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DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025	L\$195.8906/US\$1.00	L\$197.5620US\$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. 15 NO. 007 FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025 PRICE LD\$50.00



First batch P11 of Deportees' names released



PYJ's senate chair taken to Nimba




The late PYJ's chair being carried by the Sergeant-At-Arm

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

DR Congo president vows 'vigorous' fight to halt M23 rebel advance

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Zuma's daughter faces terrorism charges over South Africa riots

DR Congo president vows 'vigorous' fight to halt M23 rebel advance

Congolese President Félix Tshisekedi has vowed to restore government authority in the east, where Rwanda-backed M23 rebels have seized control of the city of Goma and are reportedly advancing south to take more territory.

In a televised address to the nation, he said a "vigorous and coordinated response" against what he called "terrorists" was under way.

He criticised the international community for "inaction" and for not doing enough in the wake of the escalating security crisis.

The weeks-long offensive by the rebels has prompted warnings of a looming humanitarian crisis and growing international pressure to end the fighting.

During Wednesday night's address, Tshisekedi rallied all Congolese to join together and support the army's fight to retake control. "Be sure of one thing: the Democratic Republic of Congo will not let itself be humiliated or crushed. We will fight and we will triumph," he said.

The fighting has forced about 500,000 people from their

homes, worsening an already dire humanitarian crisis, according to the UN.

Since the fighting began, the city has been cut off from electricity and water and food is in scarce supply.

An East African regional bloc virtual summit on Wednesday evening convened by Kenya's President William Ruto, [which Tshisekedi snubbed](#), called for a "peaceful settlement of the conflicts".

It was attended by Rwanda's Paul Kagame, alongside the leaders of other member countries Burundi, South Sudan, Tanzania and Somalia.

The heads of state "strongly

urged the government of the DR Congo to directly engage with all stakeholders, including the M23 and other armed groups that have grievances". Tshisekedi has been refusing to talk directly to the M23 - insisting on only talking to Rwanda.

The East African leaders also called for a joint summit of the bloc and leaders of the southern African regional community (Sadc) to "deliberate on the way forward".

DR Congo is a member of both the East African Community and Sadc.

Sadc is due to hold a special summit in Zimbabwe on Friday of the bloc's heads of state to discuss DR Congo.



The M23 have been advancing to other areas after their offensive in Goma

Nurse dies as Uganda confirms new Ebola outbreak

Uganda's ministry of health has confirmed a new outbreak of the Ebola virus in the capital, Kampala, with one reported death.

The victim was a 32-year-old male nurse whose symptoms included "high fever, chest pain, and difficulty in breathing" and "bleeding from multiple body sites".

He died of multi-organ failure on Wednesday at Mulango National Hospital, located in the city's central business district.

This marks Uganda's eighth recorded Ebola outbreak since the first infection was documented in 2000.

The Sudan Ebola Virus Disease (SUDV) is a highly infectious haemorrhagic fever which is transmitted through contact with infected bodily fluids and tissues. It is one of several strains of the Ebola virus known to cause outbreaks.

In the days before his death, the nurse went to multiple health facilities as well as a traditional healer, before the diagnosis was confirmed.

He also went to a public hospital in Mbale, a city which borders Kenya.

The ministry said 44 contacts of

the deceased man, including 30 healthcare workers, have been identified for tracing.

Rapid response teams have been deployed to try to contain the disease.

But contact tracing may be difficult since Kampala, a bustling city of over four million people, serves as a major hub for travel to South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and other neighbouring countries.

Uganda's last Ebola outbreak was in September 2022, which was also caused by SUDV. Centred in Mubende district, it was declared over after four months.

There are six known types of the Ebola virus. Four of them, Zaire, Bundibugyo, Sudan, and Taï Forest, are known to cause

disease in humans.

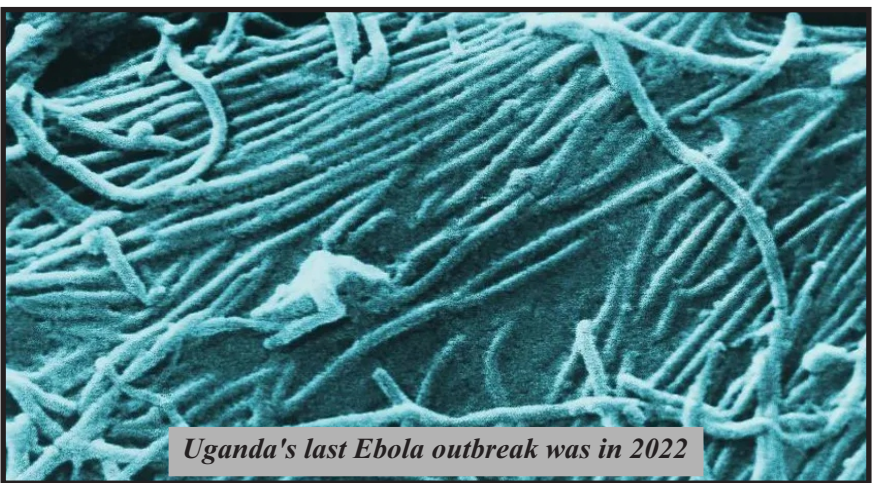
The Reston and Bombali strains primarily affect non-human primates.

Unlike the more common Zaire Ebola virus, there is no approved vaccine for the Sudan strain.

Symptoms of Ebola infection include fever, fatigue, muscle pain, headache, and sore throat, followed by vomiting, diarrhoea, rash, and internal and external bleeding.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that, on average, Ebola kills five in every 10 infected individuals.

However, past outbreaks have shown a case fatality rate ranging from 25% to 90%, depending on the circumstances and response measures.



Uganda's last Ebola outbreak was in 2022

Zuma's daughter faces terrorism charges over South Africa riots

The daughter of former South African President Jacob Zuma, Duduzile Zuma-Sambudla, has appeared in court on terrorism charges over her alleged involvement in the 2021 riots that left more than 300 people dead.

Violence, chaos, and fear ripped through the port city of Durban, then spread to Gauteng, after Zuma's jailing sparked intense protests over four years ago.

Zuma-Sambudla, a controversial figure in her own right, was accused of sharing incendiary social media posts that fuelled the civil unrest.

The arrest comes as a "result of a meticulous investigation" said spokesperson for the Hawks elite police unit, Brig Thandi Mbambo.

Zuma-Sambudla handed herself in to Durban Central police station on Thursday morning to

because they don't like her, nor do they like her father, or the party that he leads. Are we going to keep quiet?" he said.

He added: "We are here for nothing. I was also arrested for nothing."

This is not the first time Zuma-Sambudla's name has been brought up in connection to the 2021 riots, which are considered one of the bloodiest episodes in post-apartheid South Africa.

Zuma resigned as president in 2018 after nine years in office, plagued by corruption allegations, which he claimed were part of a political conspiracy.

He then refused to testify at a judicial inquiry into these allegations and was jailed for contempt of court.

Protests erupted after he surrendered to serve his sentence.

During the unrest, Zuma-Sambudla was outspoken on X,



Duduzile Zuma-Sambudla is a controversial figure in South Africa

face charges under the Protection of Constitutional Democracy against Terrorist and Related Activities Act and incitement to commit violence, police said.

National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) spokesperson Mthunzi Mhaga said the investigation had taken such a long time because the case was "complex" and "unique".

"It is the first time that the NPA is charging a person based on content posted on what we call X, which was previously known as Twitter, for content that we consider to amount to incitement to commit terrorism," the News24 site quotes him as saying.

Zuma-Sambudla told the court that she intended to plead not guilty to the charges.

She also said that there was no evidence linking her to the riots.

The case has been postponed to March for trial in the Durban High Court and she has been released on bail.

Supporters of her father's party uMkhonto WeSizwe (MK), of which she is a senior member, gathered at the courtroom to rally behind her.

Zuma was also present and gave a speech.

"They are now arresting my child

frequently sharing images of the destruction and chaos, accompanied by the caption: "KZN, we see you."

She used this phrase often throughout the violence. In a now deleted post, she shared a video of someone firing an automatic rifle at a poster of President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Last year, the South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) released a report that said the riots were a "carefully orchestrated event".

But it said it could find no direct link to Zuma's arrest.

In 2023, a former security guard was sentenced to 12 years in prison for his role in the deadly riots.

He was the first person to be prosecuted for the riots.

President Cyril Ramaphosa, who succeeded Jacob Zuma in 2018, described the violence as an "attempted insurrection".

More than 200 shopping malls were looted and more than 150,000 jobs were estimated to have been lost during the unrest, which lasted for several days.

Last year, Zuma's MK ran against his former party, the ANC, in elections, gaining 15% of the vote to become the country's third largest party.

EDITORIAL

We need a message of hope

Liberians are desperate and yearning for hope from President Joseph Boakai's second annual message or state of the nation address to the 55th Legislature, rightly so because situations in the country in the past one year has been nothing, but chaotic.

From protest by soldiers' wives, standoff between Police and partisans of opposition CDC, bloody riot at Bea Mountain that left several persons dead, to forceful removal from office of officials holding tenure positions and leadership crisis in the House of Representatives that Speaker Fonati Koffa booted out and subsequent fire at the Capitol Building, situations have not been fine in Liberia.

Liberians are looking up to their President to give direction and hope, especially joblessness and economic hardship is visible everywhere. The people need breathing space to rejuvenate their state of mind from despair and doom to optimism.

We believe no one best suited to provide that now than President Boakai who promised to rescue Liberia from stagnation and retrogression.

The government would begin to show by responding or providing low-hanging fruits such as improved security, stabilizing the economy and creating jobs.

A government that is on a mission to rescue should act more and talk less to build public confidence and attract forest investments that this country needs so badly, for we are convenience that government along cannot do it all. We need an enabling environment for economic activities to thrive.

Substance abuse, trafficking and prevalence of hardcore drugs in our country is decimating our future, the youth. The government should move away from mere promises and publicity stunt and get down to real business.

How many more young people have to die before we do something tangible as a nation to halt the scourge of drugs in our nation? Our streets are littered with drug-addicted youths, who are being sent to their early grave by traffickers.

No amount of political speeches can revive hope in their people unless direct and sincere actions are taken on the ground.

Corruption is another melee that s destroying the fabric of our nation, particularly from the public sector. It seems like the nation's wealth is being distributed between the Legislative and Executive, while schools, hospitals, and other vital institutions face neglect. These trend should be reversed to give hope to our people.

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COMMENTARY

By Alexander Jones

Liberians Must Demand Transparency from HPX on Iron Ore Transit Agreement

For years, High Power Exploration (HPX) has maneuvered aggressively to secure rail access through Liberia to export iron ore from Guinea. The company, led by billionaire mining investor Robert Friedland, has employed various tactics to manipulate Liberian government officials into signing an agreement that lacks critical assurances from the Guinean government. But as the facts stand today, HPX has failed to provide any documented proof that the new Guinean authorities will allow its ore to be transported through Liberia.

The Shifting Political Landscape in Guinea

In 2019, under the previous administration in Guinea, a bilateral agreement was signed with Liberia to allow small mining companies to use Liberia's rail and port infrastructure. However, much has changed since then. The previous Guinean government has been overthrown, and the new leadership in Conakry has taken a vastly different approach to resource management.

For over 60 years, Guinean authorities have remained firm in their stance that their vast iron ore deposits should be developed with domestic infrastructure investment, rather than relying on foreign routes.

This policy has led to the launch of the **Trans-Guinean Railway**, an approximately **650-kilometer rail corridor** connecting the massive Simandou iron ore deposit to a **deepwater port in Conakry**. This ambitious project, spearheaded by a consortium between **Rio Tinto and Winning Corporation**, is now nearly **80% complete** and is expected to become operational by the end of 2025.

Once the Trans-Guinean Railway is operational, analysts overwhelmingly agree that there is **no logical or economic reason** for Guinea to permit iron ore transit through Liberia. The economic rationale is clear: why would Guinea allow the construction of a **multi-billion-dollar infrastructure in Liberia** when a massive domestic investment is already nearing completion?

HPX's Unfounded Claims and the Need for Accountability

Despite this reality, HPX continues to insist that Guinea will allow it to transport

more than 25 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) through Liberia. However, when pressed by Liberian authorities to provide documented proof from the current Guinean government, HPX has repeatedly failed to do so.

No official confirmation from Conakry has been provided, and HPX's claims remain **empty rhetoric**.

A glaring inconsistency in HPX's strategy is its failure to acknowledge the logical alternative: **connecting its Nimba mine to the Trans-Guinean Railway, just 130 km away**. Instead, HPX has pushed for the construction of a **240 km rail line and deepwater port in Liberia**, a project it initially announced in 2024 with an estimated cost of **US\$3.5–5.0 billion**—without conducting a comprehensive feasibility study. Serious industry observers immediately questioned the feasibility of this proposal. The pressing question remains:

why would Guinea allow a \$5 billion infrastructure project in Liberia for the sole purpose of evacuating Guinean iron ore when that money could be spent on domestic infrastructure?

The lack of a coherent answer from HPX exposes its strategy as a desperate attempt to force an agreement through political maneuvering rather than sound economic planning.

Time for HPX to Show Proof or Step Aside

For too long, HPX has operated in a cloud of deception, using propaganda to mislead stakeholders. But the time for illusions is over. Liberia must take a firm stance: **HPX must provide official documentation from the current Guinean government affirming that it has permission to transport iron ore through Liberia—or abandon its misleading campaign**.


The previous Guinean government may have been open to HPX's plans, but the political and economic reality in Guinea has changed dramatically. It is time to **hit the reset button** and ensure that any agreement signed by Liberia is based on verifiable commitments rather than speculative promises.

The Liberian government and people, as well as the United States government, must not be deceived. HPX must be held accountable. **No proof, no deal.**

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*by Otaviano Canuto,
Rim Berahab*

RABAT – Carbon pricing is a crucial climate-policy tool. By assigning a monetary value to greenhouse-gas emissions, it creates incentives for firms to emit less and generates revenue that can be spent on sustainable development. More than 70 jurisdictions worldwide have already implemented carbon taxes or emissions-trading systems, as a way to reconcile economic growth with climate objectives.

While the transparency and accountability provided by these rules will almost surely build trust in carbon markets, a standardized framework poses some risks for Africa. Specifically, it could fail to address the continent's needs, exacerbating inequality and impeding development. Nearly 600 million Africans still lack access to electricity, while biomass accounts for 45% of the continent's energy supply, leaving rural and low-income households particularly vulnerable to carbon-pricing policies that are not tailored to Africa's unique socioeconomic and environmental realities.

Moreover, Africa is acutely vulnerable to climate shocks, as shown by recurring droughts in the Sahel and catastrophic floods in Mozambique. African countries on average lose 2-5% of GDP per year to climate change, and many divert up to 9% of their annual budget to respond to extreme weather events, putting a severe strain on their economies.

Pursuing the phased implementation of carbon-pricing models, with initially modest prices, would enable African countries to adapt gradually to the demands of a green economy, without stifling growth. At the same time, the slow and steady development of frameworks for measuring, reporting, and verification would make it easier to identify and rectify errors, resulting in more robust and trustworthy systems. This approach minimizes the economic shocks often associated with abrupt transitions, offering a practical pathway to sustainable development.

Leveraging nature-based solutions is equally important. Africa's rainforests, wetlands, and peatlands store vast amounts of carbon, with the Congo Basin alone holding more than 30 billion tons of carbon dioxide. These assets could generate high-quality carbon credits, which would attract international financing and preserve critical ecosystems. Under the multi-donor, UN-hosted Central African Forest Initiative, Gabon's pioneering carbon-credits program has conserved huge portions of its forests. As a result, Gabon secured a commitment of \$150 million over ten years through a 2019 agreement with CAFI.

While carbon pricing has immense potential to address Africa's climate and development needs, barriers to implementation remain, and overcoming them will require carefully targeted interventions. For starters, institutional weaknesses could undermine robust measurement, reporting, and verification, which are essential for ensuring credibility and attracting investment. International organizations such as the UN Environment Programme and the World Bank could assist with the operationalization of carbon-pricing mechanisms in African countries by providing technical training and supporting the development of necessary infrastructure.

Ensuring the social acceptance of carbon pricing is another challenge for African countries. Because these policies can trigger a public backlash if they are perceived as unjust, or even just poorly explained, governments must be transparent about reinvesting the revenue that they generate. It is also possible that these funds will fall short of meeting Africa's energy and infrastructure needs, in which case complementary tools such as green bonds, blended-finance mechanisms, and international climate finance can help bridge the gap.

A pan-African carbon market, coordinated through institutions like the African Continental Free Trade Area, could consolidate fragmented national efforts into a unified platform. Such a market would lower entry barriers for smaller economies, streamline standards, and attract international investment. It would also bolster Africa's role in advancing nature-based climate solutions, allowing the continent to deliver global emissions reductions while supporting local communities.

As the world prepares for COP30 in Belém, Brazil, African countries have an opportunity to advocate for equitable carbon-pricing mechanisms that align climate action with sustainable development. While cutting emissions is important, so, too, is ensuring fairness and equity for the communities most vulnerable to climate change.

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Invitation for Bids [IFB]

Forestry Development Authority/TSF Project

IFB Number:LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/001/2024

Purchaser:Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

Project:Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in Secondary Wood Processing Industry_ Phase II

Contract title:" Provision of Additional Machines/Tools and the Installation to Three (3) Share Facilities"

Country:Liberia

Grant No.:5900155018403

Procurement Method:Open Competitive Bidding National (OCBN)

OCBN No:LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/001/2024

Issued on:January 28, 2025

1. The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) has received financing from the African Development Bank Group hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Scaling up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry_ Phase II, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the Provision of additional Machine/Tools to three Shared Facility. “For this contract, the Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank’s Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing.
2. The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for supply of **Machines/Tools**

Lot No. 1	Description	Quantity
i	Machines/Tools	Various

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding National, (OCB-N) method as specified in the Bank’s Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded operations² dated October, 2015, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.
4. The bidding document in English may be collected by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below
5. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **1:00 PM, February 25 2025**. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders’ designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below
6. All Bids must be accompanied by a **“Bid-Securing Declaration”**.
7. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder’s beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
8. For any further clarification, please contact:
Attn. Project Coordinator
Project Implementation Unit
Forestry Development Authority
Whein Town, Bernard Farm
Montserrado County
Liberia

Email Address: emmanuellewis965@gmail.com

0775-841-431/0886-570-320

Link for Clarification:

Email Address: wynnbryant12@gmail.com

0776-063-643/0886-551-249



Invitation for Bids [IFB]

Forestry Development Authority/TSF Project

IFB Number:LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/005/2024

Purchaser:Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

Project:Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in Secondary Wood Processing Industry_ Phase II

Contract title:" Provision of Electric Planing, and Sandpapering Machines Kits to 1,108 Registered Members "

Country:Liberia

Grant No.:5900155018403

Procurement Method:Open Competitive Bidding National (OCBN)

OCBN No:LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/005/2024

Issued on:January 28, 2025

1. The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) has received financing from the African Development Bank Group hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Scaling up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry_ Phase II, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the **Provision of Electric Planing, and Sandpapering Machines Kits to 1,108 Registered Members**. “For this contract, the Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank’s Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing.
2. The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for supply of **Electric Planing, and Sandpapering Machines Kits**

Lot No. 1	Description	Quantity
i	Electric Planing, and Sandpapering Machines Kits	Various

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding National, (OCB-N) method as specified in the Bank’s Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded operations² dated October, 2015, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.
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NATIONAL PORT AUTHORITY OF LIBERIA

Gateway to the Nation's Economy

Invitation for Bids | January 30, 2025

1. The National Ports Authority has received Budget for Fiscal year 2025 and intends to apply part of it towards the Procurement of goods and services below.

No.	Code	Contract Package	Quantity	Opening & Closing Dates
1.	IFB NO. NPA/SBA/NCB/008/2025	Petroleum Products	Ref. Bid Document	Jan. 30 – Feb. 27, 2025
2.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/013/2025	Rice	Ref. Bid Document	Jan. 30 – Feb. 27, 2025
3.	IFB NO. NPA/SBA/NCB/006/2025	Air Tickets	Ref. Bid Document	Jan. 30 – Feb. 27, 2025
4.	IFB NO. NPA/SBA/RB/007/2025	Catering Services	Ref. Bid Document	Jan. 30 – Feb. 27, 2025
5.	IFB NO. NPA/SBA/NCB/004/2025	Stationery Supplies	Assorted	Jan. 30 – Feb. 27, 2025
6.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/001/2025	Personnel Insurance	Ref. Bid Document	Jan. 31 – Feb. 28, 2025
7.	IFB NO. NPA/SBA/NCB/001/ 2025	Cleaning Materials	Assorted	Jan. 31– Feb. 28, 2025
8.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/011/2025	Medical Equip.& Supplies	Assorted	Jan. 31 – Feb. 28, 2025
9.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/007/2025	Office Furniture	Assorted	Jan. 31 – Feb. 28, 2025
10.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/008/2025	Office Equipment	Assorted	Jan. 31 – Feb. 28, 2025
11.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/016/2025	Building Materials	Assorted	Feb. 3 – Mar. 3, 2025
12.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/017/2025	Electrical Supplies	Assorted	Feb. 3 – Mar. 3, 2025
13.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/006/2025	Generators	Ref. Bid Document	Feb. 3 – Mar. 3, 2025
14.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/003/2025	Vehicles	Ref. Bid Document	Feb. 3 – Mar. 3, 2025
15.	IFB NO. NPA/NCB/004/2025	Motorcycles	Ref. Bid Document	Feb. 3 – Mar. 3, 2025

Note: Detail information and other related requirements are contained in the Bidding Documents:

2. All interested eligible bidders may obtain copy of bidding documents from the Procurement Department of the National Port Authority when a Non-refundable fee of **USD 51.50** is paid to NPA's ECO Bank USD Account. The Account Title and Number are: **National Port Authority; 6100225392.**
3. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) enshrined in the Public Procurement Concessions Act (PPCA) as amended and restated in 2010.
4. Qualification requirements are:
 - Valid Business Registration Certificate
 - Valid Tax Clearance
 - PPCC Vendor Registration Certificate
 - Past performance records, including the names and contact numbers of at least three clients
5. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid securing Declaration.
6. Sealed bids must be delivered to the Procurement Department where the Tender box will be located not later than the deadline stated in the Biding Document.
7. Late Tenders will be rejected. Tenders will be opened in the presence of the Bidders or Bidders' representatives who choose to attend on the date of bid opening stated in the Bidding Document.
8. The address referred is:

The Procurement Department | National Port Authority
Tel: 0886501319/0770777242
Email: info.procurement@npa.gov.lr

Signed: _____

MANAGEMENT

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Boakai appoints Elias Shoniyin, others

--To strengthen Liberia's Foreign Policy Advisory and Special Duties

These appointments reflect the Government's commitment to enhance Liberia's diplomatic engagements, strengthen international partnerships, and advance the nation's foreign policy objectives.

By Lewis S. Teh

Monrovia, January 31, 2025: President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has appointed Elias Shoniyin and several distinguished group of individuals as Ambassadors at Large to the Policy Advisory Council of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Their appointment by the president is meant to enhance Liberia's diplomatic engagements, strengthen international partnerships, and advance the nation's foreign policy objectives. Shoniyin, Liberia's former Deputy Foreign Minister for International Economic Cooperation & Integration, is now the Dean of the School of Global Affairs & Policy at Cuttington University, Liberia. Shoniyin is an international affairs, development, and policy professional and former diplomat with over 25 years in nonprofit and public service.

He served in multiple positions where he made significant contributions to Liberia's post-conflict recovery and development. Mr. Shoniyin's current roles as Managing Director/Managing Partner of Africa Development Management Associates (ADMA) and Dean of the School of Global Affairs & Policy, Cuttington University, Liberia, are complemented by earlier portfolios. They include World Fellow at Yale University, Principal Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Liberia in two successive administrations, Deputy Foreign Minister for International Economic Cooperation & Integration, and Assistant Foreign Minister for

International Cooperation & Economic Affairs, among others. Some highlights in these roles include his coordination of resource mobilization during Liberia's Ebola outbreak from 2014-2016, his supervision of the Liberia Foreign Service, and his contribution to contextualizing Liberia's post-conflict foreign policy.

Mr. Shoniyin's leadership inspired strategic reforms in all spheres of Liberia's Foreign Ministry and the diplomatic service of Liberia. He played a pivotal role in deepening Liberia's post-conflict cooperation with friendly nations and exploring cooperation opportunities on new frontiers. In recognition of his outstanding work and achievements, Mr. Shoniyin has received numerous honors and awards from esteemed institutions locally and internationally. For his distinguished service to the government and people of Liberia, he was admitted into The Humane Order of African Redemption and conferred the rank of Knight Commander.



Elias Shoniyin former Deputy foreign Minister

Others include Resolution of Honor—New York Legislative Assembly, Resolution of Honor—New York Senate, Resolution of Honor—New York City Council, Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) Honoris Causa, Carver Christian University, Liberia, and Excellence in Leadership—Africa Caribbean Business Council in Washington, among many others.

The Executive Mansion says these appointments reflect the administration's commitment to enhancing Liberia's diplomatic engagements, strengthening international partnerships, and advancing the nation's foreign policy objectives.

The appointees for the position of Ambassadors at Large to the Policy Advisory Council include Ambassador Blamoh Nelson, Member; Ambassador Ethel Davis, Member; Chris Moore, Member; and Robert Lormia, Member. President Boakai also appointed Sheikh Moustapha Kouyateh as Ambassador at Large for Special Duties, working under the guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to support the government's strategic diplomatic initiatives.

Methodist Church suspends Young Adults leadership

-For alleged gross misconduct

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, January 31, 2025 - The leadership of the Conference United Methodist Young Adults Fellowship (YAF) of the Liberia Annual Conference, United Methodist Church (UMC) has been suspended with immediate effect for time indefinite.

A communication dated January 20, 2025, addressed to the President of the Young Adults Fellowship, Ms. Martha Dobboh, cites "gross disrespectful behavior" as reason for the suspension.

According to the correspondence, this behavior occurred during the just-ended 25th-anniversary celebration of the Conference Young Adults Fellowship in Gbarnga, Bong County, when Bishop Samuel J. Quire, Jr., and dignitaries arrived at the occasion.

The decision was communicated in an official letter signed by Rev. J. Joel Gould, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, on behalf of Bishop Samuel J. Quire Jr.

It outlined that the YAF leadership,

The Liberia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church here suspends the leadership of its Young Adults Fellowship for misconduct.

including Ms. Dobboh and her officers, failed to maintain the decorum expected of their office, specifically detailing that Bishop Quire and other senior officials of the church were treated with "gross affront" during the anniversary event, a situation the church leadership describes as "unacceptable" and contrary to the principles of the United Methodist Church.

"You exhibited gross affront at the highest level, a behavior the church will not condone under any circumstances," the letter reads.

The suspension applies to all members of the Young Adults Fellowship's executive leadership. The communication directs Ms. Dobboh and her team to vacate their offices and cease all duties associated with their positions.

"By directive of Bishop Samuel J. Quire Jr., you, along with your core of officers, have been ordered suspended from various offices respectively with immediate effect until further notice," the communication further detailed.

The letter notes that the Department of Youth and Young Adults Ministries of the Liberia Annual Conference would take over the coordination of all activities of the Young Adults Fellowship.

This interim arrangement is designed to ensure the continuity of the fellowship's programs while the leadership issues are addressed. However, the letter does not specify whether any formal investigations or further disciplinary actions are planned.

Editing by Jonathan Browne



Bishop Samuel J. Quire, Jr.

Boakai's SONA receives more criticisms

Monrovia, Liberia, January 31, 2025 - Women NGOs Secretariat of Liberia or WONGOSOL, says President Joseph Boakai's second State of the Nation Address was not gender-responsive. WONGOSOL notes that the President's address did not adequately address issues that are crucial to women's rights and gender equality, which are important for fostering an inclusive society.

It argues that while the President emphasized economic revitalization and job creation, the address lacked a gender-responsive approach to these goals, lamenting that "Women, who form a significant portion of Liberia's informal workforce and are the backbone of the agricultural sector, were not specifically recognized or included in proposed economic

which remain underfunded and inaccessible to many women, especially in remote areas", WONGOSOL continues.

The need for gender-inclusive peace and security efforts is essential. WONGOSOL however, commends the government's commitment to peace and security but emphasizes that these efforts must be gender-inclusive. Women are disproportionately affected by insecurity and must be actively involved in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes.

It calls on the government to fully implement Liberia's National Action Plan on UN Security Council Resolution 1325, ensuring women's participation in leadership and decision-making at all levels.

According to the statement, the persistent prevalence of GBV was not sufficiently addressed by the President, which it says undermines the urgency of tackling



President Joseph Boakai 2nd State of the Nation Address

strategies." The organization calls for intentional policies and programs that ensure women's equitable access to resources, financing, and capacity-building opportunities, especially in agriculture, small businesses, and entrepreneurship.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, January 29, 2025, the organization states, "We further urge the government to address structural barriers that limit women's participation in the formal economy, such as discriminatory practices, lack of childcare, and unequal pay".

WONGOSOL's point on education and healthcare is crucial. The government's commitment to improving education and healthcare systems is commendable but insufficient without addressing the specific barriers faced by women and girls.

Girls in rural areas still face significant obstacles, including early marriage, lack of menstrual hygiene management, and unsafe school environments. These issues require targeted interventions to achieve true educational equity.

"In healthcare, we call for enhanced focus on maternal and reproductive health services,

an issue that continues to harm countless women and girls across Liberia.

"We urge the government to scale up prevention measures, survivor support services, and justice mechanisms for GBV cases. Comprehensive funding for the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act and the Rape Law must be prioritized".

The organization is deeply concerned about lack of acknowledgment or recognition for the tireless work and contributions of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Liberia, saying that CSOs have play a critical role in advocating for social justice, holding duty-bearers accountable, and providing essential services to marginalized communities.

"CSOs, including WONGOSOL, have been at the forefront of efforts to empower women, combat GBV, and promote inclusive governance. The government must recognize and actively engage with CSOs as strategic partners in national development.

We call for greater collaboration between the government and CSOs, including the allocation of resources to support their initiatives and the establishment of platforms for meaningful dialogue", it urges. Press Statement

Age: 29
County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 13, 2017
Current Address: 2208 Village Way, San Francisco, CA
55. Name: Mary J. Ngoh
Date of Birth: June 8, 1988
Age: 36
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 27, 2011
Current Address: 3023 Everglade Drive, Orlando, FL
56. Name: Sia M. Moulton
Date of Birth: March 15, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 1, 2015
Current Address: 417 Pinehurst Road, Atlanta, GA
57. Name: Abraham N. Gortor
Date of Birth: July 27, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 13, 2017
Current Address: 900 Cherry Blossom Avenue, Washington, DC
58. Name: Joyce T. Sengbe
Date of Birth: December 11, 1996
Age: 28
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 4, 2020
Current Address: 234 Greenfield Avenue, Boston, MA
59. Name: Sam C. Sumo
Date of Birth: April 2, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 3, 2018
Current Address: 1435 Birchwood Drive, Dallas, TX
60. Name: Sessie N. Fahn
Date of Birth: November 19, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 2, 2019
Current Address: 8702 Village Way, San Diego, CA
61. Name: Prince A. Wesseh
Date of Birth: July 30, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Maryland County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 5, 2014
Current Address: 1847 Oakwood Drive, Philadelphia, PA
62. Name: Gladys M. Jallah
Date of Birth: September 14, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 22, 2015
Current Address: 5062 Magnolia Street, Houston, TX
63. Name: John T. Smith
Date of Birth: May 5, 1988
Age: 36
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 11, 2013
Current Address: 2789 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA
64. Name: Ethel A. Fofana
Date of Birth: June 16, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 23, 2016
Current Address: 1352 Jasmine Lane, New York, NY
65. Name: James A. Dahn
Date of Birth: March 22, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 30, 2014
Current Address: 4424 Sunset Boulevard, Seattle, WA
66. Name: Sharlyne B. Johnson
Date of Birth: December 10, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 15,

2018
Current Address: 2337 Oak Hill Road, Atlanta, GA
67. Name: Thelma M. Sumo
Date of Birth: October 20, 1989
Age: 35
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 30, 2014
Current Address: 4520 Riverstone Drive, Dallas, TX
68. Name: Elias G. F. Cooper
Date of Birth: April 9, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 5, 2017
Current Address: 800 Hillside Avenue, Atlanta, GA
69. Name: Alice D. Tolbert
Date of Birth: November 15, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 22, 2016
Current Address: 1092 Blackwood Street, New York, NY
70. Name: Samuel W. Gboe
Date of Birth: January 7, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: July 16, 2014
Current Address: 2274 Briarwood Road, Houston, TX
71. Name: Mahalia K. Fapohunda
Date of Birth: June 3, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 9, 2016
Current Address: 6432 Sunset Drive, Chicago, IL
72. Name: Henry J. Morris
Date of Birth: February 2, 1988
Age: 37
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 19, 2013
Current Address: 1823 Hamilton Street, Brooklyn, NY
73. Name: Zita L. Freeman
Date of Birth: September 30, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 8, 2019
Current Address: 2945 Folsom Street, San Francisco, CA
74. Name: Dennis W. Tappia
Date of Birth: July 13, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 14, 2017
Current Address: 4567 Riverbank Road, Denver, CO
75. Name: Ellen S. Fahnbulleh
Date of Birth: August 2, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 20, 2016
Current Address: 8744 Spring Valley Drive, Washington, DC
76. Name: Richard K. Jebbeh
Date of Birth: October 3, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 25, 2015
Current Address: 6116 Ashwood Drive, Chicago, IL
77. Name: Janet D. Weah
Date of Birth: March 21, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: July 10, 2018
Current Address: 1198 Horizon Road, Miami, FL
78. Name: Emmanuel T. Kromah
Date of Birth: April 27, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 19, 2016
Current Address: 8025 Riverbend Avenue, Dallas, TX
79. Name: Victoria S. Dolo
Date of Birth: November 12, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 7, 2019
Current Address: 3175 Larkspur Lane, Los Angeles, CA
80. Name: Peter T. Telleh
Date of Birth: February 15, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 10, 2017

Current Address: 5017 Roseland Boulevard, New York, NY
81. Name: Ethel L. Gortor
Date of Birth: June 21, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 28, 2015
Current Address: 3546 Lilac Street, San Francisco, CA
82. Name: Francis K. Koffa
Date of Birth: July 17, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 14, 2017
Current Address: 9408 Greenhill Road, Seattle, WA
83. Name: Keturah A. Sese
Date of Birth: May 11, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 6, 2016
Current Address: 1770 Riversong Drive, Chicago, IL
84. Name: Amos T. Fofana
Date of Birth: November 9, 1987
Age: 37
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 25, 2014
Current Address: 3956 Timberline Road, Atlanta, GA
85. Name: Lydia M. Korkoyah
Date of Birth: September 28, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 20, 2017
Current Address: 6283 Meadowbrook Drive, Dallas, TX
86. Name: Isaac W. Weh
Date of Birth: December 8, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 2, 2016
Current Address: 755 Oakwood Drive, Washington, DC
87. Name: Angela B. Momo
Date of Birth: August 20, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 1, 2019
Current Address: 1882 Orchard Park, San Francisco, CA
88. Name: Franklin J. Tayea
Date of Birth: May 24, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 13, 2017
Current Address: 3312 Pinewood Lane, Orlando, FL
89. Name: Ophelia D. Tamba
Date of Birth: July 2, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 5, 2018
Current Address: 2215 Cedar Avenue, Houston, TX
90. Name: William S. Benda
Date of Birth: April 3, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 18, 2015
Current Address: 7628 Pine Hill Road, Denver, CO
91. Name: Thomas W. Zaza
Date of Birth: February 20, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 14, 2016
Current Address: 2195 Bellaire Drive, Atlanta, GA
92. Name: Fanta D. Tuan
Date of Birth: August 25, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 10, 2017
Current Address: 1255 Highland Avenue, Washington, DC
93. Name: Christopher D. Kourouma
Date of Birth: June 5, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Nimba County

Date Arrived in the USA: November 18, 2015
Current Address: 4772 Elmwood Avenue, Chicago, IL
94. Name: Korto F. Wreh
Date of Birth: September 7, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 28, 2018
Current Address: 6317 Maple Street, Los Angeles, CA
95. Name: Joshua T. K. Cummings
Date of Birth: October 12, 1988
Age: 36
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 4, 2014
Current Address: 8129 Lakeside Drive, Miami, FL
96. Name: Daisy A. Givens
Date of Birth: December 28, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 20, 2020
Current Address: 9823 Sunset Boulevard, Houston, TX
97. Name: Leonard J. S. Kanu
Date of Birth: March 18, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 30, 2017
Current Address: 3402 Elm Street, New York, NY
98. Name: Eva T. Dweh
Date of Birth: January 25, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 15, 2016
Current Address: 2219 Fernwood Drive, Philadelphia, PA
99. Name: George S. Zayzay
Date of Birth: June 16, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 2, 2017
Current Address: 7321 Brookwood Drive, Dallas, TX
100. Name: Anna F. K. Sankoh
Date of Birth: April 3, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 9, 2017
Current Address: 5157 Cedar Lane, Los Angeles, CA
101. Name: Eliza K. Davies
Date of Birth: February 9, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 15, 2018
Current Address: 1025 Greenfield Drive, Miami, FL
102. Name: Clarence T. Tamba
Date of Birth: July 1, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 30, 2017
Current Address: 6371 Sequoia Lane, Dallas, TX
103. Name: Korto B. Wreh
Date of Birth: December 22, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 25, 2018
Current Address: 5720 Lakeview Road, New York, NY
104. Name: Sam S. Kollie
Date of Birth: May 17, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 11, 2016
Current Address: 8342 Oakwood Lane, Philadelphia, PA
105. Name: Melvin J. Sando
Date of Birth: June 6, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 1, 2015
Current Address: 4029 Pine Street, Atlanta, GA
106. Name: Sylvia S. Brown

- Date of Birth: October 14, 1994
- Age: 30
- County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
- Date Arrived in the USA: March 23, 2018
- Current Address: 2954 Redfield Drive, Los Angeles, CA
107. Name: Wilson K. Sian
- Date of Birth: January 10, 1992
- Age: 32
- County of Origin: Bomi County
- Date Arrived in the USA: September 17, 2017
- Current Address: 1998 Green Oak Drive, Chicago, IL
108. Name: Doreen B. Johnson
- Date of Birth: November 4, 1991
- Age: 33
- County of Origin: Grand Kru County
- Date Arrived in the USA: February 22, 2016
- Current Address: 1227 Lavender Street, Houston, TX
109. Name: Isaac G. Zawolo
- Date of Birth: July 13, 1993
- Age: 31
- County of Origin: Margibi County
- Date Arrived in the USA: May 9, 2017
- Current Address: 8801 Cherry Lane, Washington, DC
110. Name: Maude K. Davies
- Date of Birth: August 28, 1990
- Age: 34
- County of Origin: Nimba County
- Date Arrived in the USA: March 19, 2016
- Current Address: 6310 Lakeside Drive
The released of the names followed the signing of the Laken Riley Act into Law on Wednesday, January 29, by President Trum. The instrument is said to be Trump's first piece of legislation. It mandates the detention and potential deportation of people in the U.S. illegally who are accused of theft and violent crimes before they've actually been convicted. The law is named for Laken Riley, a 22-year-old Georgia nursing student who went out for a run in February 2024 and was killed by Jose Antonio Ibarra, a Venezuelan national who was at the time residing in the U.S. illegally. Critics say Trump's actions are designed to sow fear in communities and cause chaos and dysfunction in the US immigration system. They say rather than advance needed reforms to modernize the US outdated immigration system, these actions will waste billions of dollars, create greater inefficiencies in immigration courts, and increase suffering and injustice for immigrants and their families, ultimately undermining democracy.

Statement by the Liberian Embassy in the US

The Government of Liberia is actively cooperating with the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia and the U.S. Department of State to address the planned deportation of approximately 1,500 Liberians by the Trump Administration. The Government is committed to protecting the interests of its citizens abroad and is diligently seeking solutions to the deportation issue.

Liberia's Foreign Minister, Her Excellency Madam Sara Beysolow Nyanti, is discussing this matter with the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia and has requested to meet with the new U.S. Secretary of State to explore alternatives to deportation.

The Government of Liberia values its partnership with the U.S. and is working closely to find a mutually beneficial solution.

The administration of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr. is dedicated to ensuring the welfare and safety of all Liberian citizens abroad and will continue to strive for a resolution that protects their interests.

Français

Les partenaires internationaux se concertent sur l'Agenda ARREST

Moins d'une semaine après le lancement du programme quinquennal de développement ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID) par le président Joseph Boakai, l'Ambassade de France à Monrovia a réuni des partenaires internationaux lors d'une table ronde visant à renforcer la coopération bilatérale et à aligner les priorités de développement du Liberia. Une concertation stratégique sur les priorités nationales. L'Ambassade de France au Liberia a organisé un symposium d'une journée réunissant les acteurs du développement afin d'identifier les secteurs prioritaires du programme AAID et des Agendas de Développement des Comtés (CDA), dans le but de mobiliser un soutien ciblé et d'optimiser leur mise en œuvre. Présidée par l'ambassadrice de France au Liberia, Isabella Le Guellec, la réunion s'est tenue dans la salle de conférence de l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD) à Monrovia. L'événement a réuni des participants en présentiel et en ligne sous l'égide du Conseil Local de Développement au Liberia. Parmi les personnalités présentes figuraient Georgia Wallen, directrice-pays de la Banque mondiale, Joel Chiedu Okwuokei, représentant résident du Fonds monétaire international (FMI), Alious Mamadou, représentant résident du Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD), ainsi que Alice E. Williams, assistante du ministre des Finances et de la Planification du développement,

chargée des ressources externes. Renforcer la coopération entre la France et le Liberia. L'objectif de cette réunion du Conseil Local de Développement était de définir une stratégie de coopération entre la France et le Liberia en tenant compte des priorités exprimées dans l'Agenda ARREST. Elle visait également à assurer une meilleure coordination entre les projets des partenaires au développement et les initiatives gouvernementales, en veillant à leur alignement stratégique. Au cours des discussions, les représentants du gouvernement et des institutions partenaires ont présenté leurs domaines d'intervention et les projets en cours en lien avec l'Agenda ARREST. Dans une interview exclusive accordée à NEW DAWN, l'ambassadrice Isabella Le Guellec a précisé que cette initiative s'inscrit dans une démarche annuelle de l'Ambassade de France visant à suivre les progrès des projets en cours et à ajuster les priorités aux besoins du pays.

« Tous les partenaires présents à cette conférence sont engagés dans des projets qui s'inscrivent dans le programme de développement du gouvernement libérien. Nos actions s'alignent sur ces initiatives, avec un soutien actif et des interventions ciblées », a-t-elle expliqué. Elle a également souligné l'intérêt particulier des États membres de l'Union européenne pour le développement de la formation technique et professionnelle, un levier essentiel pour renforcer l'employabilité des jeunes Libériens et stimuler la croissance économique. « La France a défini trois priorités stratégiques pour son engagement au Liberia : l'environnement (incluant la protection des forêts, la biodiversité et la lutte contre le changement climatique), l'éducation, et la santé », a-t-elle ajouté. gouvernement libérien à bâtir une économie plus résiliente et inclusive, tout en consolidant ses partenariats avec les acteurs internationaux du développement.



French Ambassador to Liberia, Isabella Le Guellec

Le CENTAL critique le discours du président Boakai

Le président Joseph N. Boakai est sous le feu des critiques après son discours prononcé devant la 55^e Législature ce lundi, notamment pour son manque d'action concrète contre la corruption, un problème majeur pour le Liberia. Le CENTAL dénonce l'inaction du président face à la corruption. Le Center for Transparency and Accountability in Liberia (CENTAL) a sévèrement critiqué l'absence de mesures tangibles de la part du président dans la lutte contre la corruption, malgré les progrès qu'il a soulignés dans d'autres secteurs. « Si le président Boakai peut se vanter de certaines réussites dans divers domaines, il échoue lamentablement lorsqu'il s'agit de lutter contre la corruption, la problématique la plus grave du Liberia », a déclaré l'organisation dans un communiqué. Lors d'un podcast diffusé en direct sur Facebook le 28 janvier 2025, le directeur exécutif du CENTAL, Anderson Miamen, a déploré l'inaction du président concernant les allégations de corruption au sein de son gouvernement. « Le président n'a pas su traduire ses engagements en actions concrètes contre la corruption », a-t-il ajouté. Des progrès économiques, mais des doutes persistent Dans son discours, Boakai a mis en avant des progrès dans des secteurs clés, tels que l'économie, les infrastructures, l'agriculture et l'éducation, mais ses déclarations ont été reçues avec scepticisme par une partie de l'opposition et des acteurs politiques. Le président a rappelé que, lorsqu'il a pris ses fonctions, le pays était confronté à une croissance de seulement 4,6 %, une inflation à 10,1 % et une dette nationale de 2,5 milliards de dollars. Il a également souligné les difficultés rencontrées par les fonctionnaires, en



particulier les retards de salaire et la déséquation des rémunérations, des problèmes ayant conduit une grande partie de la population à recourir à des systèmes financiers informels. Des mesures économiques et sociales, mais des critiques sur leur efficacité. Le président a cependant insisté sur les mesures prises pour améliorer la situation : augmentation des salaires des travailleurs de la santé, des enseignants et des policiers, ainsi qu'une révision à la hausse de la croissance économique, qui a atteint 5,1 % en 2024. Il a également annoncé une réduction de l'inflation, passée de 10,1 % en 2023 à 7,7 % en 2024, avec une prévision de baisse à 6 % pour 2025. Les réserves internationales du Liberia ont augmenté à 458,9 millions de dollars, tandis que le dollar libérien a gagné 4,7 % contre le dollar américain. Le président a aussi souligné que la Banque centrale avait réduit son taux directeur de 20 % à 17 %, ce qui a renforcé la confiance dans le système financier et permis une augmentation de 9,1 % du crédit au secteur privé. Concernant les infrastructures, Boakai a mentionné l'expansion de la route de l'aéroport Roberts, la construction de routes entre Sanniquellie et Logatuo, ainsi que des travaux financés par la Banque mondiale sur le projet RETRAP. Dans le domaine de l'éducation, il a reconnu les défis hérités de son prédécesseur et détaillé les investissements de son gouvernement pour apurer les arriérés de bourses et améliorer l'alphabétisation et les compétences en mathématiques des élèves de troisième via un partenariat avec l'USAID. Les critiques du CENTAL : l'absence de mesures contre la corruption Malgré ces annonces, Anderson Miamen a vivement contesté l'absence de mesures contre la corruption. Il a rappelé que le président avait révoqué l'ensemble du conseil de la LTA (Liberia Telecommunications Authority) après des accusations de corruption, mais qu'il n'avait pris aucune action contre l'actuel président intérimaire, cité dans un rapport d'audit de la Commission générale de l'audit.

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PYJ's senate chair taken to Nimba

The Liberian Senate hands over the seat of late Senator Prince Yormie Johnson to the people of Nimba County in response to their request.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, January 31, 2025 - The Liberian Senate has unprecedentedly turned over the senate chair of late Senator Prince Y. Johnson, to the people of Nimba County to be placed in museum in Sanniquellie, Nimba for exhibition. According to the senate rule, when a colleague senator passes, the person's seat is covered with black and grey garments immediately and

appealed and requested that the seat of the fallen senator be given to the county to be placed in the museum in Sanniquellie, for his eighteen years of service and to also honor and respect his legacy. The senate mass choir sang two beautiful songs one titled "How can I repay you" and the other, "The Lord is my Shepherd." Following the musical session, a pastor in the senate led senators into exhortation and prayer, declaring that the chair be removed and brought to the front.



reserved until after burial at which time it will be removed to show or indicate vacancy before alerting the National Elections Commission of the vacancy. On Thursday, January 30, 2025, the Liberia Senate held a brief memorial service in its chamber to officially turn over the seat of deceased Nimba County Senator Johnson. The decision of the senate is based on request from the people of Nimba through their current lone Senator, Nyan D. Twayen, Jr. who

Meanwhile, unprecedentedly, Senate President Pro-Tempore Nyonblee Kangar Lawrence in a special statement, notes that they will not remove the black garments from the late PYJ's seat; instead, it will be officially turned over to the people of Nimba, based on their request. "They are building a resume for the late Senator Prince Johnson and they are asking the senate to give the senator's seat to them to be placed in the museum. So, instead of removing the garments and turning the seat over, we will give it to the

people of Nimba, while the seat will be placed at the front until the session finishes", Pro-Tempore Lawrence explains. For his part, Vice President Jeremiah K. Koung says he is saddened by the vacant seat of his political god-father, adding that may his soul and the souls of all other faithful departed continue to rest in perfect peace "Today is a sad day for me, the Honorable Senate, the people of Nimba and the entire nation; as we observe the vacant seat of a fallen doyen of this august body, late Senator Prince Y. Johnson. Before I proceed in my message to you Honorable Senators, I kindly ask for a moment of silence in honor of this great statesman", Vice President Koung continues. Presenting the seat to the people of Nimba County, on behalf of the Liberian Senate, the Chair on Rule, Order and Administration, Maryland County Senator J. Gbleh-bo Brown says the senate is pleased to honor the request of the people of Nimba County. "The Liberian Senate is moved to now turnover the seat of former Nimba County Senator Prince Y. Johnson. Once again, our deepest condolences and sympathy to the people of Nimba County", Senator Brown expresses. Receiving the chair of the late PYJ, Senator Nyan D. Twayen, Jr., lauds the senate for granting the Nimba people's request. "On behalf of the people of Nimba and the President of the senate, who is also the son of the late senator and our political leader of the county, we will like to express our gratitude to the Liberian Senate for granting our request so that the seat that the fallen Senator occupied for eighteen years can be taken into the museum that we built in Sanniquellie, so that it can be exhibited there. Thanks very much", he concludes.

Kakata residents protest over bad roads

Angry residents protest for better roads in Kakata, Margibi County.

Kakata, Liberia, January 31, 2025 - Protesting residents of Kakata, Margibi County threaten authorities of the county with undefined radical approach, if their demands are not addressed accordingly. The residents including former representative candidates, political parties' leaders, motorcyclists, businessmen and women, students, amongst others are demanding rehabilitation of deplorable roads in the county that have resulted to dust taking over the city. Spokesperson Sandy S. Johnson, speaking during their second peaceful protest at the Kakata Administrative Building in the presence of Superintendent Victoria W Duncan and other officials, expressed disappointment in the county leadership and threatened radical actions by the group in their protest if nothing were done to address the road conditions. Besides the Bong Mines Road that

connects Kakata to Bong Mines and the Red-light to Ganta Road that passes through Kakata, the city has been without asphalt or concrete paved roads for several decades. Promise made by former President George Manneh Weah in 2018 regarding the pavement of some major roads in the city, including the famous 'ELWA Junction' Road, and the Mandingo Quarter to Vai Town Road was never fulfilled

despite public outcry. During every rainy season, the roads become muddy and hardly passable by vehicles, while during dry season dust engulfs the city. issues such as the ongoing National County Sports Meet. She indicated that despite her engagements, she contacted a member of the group requesting that they meet today, Friday, January 31, 2025 to discuss a forward on the matter. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Mr. Sandy S. Johnson and Superintendent Victoria W. Duncan in verbal exchanges

Jury to rule in Ecobank's US\$700K libel case today

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, January 31, 2025 - Jury of the Civil Law Court annex 'B' will today, Friday, January 31, deliver verdict in the ongoing US\$700,000 libel lawsuit against Ecobank-Liberia, Alex Williams former deputy director general for Statistics and Data Processing at Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo Information Services (LISGIS) and Yussif Kromah, an employee of the bank. Unfortunately, Ecobank is the lone defendant that is being tried in the case. The case against the bank, will be concluded faster than many observers - both in court and people following had expected. Prior to the verdict, the jury will have to listen to closing arguments from lawyers representing the bank and those of Wilmot Smith, former deputy director general for information coordination at LISGIS, who is seeking US\$700,000 in damages. Throughout the trial, the bank's argument has been based on its investigative findings that established that its former employee, Yussif S. Kromah, Reconciliation Officer assigned to the Card Operation Department, leaked information of LISGIS's account details to Mr. Alex Williams, who is unauthorized and a non-signatory to the account. Smith alleges that Williams

manipulated the account details for his personal and selfish aims, except for the bank-client privilege. They argue, for instance, that Williams shared the account statement with Spoon TV social media platform, one of the widely listened to talk show programs in and outside of the country. Williams and Spoon TV used the leaked information to incriminate Smith for illegally withdrawing US\$1.7million from LISGIS's account with the bank that was intended to pay enumerators for the 2023 National Housing and Population Census for his personal benefits. However, the bank had argued that after the investigation, they dismissed Kromah from its employment, so it can't be held liable for Kromah's actions. Under the doctrine of Respondent's superior, an employee is vicariously liable for its employee tortuous acts within the scope of their employment. This principle is well established under Liberian law. Moreover, the Supreme Court had repeatedly held that an employer is liable for the acts of its employee, when such acts are committed in the course of employment and within the scope of the employee's duties. These are the argument that the jury decision is expected to focus on. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Ex-VP Taylor left Bongmines with unfulfilled promises

-Citizens claim By: Edwin N. Khakie

Citizens of Bongmines Distric#7 lower Bong County have expressed disappointment and frustration after learning that former Vice President Jewel H. Taylor never fulfilled her promise of building a Vocational Center in their community. According to the former commissioner, Mr. Aaron S. Mublah, in 2018, Madam Taylor promised to build a vocational Center in Bongmines to provide skills and training opportunities for youths in the community. A promised which was followed by grandbreaking ceremony for the project in the same year. This promise was seen as a ray of hope for the town, which lacked educational and economic opportunities. However, citizens of Bongmines are yet to see the first block of the Vocational Center being laid. They claimed that the former vice president has not only failed to fulfill her promise, but she also never followed up on the issue or provided any explanation for the delay. "It is really disappointing to see that

our former Vice President, who made a promise to bring development to our community, has not even bothered to follow up on her promise," said John Flomo, another resident of Bongmines. Other citizens expressed their frustration, stating that the absence of a vocational Center has made it difficult for the youths in the town to acquire skills and secure employment. They also accused MadamTaylor of using their community for political gain without any intention of fulfilling her promises. "We were used as pawns in her political game, and now we are left with nothing but empty promises. Our youths are suffering, and we have been left in the dark," said another resident, Grace Gbassagee. The citizens of Bongmines are now calling on the government and other development partners to intervene and provide the much-needed vocational Center in their community. Meanwhile, efforts to reach former Vice President Jewel H. Taylor for a comment on the issue have been unsuccessful.

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civil society organizations. Following the reading of the committee's communication during Tuesday's session, a motion was made to defer further discussions on the matter until next Tuesday. Current efforts to throw out belongings of

House to evict embattled Speaker Koffa

former Speaker Koffa from the Office of the Speaker, is the last fight to erase his stamp as Speaker of the 55th Legislature amid controversy that the entire process is illegal. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

First batch of Deportees' names released

In his first week in office, United States President Donald J. Trump issued more than a dozen executive orders to advance his mass detention and deportation agenda.

Monrovia, January 31, 2025/ The United States Department of Homeland Security has released the names and home addresses of 110 Liberians as the first batch of over 1500 Liberians to be evicted from the US as the Trump administration crack down on illegal immigration. The first 110 Liberians to be deported are:

1. Name: Elizabeth M. K. Wuo
Date of Birth: January 15, 1990
Age: 34

Age: 31
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 14, 2016
Current Address: 6384 Green Oak Drive, Atlanta, GA
8. Name: Comfort Y. Sumo
Date of Birth: May 15, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 5, 2014
Current Address: 7732 Rittenhouse Street, New York, NY

County of Origin: Gbarpolu County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 2, 2018
Current Address: 89 Maplewood Lane, Richmond, VA
16. Name: Korto A. Jallah
Date of Birth: January 30, 1980
Age: 44
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 13, 2006
Current Address: 904 Greenway Drive, Detroit, MI
17. Name: Prince B. Konneh
Date of Birth: October 25, 1996
Age: 28
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 11, 2019
Current Address: 1320 Redwood Street, Orlando, FL

18. Name: Ciya K. Vaye
Date of Birth: February 14, 1989
Age: 35
County of Origin: Maryland County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 25, 2014
Current Address: 118 Westfield Road, San Antonio, TX
19. Name: Gifty S. Harris
Date of Birth: May 20, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 1, 2017
Current Address: 560 Valley View, Columbus, OH
20. Name: Samuel B. Moore
Date of Birth: April 18, 1987
Age: 37
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 10, 2012
Current Address: 2007 Oakridge Drive, Seattle, WA
21. Name: Temi A. Dahn
Date of Birth: March 2, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 4, 2019
Current Address: 1748 Sunset Blvd, Tampa, FL
22. Name: Jerome K. Sirleaf
Date of Birth: August 10, 1985
Age: 39
County of Origin: Sinoe County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 22, 2010
Current Address: 2501 Pecan Grove, Houston, TX
23. Name: Amanda M. Tullai
Date of Birth: November 22, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 9, 2014
Current Address: 45 Birchwood Circle, Kansas City, MO
24. Name: James F. Koffa
Date of Birth: July 25, 1983
Age: 41
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 7, 2011
Current Address: 3424 Birchwood Drive, Cleveland, OH
25. Name: Zubah S. Jangaba
Date of Birth: June 30, 1996
Age: 28
County of Origin: Gbarpolu County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 15, 2018
Current Address: 89 Cedar Avenue, Minneapolis, MN
26. Name: Marie F. Weah
Date of Birth: May 10, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Montserrado County

9. Name: Thomas W. Zaza
Date of Birth: February 20, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 14, 2016
Current Address: 2195 Bellaire Drive, Atlanta, GA
10. Name: Fanta D. Tuan
Date of Birth: August 25, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 10, 2017
Current Address: 1255 Highland Avenue, Washington, DC
11. Name: Benjamin K. Blama
Date of Birth: March 22, 1984
Age: 40
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 6, 2013
Current Address: 1909 Willow Street, Los Angeles, CA
12. Name: Kadiatu A. Sumo
Date of Birth: June 18, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 21, 2017
Current Address: 748 Chestnut Drive, Brooklyn, NY
13. Name: Dehkontee M. B. Weah
Date of Birth: April 5, 1986
Age: 38
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 14, 2014
Current Address: 512 Lakeview Road, Charlotte, NC
14. Name: George T. Sherman
Date of Birth: December 8, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 19, 2015
Current Address: 672 Hilltop Circle, Washington, DC
15. Name: Alice B. Dolo
Date of Birth: September 12, 1990
Age: 34



County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 12, 2015
Current Address: 4726 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA
2. Name: Samuel K. Roberts
Date of Birth: April 3, 1988
Age: 36
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 22, 2013
Current Address: 2211 Valley Forge Drive, Dallas, TX
3. Name: Martha G. Nyemah
Date of Birth: September 11, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 25, 2016
Current Address: 1279 Elm Street, Brooklyn, NY
4. Name: Joshua F. Karmoh
Date of Birth: June 27, 1989
Age: 35
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 10, 2014
Current Address: 5604 Ivy Street, Chicago, IL
5. Name: Fatu S. Kamara
Date of Birth: March 5, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 18, 2017
Current Address: 3945 Maplewood Avenue, Houston, TX
6. Name: Korto N. Bamba
Date of Birth: November 17, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 8, 2019
Current Address: 8572 Sunrise Road, Washington, DC
7. Name: Michael A. Tweh
Date of Birth: July 24, 1993

Date Arrived in the USA: January 6, 2014
Current Address: 567 Green Valley Road, Baltimore, MD
27. Name: Quiah J. Lankia
Date of Birth: September 2, 1988
Age: 36
County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 18, 2015
Current Address: 1122 Main Street, Chicago, IL
28. Name: Judith M. Nyemah
Date of Birth: March 5, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: December 2, 2018
Current Address: 1508 Pine Ridge Road, New York, NY
29. Name: Alfred B. Brown
Date of Birth: February 3, 1981
Age: 43
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 24, 2012
Current Address: 455 Riverwalk Drive, Atlanta, GA
30. Name: Zahra W. Kamara
Date of Birth: January 25, 1996
Age: 28
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 14, 2017
Current Address: 1307 Silver Creek Road, Houston, TX
31. Name: Emmanuel T. Gaye
Date of Birth: October 19, 1985
Age: 39
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 5, 2010
Current Address: 902 Oak Street, Dallas, TX
32. Name: Bea K. Cooper
Date of Birth: December 12, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 25, 2017
Current Address: 630 Autumn Lane, Boston, MA
33. Name: Tomi B. Wah
Date of Birth: September 10, 1997
Age: 27
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: January 3, 2020
Current Address: 827 Cedar Circle, Los Angeles, CA
34. Name: Josephine S. Lewis
Date of Birth: June 15, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Margibi County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 28, 2014
Current Address: 4748 Liberty Street, Chicago, IL
35. Name: Clarence F. Sirleaf
Date of Birth: January 17, 1983
Age: 41
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 8, 2011
Current Address: 123 Pine Hill Drive, Atlanta, GA
36. Name: Nyeneshia G. Zayzay
Date of Birth: February 22, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 15, 2016
Current Address: 3007 Sunset Avenue, Miami, FL
37. Name: Joshua P. Odu
Date of Birth: May 1, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Grand Bassa County
Date Arrived in the USA: July 19, 2015
Current Address: 845 Birchwood Drive, New York, NY
38. Name: Jummatu K. Johnson
Date of Birth: November 14, 1991
Age: 33
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 22, 2017
Current Address: 579 Maplewood Drive, Richmond, VA
39. Name: Korkoya S. Fofana
Date of Birth: June 5, 1984
Age: 40
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 9, 2013
Current Address: 2124 Oak Ridge, San Francisco, CA
40. Name: Sarah K. Bondo
Date of Birth: August 24, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: April 18, 2016

Current Address: 1362 Creekside Drive, Cleveland, OH
41. Name: Dennis F. Taylor
Date of Birth: March 14, 1986
Age: 38
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 30, 2011
Current Address: 1154 Eastwood Road, Atlanta, GA
42. Name: Amara K. Karpeh
Date of Birth: February 28, 1994
Age: 30
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: March 22, 2018
Current Address: 423 Hillcrest Avenue, Brooklyn, NY
43. Name: Dolly J. Zarkor
Date of Birth: July 3, 1996
Age: 28
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 5, 2019
Current Address: 765 Pine Street, Dallas, TX
44. Name: Fredrick L. Sumo
Date of Birth: January 20, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: River Cess County
Date Arrived in the USA: June 8, 2017
Current Address: 1278 Maple Avenue, Los Angeles, CA
45. Name: Mariama W. Fofanah
Date of Birth: October 12, 1993
Age: 31
County of Origin: Gbarpolu County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 17, 2018
Current Address: 906 Cedar Lane, Washington, DC
46. Name: Moses T. Karmo
Date of Birth: March 29, 1989
Age: 35
County of Origin: Bomi County
Date Arrived in the USA: August 12, 2014
Current Address: 2190 Summit Avenue, Denver, CO
47. Name: Ketu A. Banna
Date of Birth: April 19, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Lofa County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 1, 2015
Current Address: 3121 Spring Lane, Houston, TX
48. Name: Delpha S. Kesseh
Date of Birth: June 23, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Grand Gedeh County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 6, 2017
Current Address: 5000 Willow Creek Road, Atlanta, GA
49. Name: Jerry F. Massaquoi
Date of Birth: October 17, 1995
Age: 29
County of Origin: Nimba County
Date Arrived in the USA: February 8, 2018
Current Address: 809 Rosewood Drive, Baltimore, MD
50. Name: Ruth K. T. Smith
Date of Birth: January 30, 1990
Age: 34
County of Origin: Montserrado County
Date Arrived in the USA: October 4, 2016
Current Address: 1627 Bloomingdale Avenue, New York, NY
51. Name: Kojo T. F. Johnson
Date of Birth: December 5, 1987
Age: 37
County of Origin: Grand Kru County
Date Arrived in the USA: May 17, 2014
Current Address: 1348 Beechwood Drive, Chicago, IL
52. Name: Naomi D. Korteh
Date of Birth: April 1, 1996
Age: 28
County of Origin: River Gee County
Date Arrived in the USA: September 14, 2020
Current Address: 812 Maplewood Street, Charlotte, NC
53. Name: George N. Nyuma
Date of Birth: August 25, 1992
Age: 32
County of Origin: Bong County
Date Arrived in the USA: November 2, 2015
Current Address: 1012 Liberty Street, Brooklyn, NY
54. Name: Jarmar S. Wolo
Date of Birth: January 9, 1995

