talked to me and said Jerry, and I answered yes; he said that you are grown, get ready to be President of Liberia. He said President, and I replied to him, President, for what? And he said again, President for Liberia. I took it for joke and thought he was happy that morning", VP

However, according to him, he told the late senator that issues that had to do with the standard bearership should be removed, while the political leader remains because it came as a

Dr. Conteh denies mismanaging funds at UL Starts From Page 6

Education in Liberia (TDEL). institution but emphasized that University of Liberia stands This move was aimed at substantial groundwork had at a critical juncture, with improving students' mobility been laid for future growth. and campus life.In a farewell He also called on the and infrastructural decay speech recently at an government to increase support remaining. But with strong investiture ceremony for the to the UL, particularly in leadership and UL's 16th President, Dr. Layli addressing renovation of collaborative efforts, this Maparyan, Dr. Conteh expressed deteriorating facilities, could be reversed for the gratitude to President Joseph providing transportation for UL to continue striving Boakai and the Board of faculty and staff, and settling towards its core mission of Trustees for their support salary arrears for adjunct fostering academic throughout his tenure. He faculty. As the outgoing Acting excellence and national acknowledged financial President hands over the development. Editing by

challenges of underfunding constraints faced by the leadership to Dr. Maparyan, the Jonathan Browne

On Tuesday, January 14, 2025,

Koung reflects.

CONT'D ON PAGE 5



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025 VOL. 14 NO. 237

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red to resign

The call for Koffa's resignation has grown louder, as Mr. Cole suggested that the future of the House of Representatives hangs in the balance.

By Wise Wesseh onrovia, January 15, 2025: Embattled House Speaker Cllr. Jonathan Fonati Koffa is being pressured to quit his

top job, as Human Rights

unity.He accused Speaker Koffa of allegedly hindering the democracy. The majority members of the House of Representatives voted last year removing Cllr. Koffa as the House Speaker and



demands his immediate resignation.

Mr. Cole told a press conference on Monday, January 13, 2025, that Koffa's resignation would pave the way for smooth democracy and national

Advocate Anthony Cole subsequently elected Montserrado County Representative Richard Nagbe Koon as the new Speaker.But the majority bloc in the House has rejected the move, though some of his supporters now appear to be crossing over to the majority bloc.

Anthony Cole believes the call for Koffa's resignation reflects a broader dissatisfaction with the political climate here.

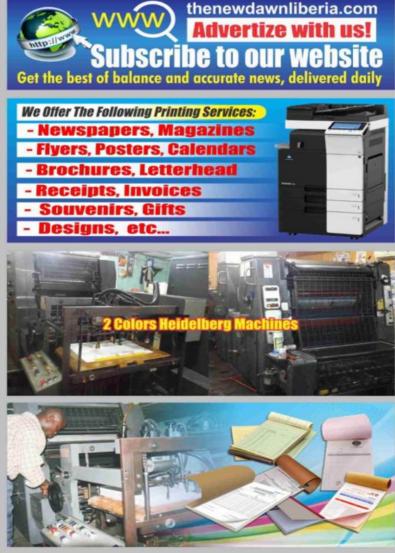
"A stable and functioning House is more critical than ever, as citizens yearn for progress on vital issues such as economic recovery, healthcare, security, agriculture, and education," he says.

The call for Koffa's resignation has grown louder, as Cole suggested that the future of the Liberian House of Representatives hangs in the balance.

According to him, stakeholders across the political spectrum are urged to prioritize dialogue and cooperation, ensuring that the voice of the people is heard in a meaningful way.

Mr. Cole pleaded with lawmakers to act in the best interest of Liberia as the decision for workable Legislature lies not only with Speaker Koffa, but with all those who hold the reins of power in this vibrant West African nation.









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