



## CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR **BUYING SELLING** DATE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025 L\$198.3631/US\$1.00 L\$196.6222/US\$1.00

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

# French Version Inside



VOL. 15 NO. 014

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025** 

**PRICE LD\$50.00** 



-Justice Geisay explains S/Court Bench absence from Boakai's Second SONA

# Worries over regional security threat

Pres. Bio -Urges AFL to consolidate regional collabora

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# Continental News

Rebels attack DR Congo army Detained Ugandan politician ending III in fighting Meanwhile, reports say that hundreds and thousands of

South Kivu province, breaking days after a summit of East and Southern African leaders unconditional ceasefire.

he Rwandan-backed 700,000 others are estimated M23 rebels have to have been forced from their attacked Congolese homes and thousands more government forces in the injured. Tuesday's fighting erupted near Ihusi, a locality a two-day lull in around 70km (43 miles) from fighting. Heavy shelling began Bukavu and 40km from the on Tuesday morning, three South Kivu's airport, security sources told news agency AFP.

A spokesperson for the Congo called for an immediate and River Alliance (known by its French acronym AFC), an



The rebels have seized vast alliance of rebel groups major city of Goma.

They are now pushing towards Lawrence Kanyuka responded Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu - another key city in the region. Around 2,900 people have been killed since early January as a result of the hostilities, the latest UN

swathes of land in the eastern including the M23, suggested DR Congo, including the its fighters could take their battle to Bukavu.

to the arrests by the Congolese authorities of 84 army personnel for crimes such as killing civilians near Bukavu, saying: "If these crimes persist, we will take full responsibility g u r e s to eradicate the threat at its suggest. Approximately source and protect our people".

hundreds and thousands of refugees, who have fled the ongoing fighting, were being forced to return home by the M23. The M23 has denied this allegation, but French broadcaster RFI reported that several large camps for displaced people have been dismantled and their inhabitants made to trek back to their villages in conflict

Ocha, the UN's humanitarian agency, said the M23 had given displaced people in Goma 72 hours to return to home.Mr Kanyuka said such reports were "propaganda" and that displaced people were returning voluntarily. The M23 "does not compel anyone to return without firm security guarantees", he said. The M23, which is made up of ethnic Tutsis, say they are fighting for minority rights, while DR Congo's government says the rebels are seeking control of the eastern region's vast mineral wealth.

DR Congo and the UN accused Rwanda's Tutsi-dominated government of backing the M23 - an allegation which Kigali has persistently denied.But recently, the official response has shifted, with government spokespeople stating that fighting near its border is a security threat.BBC

# starts hunger strike

etained Ugandan opposition politician Kizza Besigye has begun a hunger strike as his time spent in detention awaiting trial nears three months.

Besigye, 68, was charged in a military court with possession of pistols and attempting to purchase weapons abroad accusations which he

On Tuesday, an aide from Besigye's political movement, the People's Front for Freedom (PFF), told the BBC: "We believe he is protesting because he should not still be in prison he should be home."

Besigve's trial was initially postponed until January - it is now unclear when the court case will begin. Besigye used to be a

personal doctor for Uganda's longtime president, Yoweri thrown out by the courts.

between the two neighbours. Besigye was then charged along with an aide, Obeid Lutale. Mr Lutale also denied the charges. In a landmark ruling last month, Uganda's Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional for military courts to try civilians, ordering the transfer of all such cases to civilian courts.

The move angered President Museveni, who dismissed it as "a wrong decision" and vowed to challenge the ruling. Besigye has had various other run-ins with the law.

On Tuesday, the opposition politician was expected to appear before a civilian court for a hearing on a 2022 case in which he is accused of holding an unlawful demonstration. However, he did not attend the hearing, citing health reasons.

In 2005, Besigye was arrested while returning from a political rally ahead of the 2006 presidential polls and charged with treason. The charges were



# South Sudan president sacks top leaders and spy chief outh Sudan's President of the main opposition as vice-president.Mel,

were given for the move.

South Sudan has five vicepresidents as part of a 2018 peace agreement to end a civil been appointed to replace Igga are both from Machar's party. war. The oil-rich nation became the world's newest country in 2011 after seceding from Sudan but it was then engulfed by civil war after Kiir and his deputy Riek Machar fell out. The 2018 power-sharing agreement has been fraught with problems.

One of the vice-president removed from office is James Wani Igga, a veteran politician and general, who has been in the position since 2013 and has been the deputy chair of SPLM, the party of the president.

The other is Hussein Abdelbagi Akol, from an opposition alliance (SSOA) which is not part

Salva Kiir has sacked two of movement (SPLM-In Opposition) previously a special presidential his vice-presidents, the of First Vice-President Riek envoy for special programmes, country's spy chief and other Machar. Akol has been appointed has been the subject of senior officials. The dismissals the minister for agriculture, speculation that he was being were announced in a series of replacing Josephine Joseph Lagu fronted as a potential successor presidential decrees read on the from the same SSOA alliance of Kiir. The president has not state broadcaster. No reasons who now becomes a vice- appointed replacements for the president.Benjamin Bol Mel, health minister and the who was sanctioned by the US in governor of the south-western 2017 for alleged corruption, has state of Western Equatoria, who

The South Sudanese president has not given reasons for the latest changes in government

The veteran opposition figure has previously accused the Ugandan authorities of political persecution.He has been less active in politics in recent years, and did not contest the 2021 election. However, Besigye returned

to the headlines last month after he was dramatically abducted while visiting Kenya and forcibly taken to Uganda.

The detention sparked widespread condemnation and fears of a clandestine

exchange of intelligence

Museveni, but went on to He was also charged with rape in become an opposition a separate case. The charges were later dropped. He said all He has contested and lost the allegations were part of a four presidential elections campaign of political against Museveni, who has persecution. Museveni has been in power since 1986. defended the use of military courts to try civilians. He said any crime involving a gun was dealt with in a military court to ensure the country's stability as civilian courts took too long to deal with cases.

Opposition parties have frequently complained about restrictions on political activities, alleging that Museveni fears political competition.

Museveni's supporters deny the allegation, and say he has maintained stability during his rule of almost 40 years.BBC

# EDITORIAL

# The Bar's fear should draw our concern

he Liberian National Bar Association alarms here that recent events in the country pose threats to Liberia's constitutional democracy. The Bar expresses fear over alleged violations of fundamental rights, questionable Executive actions and disregard for judicial decision, including Legislative overreach, which it warns, undermine the very fabric of our democracy.

The LNBA promises to continue to engage with policymakers to ensure that the Constitution of Liberia is upheld and that legal reforms reflect aspirations of the Liberian

The newly inducted President of the Liberian National Bar Association (LNBA) Cllr. Bornor M. Varmah, says the LNBA operates under statutory guidelines that subject its regulatory, disciplinary, and administrative functions to external influences. However, he notes that to effectively fulfill its mandate, they want autonomous status that would grant the Bar greater control.

The LNBA should have authority to set and enforce ethical standards, improve licensing requirements, and disciplinary actions for legal practitioners without undue interference. As a body committed to justice, the LNBA must have the institutional independence to challenge unconstitutional actions, advocate for judicial reforms, and engage in public interest litigation without fear of political influence", Cllr. Varmah underscores.

His call followed recent legal interpretations, misinterpretation, and in some instances, ambiguity that surrounded the removal of House Speaker J. Fonati Koffa, and brought the Supreme Court of Liberia to public scrutiny and criticism regarding procedures enshrined in the Constitution on removal of the Speaker.

But unfortunately, the High Court left its opinion on the matter hanging, a situation which the Executive branch of the government took advantage of and provided its own interpretation in support of the replacement of the Speaker outside of established rules.

As the Bar points put, the public must never be left in doubt whenever the Supreme Court reviews and brings finality to any subject matter because it is the only branch of government that is mandated by the Constitution to ensure serenity and stability in the democratic system, through its judicial review and I interpretation of the laws of Liberia.

We totally agree with Cllr. Bornor M. Varmah, the new president of the Bar, for this is where the Supreme Court left the entire country in doubt about legal ramifications concerning procedures at the House of Representatives of the 55th Legislature, up to date.

It is clear that the Executive, that had instigated and sponsored Speaker Koffa's illegal removal, had its way, because the Supreme Court kept a conspicuous silence, for fear of what, only God knows.

Cllr. Varmah announces that the LNBA will work with the Supreme Court to improve quality of opinions in matters brought before it, to save the best interest of law and public policy, adding "This is urgent and paramount as the Court's greatest power bestowed upon it by the 1986 Constitution is the power of judicial review to bring definitions, clarity and finality in all matters without influence and interference from anywhere."

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc., UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission. Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-0555422200 / +231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garbiah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan K. Browne www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

By Kate Hampton and Hannah Wanjie Ryder

### **Developing Countries Need a New Approach to Long-Term Financing**

climate and development goals, expensive introduced in recent years," was accompanied by public goods is urgently needed.

rapidly warming planet.

For most developing countries, the size of the debt is not the primary issue. In fact, it is too small to support development at the pace required. Moreover, developing countries' debt is a small proportion of overall global debt, For example, to resolve liquidity problems caused while their debt-to-GDP ratios are often barely half those of richer countries.

The real challenge lies in the structure of the debt. As many bilateral lenders have scaled back their lending capacity over the past two decades, developing countries have had no choice but to rely on private-sector financing that is not suitable for vulnerable borrowers. Meanwhile, exogenous shocks - including the COVID-19 pandemic, climate-related disasters, and high inflation - have triggered a sharp rise in interest rates. This has driven up borrowing The Finance for Development Lab's Bridge to projects are struggling.

The need for affordable finance will only become more acute in the coming years. The Independent High-Level Expert Group on Climate Finance estimates that emerging and developing economies (excluding China) will need to mobilize an additional \$2.5 trillion annually by 2030, and \$3.5 trillion by 2035. Similarly, Development Reimagined's analysis of 13 African countries finds that delivering on the SDGs and the African Union's Agenda 2063 will require \$109-150 billion in annual infrastructure financing.

But instead, according to the Debt Service Watch database, the world's poorest countries are spending, on average, 50% of their revenue

China's experience offers valuable insights into how to tackle today's financing challenges. During a recent visit, we traveled on the highspeed rail from Beijing to the Shandong explain how 800 million people have been able stake in the economic opportunities it creates. to lift themselves out of poverty within two generations.

financing. In November, Chinese Minister of International Studies Africa Program. Finance Lan Fo'an announced a CNY10 trillion (\$1.4 trillion) debt-swap plan for local

ONDON/BEIJING - The world is in the midst governments as part of the government's fiscal of a financing crisis. As world leaders work stimulus package. The debt-relief plan, described to mobilize trillions of dollars to meet by Lan as China's "most significant measure public debt is limiting governments' ability to a bond issuance designed to reduce local make long-term investments. A long-term governments' debt burdens and free resources to framework for low-interest financing of global stimulate economic development, boost business confidence, and safeguard public services.

While debt burdens have increased dramatically China's ability to combine long-term investments almost everywhere, the danger is particularly and adaptive short-term financing provides a acute in developing countries, where useful model for mitigating the current debt crisis government debt repayments are growing twice and easing tensions between developed-country as fast as in developed economies. Faced with creditors and developing countries. The G7 unbearable debt repayment burdens, many countries and multilateral institutions should developing countries cannot make the necessary replace their rigid and outdated approach to investments to reduce poverty and adapt to a sovereign debt, rooted in Western corporate bankruptcy laws and restructuring rules, with a framework that enables governments to respond quickly to unexpected shocks and prevent liquidity shortages from escalating into insolvency crises.

> by high borrowing costs, developing countries need support in taking swift, preemptive steps to stabilize their debt positions while expanding access to affordable borrowing for productive investments. But achieving this requires reforming the G20's Common Framework, long hampered by slow implementation and a prolender bias. Such an effort should also involve innovative, cross-country fiscal mechanisms, such as currency-swap arrangements and the proposed African Stability Mechanism.

costs, strained public budgets, and threatened Climate Action proposal - developed in political stability. Even countries that took on consultation with a diverse coalition of borrower minimal levels of debt to fund infrastructure and lender countries, philanthropic organizations, and NGOs - offers one possible solution. It envisions a tripartite deal whereby multilateral development banks would increase climate-linked financing, creditors would agree to reschedule debt, and borrowing countries would be supported in pursuing a strategy for growth based on country-led development plans. The IMF's "3-pillar approach" incorporates similar principles.

> Development Reimagined offers another option. Its ambitious Borrowers Club initiative advocates placing borrowers, rather than lenders, at the center of the international financial system. Such a shift could facilitate short-term debt relief while making long-term borrowing cheaper through coordinated action.

on debt service. Over three billion people Other crucial steps include adopting resilient currently live in countries that spend more on debt instruments, such as disaster clauses and debt payments than on essential services like outcome-linked bonds that better tailor privatesector financing for vulnerable borrowers reforming the International Monetary Fund's quota system and debt-sustainability assessment process, and overhauling the credit-rating ecosystem.

province, completing the 403-mile journey in The solutions are well understood. But without a just over three hours. This remarkable feat of fairer and more adaptive global financial system. engineering is a testament to China's we stand little chance of meeting our climate and commitment to long-term investment in development goals. To ensure a just green sustainable development - a strategy that helps transition, developing countries must have a

Kate Hampton is CEO of the Children's Investment Fund Foundation. Hannah Wanjie Ryder, a former Equally important is China's recognition of the diplomat, is CEO of Development Reimagined and need for flexibility in managing short-term Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic

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By Antara Haldar

# **What Is MAGAnomics?**

AMBRIDGE - While the end of World War II 80 years ago ushered in an age of reason, Donald Trump's return to the White House has ushered it out. His MAGA (Make → America Great Again) movement promises to take a wrecking ball to the postwar global economic order, raising the question of what will replace it. "America First" seems to appeal to a wide spectrum of constituents, from blue-collar workers in the heartland to Big Tech "broligarchs." But what does it mean in practice? Is there any method to Trump's madness, or does he believe, like Mao Zedong, that "Everything under heaven is in chaos; the situation is excellent"?

At his second inauguration, Trump announced a new American "golden age," which presumably would be achieved by delivering on his campaign promises to end inflation, impose new tariffs, expel undocumented immigrants, cut taxes, and radically reduce the size of government. But mainstream economists were quick to point out that achieving these contradictory objectives simultaneously will be difficult, if not impossible. After all, tariffs, deportations, and tax cuts are all potentially inflationary.

What are we to make of MAGA economics - or what is variously referred to as "economic nationalism," "Trumponomics," or "populist economics"? Is it the progeny of economics, or something else entirely? Economics traditionally has comprised coherent schools of thought: neoclassical, Keynesian, monetarist, and Marxian economics, for example, follow a certain internal logic. But MAGAnomics is an intellectual grab bag.

Start with Trump's emphasis on tariffs, which represents a repudiation of neoclassical economics' commitment to free trade and a return to mercantilism or the heterodox developmentalism of the left. Meanwhile, "industrial policy" - active government interventions to support strategic industries, which are typically associated with government-led planned economies - somehow coexists with the echoes of anarcholibertarianism implied by the war on the "deep state." Likewise, whereas the rejection of austerity and tolerance for deficit spending smacks of Keynesianism, the focus on deregulation and tax cuts harks back to Ronald Reagan and trickle-down economics.

Thus, MAGAnomics is simultaneously considered to be "pro-business" (corporate tax cuts and deregulation) and "pro-worker" (reindustrialization, reshoring, and antiimmigration). By rejecting the logic of Ricardian comparative advantage, Trump rejects the supreme criterion of neoclassical economics: efficiency. Yet he supports the mission of Elon Musk's "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE). While some commentators have attempted to position MAGAnomics as a descendant of Hamiltonian economic philosophy or the paleo-conservativism of Pat Buchanan (who mobilized "white anxiety" to push Republicans to the right of Reagan), many others see it simply as the result of a longstanding dissatisfaction with globalization.

MAGAnomics has undoubtedly absorbed arguments from Trump's senior counselor for trade, Peter Navarro (a protectionist China hawk), Robert Lighthizer (a free-trade skeptic), Oren Cass (a conservative champion of the American worker), and Stephen Moore (a talking head and consummate Trump flatterer); and it has been institutionalized through organizations like the Heritage Foundation (Project 2025). But unlike traditional schools of economic thought, MAGAnomics operates as a pastiche of contradictory doctrines and impulses crammed together under the banner of nationalism and grievance politics.

Trump's brand of economic nationalism resonates not because of any theoretical coherence, but through its emotional appeal. The currency of MAGAnomics is not analytical rigor; it is affect - wounded pride, humiliation, and, above all, anger. Legions of experts and academics, especially economists, have struggled to rationalize what is fundamentally an emotional phenomenon.

That is why the best explanations may lie outside of economics. Consider sociologist Arlie Russell Hochschild's work on the "deep story" of Trump supporters: how they see themselves as waiting in line for the American Dream, only to be cut off by outsiders and elites, women and minorities. Here we find the psychological basis for MAGAnomics' appeal, even when its policies are inconsistent or contradictory. Trump reframes their pride as having been "stolen," and urges them to channel it into blame.

It is ironic, to be sure, that neoclassical economics, so rigorous and elegant, has met its match in an intellectual mash-up. But this is consistent with a defining feature of MAGAnomics: its animus toward experts and elites. In replacing the technocratic logic of postwar economics, it redefines the American worker not as an economic agent in a model, but as a symbolic figure in a larger struggle against "globalism" and cultural displacement. Its power lies in its ability to channel collective frustrations into a political agenda whose purpose is not economic stewardship but cultural messaging.

And yet MAGAnomics has been eerily effective in shining a light on economics' unresolved questions: its distributive implications (who wins and who loses), its disciplinary boundaries, and its treatment of issues like personal identity and affect. For all its internal contradictions and polarizing and reactionary policy implications, MAGAnomics forces these issues back into the center of the conversation.

MAGAnomics may not qualify as a school of economic thought, but economists need to recognize that it is no mere aberration, but rather a symptom of the deeper, longstanding shortcomings of the orthodoxy that prevailed in the aftermath of WWII. A reckoning is in order, not just with Trumpism, but with the assumptions that made it possible in the first place. Many are blaming MAGA's rise on the Democratic Party's disarray; but the economics establishment may be even more at fault. Until and unless economists get their discipline's house in order, the MAGA madness will be here to stay.

Antara Haldar, Associate Professor of Empirical Legal Studies at the University of Cambridge, is a visiting faculty member at Harvard University and the principal investigator on a European Research Council grant on law and cognition.

By Mariana Mazzucato and Tommaso Valletti

# he Public Interest

ARIS - UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer recently published an "Al Opportunities Action Plan" that includes a multibillion-pound government investment in the UK's AI capacity and £14 billion (\$17.3 billion) in commitments from tech firms. The stated goal is to boost the AI computing power under public control 20-fold by 2030, and to embed AI in the public sector to improve services and reduce costs by automating tasks.

But governing AI in the public interest will require the government to move beyond unbalanced relationships with digital monopolies. As matters stand, public authorities usually offer technology companies lucrative unstructured deals with no conditionalities attached. They are then left scrambling to address the market failures that inevitably ensue. While AI has plenty of potential to improve lives, the current approach does not set governments up for success. To be sure, economists disagree on what AI will mean for economic growth. In addition to warning about the harms that AI could do if it is not directed well, the Nobel laureate economist Daron Acemoglu estimates that the technology will boost productivity by only 0.07% per year, at most, over the next decade. By contrast, AI enthusiasts like Philippe Aghion and Erik Brynjolfsson believe that productivity growth could be up to 20 times higher (Aghion estimates 1.3% per year, while Brynjolfsson and his colleagues point to the potential for a one-off increase as high as 14% in just a few months).

Meanwhile, bullish forecasts are being pushed by groups with vested interests, raising concerns over inflated figures, a lack of transparency, and a "revolving door" effect. Many of those promising the greatest benefits also stand to gain from public investments in the sector. What are we to make of the CEO of Microsoft UK being appointed as chair of the UK Department for Business and Trade's Industrial Strategy Advisory Council? The key to governing AI is to treat it not as a sector deserving of more or less support, but rather as a general-purpose technology that can transform all sectors. Such transformations will not be value-neutral. While they could be realized in the public interest, they also could further consolidate the power of existing monopolies. Steering the technology's development and deployment in a positive direction will require governments to foster a decentralized innovation ecosystem that serves the public good.

Policymakers also must wake up to all the ways that things can go wrong. One major risk is the further entrenchment of dominant platforms such as Amazon and Google, which have leveraged their position as gatekeepers to extract "algorithmic attention rents" from users. Unless governed properly, today's AI systems could follow the same path, leading to unproductive value extraction, insidious monetization, and deteriorating information quality. For too long, policymakers have ignored these externalities.

Yet governments may now be tempted to opt for the short-term cheapest option: allowing tech giants to own the data. This may help established firms drive innovation, but it also will ensure that they can leverage their monopoly power in the future. This risk is particularly relevant today, given that the primary bottleneck in AI development is cloud computing power, the market for which is 67% controlled by Amazon, Google, and Microsoft. While AI can do much good, it is no magic wand. It must be developed and deployed in the context of a well-considered public strategy. Economic freedom and political freedom are deeply intertwined, and neither is compatible with highly concentrated power. To avoid this dangerous path, the Starmer government should rethink its approach. Rather than acting primarily as a "market fixer" that will intervene later to address AI companies' worst excesses (from deepfakes to disinformation), the state should step in early to shape the AI market.

That means not allocating billions of pounds to vaguely defined AI-related initiatives that lack clear objectives, which seems to be Starmer's AI plan. Public funds should not be funneled into the hands of foreign hyper-scalers, as this risks diverting taxpayer money into the pockets of the world's wealthiest corporations and ceding control over public-sector data. The UK National Health Service's deal with Palantir is a perfect example of what to avoid.

There is also a danger that if AI-led growth does not materialize as promised, the UK could be left with a larger public deficit and crucial infrastructure in foreign hands. Moreover, relying solely on Al investment to improve public services could lead to their deterioration. Al must complement, not replace, real investments in public-sector capabilities.

The government should take concrete steps to ensure that AI serves the public good. For example, mandatory algorithmic audits can shed light on how AI systems are monetizing user attention. The government should also heed the lessons of past missteps, such as Google's acquisition of the London-based startup DeepMind. As the British investor lan Hogarth has noted, the UK government might have been better off blocking this deal to maintain an independent AI enterprise. Even now, proposals to reverse the takeover warrant consideration. Government policy also must recognize that Big Tech already has both scale and resources, whereas small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) require support to grow. Public funding should act as an "investor of first resort" to help these businesses overcome the first-mover bias and expand. Prioritizing support for homegrown entrepreneurs and initiatives over dominant foreign companies is crucial.

Finally, since AI platforms extract data from the digital commons (the internet), they are beneficiaries of a major economic windfall. It follows that a digital windfall tax should be applied to help fund open-source AI and public innovation. The United Kingdom needs to develop its own public AI infrastructure guided by a public-value framework, following the model of the EuroStack initiative in the European Union. Al should be a public good, not a corporate tollbooth. The Starmer government's guiding objective should be to serve the public interest. That means addressing the entire supply chain - from software and computing power to chips and connectivity. The UK needs more investment in creating, organizing, and federating existing assets (not necessarily replacing Big Tech's assets entirely). Such efforts should be guided and co-financed under a consistent policy framework that aims to build a viable, competitive AI ecosystem. Only then can they ensure that the technology creates value for society and genuinely serves the public interest.

Mariana Mazzucato is Professor in the Economics of Innovation and Public Value at University College London and the author, most recently, of Mission Economy: A Moonshot Guide to Changing Capitalism (Penguin Books, 2022). Tommaso Valletti, Professor of Economics at Imperial College London, is Director of the Centre for Economic Policy Research and a former chief competition economist at the European Commission.

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### **Liberia's Bid for the UN Security Council: A Historic Opportunity for Economic Growth and National Unity**

FEBRUARY 12

he 193 member states of the United Nations are poised to head to the polls in June this year to elect ten new non-permanent members to the UN Security Council. The newly elected members will join the five permanent members, who possess veto powers, to serve rotational terms of two years each. The Security Council is the UN's primary organ tasked with maintaining international peace and security.

Liberia, a founding member of the United Nations since June 1945, is among the nations vying for one of these coveted seats. This bid marks a significant moment for the country, coming 65 years after it last shared a two-year term on the Security Council with the Republic of Ireland, with each serving one year.

This week, President Joseph N. Boakai is set to officially launch Liberia's campaign for the Security Council seat locally, aiming to garner national support amidst a politically divided populace. The launch is not only intended to rally local endorsement but also to foster unity among citizens despite political differences.

Liberia's Permanent Representative to the UN, Lewis G. Brown, has expressed optimism that Liberia's election to the Security Council will translate into significant economic opportunities and growth potential at home. He pointed to the economic booms experienced during President William VS Tubman's administration when Liberia last shared a term with the Republic of Ireland.

"When Liberia succeeds in the June elections, it will be 65 years since Liberia had the opportunity to sit on the highest platform in the world responsible for maintaining international peace and security. This time, the chance to sit on the Council will be even more historically significant and prouder for our country as it would be the first time Liberia will serve a full two-year term," stated Ambassador Brown.

It is important to note here that Liberia's tenure as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, some 65 years ago, marked a remarkable period in its history. During this time, Liberia utilized its position to advocate for the unity and independence of African nations, promote and support UN peacekeeping missions, and mediate in various international disputes. As a symbol of black sovereignty and independence, Liberia played a pivotal role in fostering dialogue, supporting decolonization processes, and advocating for peace and stability in conflict zones.

Liberia's contributions to UN peacekeeping efforts were significant and impactful. The country actively promoted the deployment of peacekeeping forces in Africa with the aim of stabilizing regions. One notable example of Liberia's support for peacekeeping missions was its involvement in the Congo crisis.

Liberia's contributions during its time as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council remain a testament to its enduring legacy of advocacy, mediation, and support for peace and independence in Africa. Through its unwavering commitment to African unity, its promotion of UN peacekeeping missions, and its role as mediator, Liberia played a vital role in shaping the course of international relations and supporting the aspirations of African nations

This time, expectations are high that Liberia's position on the UN Security Council will bring tangible benefits to the nation. Economic advantages, including increased foreign investment, job opportunities, and overall economic growth, are anticipated as a result of Liberia's elevated status on the international stage.

In conclusion, Liberia's bid for the non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council represents not only a significant historical milestone but also a potential catalyst for economic development and national cohesion. The outcome of the June elections is eagerly awaited, with hopes that Liberia will secure its place on this prestigious global platform.





### Invitation for Bid (IFB)

FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF GOODS & NON-CONSULTING SERVICES

- 1. The National Transit Authority (NTA) has received budgetary appropriation from FY 2025 National Budget, as well as internally generated revenue, and intends to apply portion of it towards the Procurement of goods and non-consulting services to enhance its service delivery, optimize productivity in its day-to-day operations and ensuring value for money
- The National Transit Authority (NTA) now invites sealed bids from eligible registered Businesses for the supply of the below listed contract packages to the entity for FY 2025.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) process as enshrined in the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission Act (PPCA).

4. Specification and Quantity of Contract Packages:

No.	Contract Packages	Qty.	IFB. NO:	Bid Security
1	Lubricants	98 Drums	NTA/NCB/001/2025	\$1,900.00
2	Insurance (Medical)	1 Firm	NTA/SBA/NCB/005/2025	\$2,349.00
2	Insurance (Vehicles)	1 Firm	NTA/SBA/NCB/006/2025	\$843.00
4	Scratch Cards	5,208Pcs	NTA/NCB/002/2025	\$780.00
-	Local Spare Parts (Readily-Available)	Assorted	NTA/NCB/007/2025	\$3,625.00
- 6	Tickets (Revenue)	1 Firm	NTA/SBA/NCB/001/2025	\$912.00
7	Security Guard Service	1 Firm	NTA/SBA/NCB/002/2025	\$1,404.00
-/	Construction (Adm. Building)	1 Firm	NTA/SBA/NCB/004/2025	\$16,412.00
Ö	Construction (Adm. Duilding)	1111111		

\*Please obtain bidding document of each package for more detailed instructions for bid submission

- Qualification requirements: (Please reference bidding documents of your preferred contract package)
- All interested eligible Businesses may obtain copy of the bidding document(s) of their preferred contract package(s) from the Procurement Department of the NTA, Japan Drive, Gardnersville, Montserrado County, Liberia, for a non-refundable fee of US\$40.00 beginning Thursday, February 6, 2025 from 9:30am to 4:00pm daily
- 7. All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid Security" (as in matrix) from a reputable bank and must have a validity period of 30 days after bid submission deadline.
- Sealed bids must be delivered to the Procurement Unit of the NTA no later than the times, dates and places indicated in the bidding documents or on the Bid Data Sheet (BDS). Late bids will be marked, rejected and returned to bidders unopened. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders who choose to attend or their representatives at the times, dates and places indicated in the bidding documents or the Bid Data Sheet (BDS). NO ELECTRONIC BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. CONTRACTS WILL BE AWARDED TO THE MOST RESPONSIVE FIRM THAT HAS FULLY COMPLETED THE PPCC VENDORS' REGISTRATION

9. All bids must be addressed to:

The Procurement Department National Transit Authority (NTA) Japan Drive, Gardnersville, Mont, Co., Liberia Tel #: 077/1607776 / 08881 10881 / 0770790194 Hon. Edmund Fort Fact Director-General/ Chairman PC

Samuel G. Hney

TRANSPORTATION FOR THE PEOPLE

Japanese Drive, Gardnersville P.O. Box 183, Monrovia, Liberia Tel: +231777707776 / +231888110881 sgordohney.2.2010@gmail.com/sgordohney.2.2010@nta.com.lr



### REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

LIBERIA IMMIGRATION SERVICE (LIS)



### **General Procurement Notice(GNN)**

The LIBERIA IMMIGRATION SERVICE has received budgetary allotment from the Government of Liberia National Fiscal year budget 2025 and intends to apply part of its budgetary allotment towards the procurement of various Contract packages list in the matrix below, through a National Competitive Bidding (NCB) method of the Public Procurement and Concession Act of 2010(PPCA) of Liberia. They Include:

No	Code	Contract Package	Quantity	Bid Opening			
				Deadlines			
	IFB No: LIS/NCB/001/25	Vehicle Spare Parts	Assorted(Bid Document)	Mar 10, 2025			
1		•					
	IFB No: LIS/SBA/NCB/002/25	Stationery	Assorted(Bid Document)	March 12, 2025			
_		· ·	· ·				

- 1. The **Liberia Immigration Services** now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the items indicated above.
- 2. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in Section 48(P. 52) of the 2010 amended PPCA.
- 3. All interested eligible bidders may obtain copy of the bidding document for a Non-refundable fee of USD 50.00 and any further information from the Procurement Unit of the Liberia Immigration Service(LIS) beginning Monday, February 11, 2025 from 9:00am to 3:00pm daily (Monday-Friday).

### **Qualification Criteria:**

- Up to date tax clearance
- Valid business registration certificate with business activity code J 6120 respectively
- Submit copy of the processed vendor's registration form issued by PPCC
- Article of Incorporation (Notarized)
- 4. Sealed Bid (One Original and Three Copies) must be delivered to the address below. Absolutely Electronic bid will not be permitted.
- 5. Late Bids will be rejected and returned unopened.
- 6. All Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after the deadline of Bid submission.
- 7. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration

The Procurement Unit Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) **Old NSA Building** Mamba Point, UN Drive Monrovia, Liberia

Cell #s:0770210665/0886559103

Email: symulhah 39@omail.com

FEBRUARY 12

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## laFAA turns over patrol to Liberian Coast Guard He acknowledge challenges the

The Liberian Coast Guard receives a boost here with the donation of a patrol vessel by the Government of Wales, United Kingdom.

By: Wise Wesseh

Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) between NaFAA and the Liberian has turned MPV Lonestar Boat to Coast Guard, while commending the Liberian Coast Guard the Government of Wale,

rapid depletion.

onrovia, Liberia, Madam Glassco described the February 12, 2025 - The turning over as a milestone in National Fisheries and the long-standing relationship



through the Ministry of National England for the initial donation of Liberian territorial waters back in 2019. against marine threats.

Mesurado Pier on Bushrod Island of the Liberian Coast Guard, in Monrovia on Monday, February Major/General Davidson F. 10, 2025, NaFAA Director- Forleh, Chief of Staff of the General, Emma - Metieh - Armed Forces of Liberia, assured Glassco, said her team deems it Liberians of a more robust Coast it comes to Maritime Security; expedient the patrol vessel to Guard to protect Liberia's that's why the Wale government eadline Inflation the Liberian Coast Guard to waterway. buttress its operational "Today, we can assure that with UK, decided to donate this other marine resources that risk Maj/Gen. Forleh said.

Turning over the vessel at the Lone Star Patrol Boat on behalf strength to strength.

capacity. She emphasized the this boat, our coast guard will vessel to enhance the capability pod Inflation importance of protecting much more be robust and is of sealing Liberia's oceans", she Liberian waters not only from going to use this asset in the best added. Editing by Jonathan illegal fishing, but to protect possible way to give results", Browne

Liberian Coast Guard faces in the absence of patrol vessels.

"We are aware of the crimes on sea, not only illegal fishing, but a lot more high degree of piracy, transshipment, illegal drugs movement on sea, and we can assure that this vessel will help the Liberian Coast Guard to combat armed robbery, illegal immigration, drug and human trafficking, and defend Liberia's fisheries", he added.

Giving a brief history of the vessel, William Y. Boeh, deputy director general for Technical Services, said it was donated in February 2019 by the Government of Wales, on behalf of the United Kingdom (UK) to enhance monitoring surveillance, including patrol of Liberian waters.

The Head of Mission of the United Kingdom to Liberia, Ms. Joanna Markbreiter, described the turnover as an example of partnership and cooperation.

Ambassador Markbreiter said the Defense to enhance protection of patrol vessel to Liberia as far Wale government had given the patrol boat in the spirit of Receiving the vessel dubbed, friendship, which goes from

> "Wale and Liberia are seafaring nations and we both enjoyed fishing and shipment, that is both share the challenges when on behalf of the people of the

### boat Liberia improves in **CPI corruption report**

-But CENTAL demands more drastic actions

Based on the findings of the 2024 CPI report, CENTAL said it was convinced that significant improvement in the fight against corruption is possible.

By Lewis S. Teh

Corruption Perception Index just as in 2023. (CPI) regarding Liberia's fight The CPI draws upon 13 data against corruption.

(CENTAL), released its sector. countries.

145/180 in 2023.

years, CENTAL said Liberia service. 2023 to 27 in 2024.

corruption and 100 equals the onrovia, February 12, lowest level of perceived 2025: A significant public sector corruption, ▼ limprovement has based on the views of experts. been recorded in the Miamen noted that in 2024, Transparency International 180 countries were targeted,

sources, which capture the CPI, through its chapter, the assessment of experts and Center for Transparency and business executives on several Accountability in Liberia corrupt behaviors in the public

findings on February 11, Accordingly, the corrupt 2025, on the performance of practices and behaviors include bribery, diversion of Liberia is ranked 141/180 public funds and supplies, use among countries covered by of public office for private CPI 2024, compared to gain, procurement irregularities, state capture, For the first time in seven and nepotism in the civil

moved two points up the CPI Maimen argued that the ladder, from a score of 25 in country's performance on the CPI has been hugely

# osion threatens Coast Guard Base

-Defense Minister George alarms AFL in 2024 was characterized by

The main base of the Liberian Coast Guard faces threat from significant challenges that the sea erosion that is said to need urgent attention.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

raises concerns here about talents and skills. potentially endangering underscores. The journey of the operations.

Minister George raised the alarm, while speaking at the 68th Armed Forces Day celebration in Monrovia.

The celebration took place at the Barclay Training Center (BTC) in Monrovia on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. The Minister's concern highlights the urgency of the issue, emphasizing the need for attention to be giving to national security concerns relative to the environment.

The celebration was a vibrant and colorful event that gathered international guests,

government officials, members operational difficulties to onrovia, Liberia, of the Armed Forces of Liberia environmental threats like the February 12, 2025 - The (AFL), and the general public. coastal erosion mentioned Minister of National The program featured earlier. Defense, Brigadier General performances by AFL solders, Minister George highlights a key Geraldine Janet George (Rtd.) showcasing their maneuvering challenge facing the army,

impact of coastal erosion on the "This challenge underscores the One of the critical projects Liberian Coast Guard Base. The urgent need for sustainable affected by the limited budget erosion is threatening the base's environmental defense allocation is the need for proper stability and security, strategy", she further housing for troops, as well as

military must face head-on. These challenges, range from

pointing to resource constraints.

➤ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



# **Liberia Inflation Rate for May 2024**

**12.8**% ar-on-Year Inflation -0.5% onth-on-Month Inflation on-Food Inflation

ar-on-Year Inflation

onth-on-Month Inflation

**3.4**% 0.4%

"Despite the fact that this disappointing, cementing its

CENTAL remarked. country has remained one of high in the country. points.

Reading the press statement tackle the problem. countries based on how Decliners. executives.

100 (very clean).

Zero equals the highest level

of perceived public sector

latest ranking shows position among the worst marginal progress in the new performers on the continent administration's anti- and the sub-region.

corruption efforts, much This is corroborated by work still needs to be done," CENTAL's 2023 State of Corruption Reports, which The pro-democracy revealed that 90% of Liberians institution noted that the think the corruption level is

the biggest global decliners It also revealed low citizens' since 2014, dropping by 10 confidence in the executive branch of government to

on behalf of CPI, CENTAL Maimen expressed CENTAL's Executive Director Mr. deep concern over Liberia's Anderson Miamen said since consistently poor 1995, the CPI has been performance, especially its scoring and ranking place among the world's Worst

corrupt their public sectors "Even though we acknowledge are perceived, according to the 2-point increase under the experts and business first year of the Boakai-Koung led government, we caution He said the score ranges against complacency, as from 0 (highly corrupt) to immunity for corruption still remains high," Miamen stated.

CONT'D ON PAGE 10

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# Degs accolade Over 30 journalists across Africa

-Named Africa-CDC Center of Excellence

Control and Prevention (Africa Africa's health security agenda. Institute (NPHIL) as a Regional CDC Director General H.E. Dr. Center of Excellence for Jean Kaseya formally invited

DDIS ABABA, Ethiopia - NPHIL exceptionally well-February 8, 2025: The positioned to lead regional Africa Centers for Disease health initiatives and advance CDC) has officially designated In an official communication Liberia's National Public Health dated January 31, 2025, Africa National Public Health Institute NPHIL Director General Dr.



highlights Liberia's leadership in initiatives. The selection follows capable of responding strengthening public health a rigorous assessment of NPHIs effectively to public health systems and advancing disease across Africa and aligns with threats. control across the continent.

West African nations most strengthen public health major milestone in Liberia's severely affected by the capacities in member states. 2014-2016 Ebola virus disease As a newly designated Center of the country's leadership in surveillance, and emergency workforce development. By advancements across the response mechanisms, making facilitating knowledge-sharing continent.

Africa CDC's mission to enhance The selection of NPHIL as a

(EVD) outbreak, a crisis that Excellence, NPHIL will serve as a disease prevention and health exposed critical gaps in public Regional Hub, providing security in Africa. health systems. The country's technical assistance, training, In a letter from Dr. Nyan to Africa response capabilities were and mentorship programs to CDC Director General H.E. Dr. further tested during the global strengthen other national public Jean Kaseya, NPHIL has formally COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. health institutions. The institute confirmed its acceptance of the These experiences have will also collaborate with African designation and has begun significantly strengthened nations to enhance disease working with Africa CDC and Liberia's public health surveillance, outbreak response, regional counterparts to infrastructure, disease public health research, and accelerate public health

to harmonize public health policies and programs across the continent.

Dr. Nyan welcomed the designation, reaffirming NPHIL's commitment to advancing public health across Africa and contributing to global health security.

"This recognition is a testament to the dedication of our public health professionals. As a Center of Excellence, we will continue leading efforts in disease surveillance, emergency response, and capacity building for the African continent," he

The initiative is part of Africa CDC's broader strategy to establish a robust network of National Public Health Institutes, reinforcing health security under the New Public Health Order for Africa. This move aligns with the African Union's Agenda 2063, which (NPHI) Development. This Dougbeh Chris Nyan to envisions a continent equipped prestigious recognition collaborate on regional health with strong health institutions

Liberia was among the three disease control policies and Center of Excellence marks a public health journey, solidifying

Starts from back page

# Criticism greets Boakai's inspection at BTC

troops", Miss Fofana notes.

She slams critics instead, Usually, essence of the President for what they many African countries As discussions kicked off, Forces Day celebration.

the AFL to make sure the engulfanation. troops."

She notes that everywhere Rescue Service, among others. "This was followed by former so it isn't unusual.

Miss Fofana maintains that returned to his seat to standard remarks. Editing by President Boakai is fully fit to continue the program.

how he wants to inspect his execute whatsoever duties of Meanwhile, scores of the State.

urging them to focus on the inspection of troops by the describe as very visit of President Julius Maada Commander-In-Chief during unprecedented, questioning Bio, who served as keynote such occasion is to assess his fitness level to lead the Speaker of the 68th Armed capability and readiness of nation. security apparatus, especially They argue that President logistics, coordination, among security threats that might troops of the national security

Liberia National Fire and occasion.

Liberians criticize the

"President Boakai has done a the armed forces to respond Boakai is the first Liberian lot of work, improving to external and internal President ever to inspect apparatus, riding in a country is safe, so I think President Boakai executed the pickup. They recall that during people should focus on the inspection of troops of the AFL the 12-year regime of former visit of President Maada Bio and other national security President Ellen Johnson coming to grace our Armed apparatus, including the Sirleaf, who was much older Forces Day, rather than Liberia National Police, the than President Boakai, she criticizing the President's Liberian Coast Guard, Liberia walked through to inspect choice of inspecting his Immigration Service, and troops of the AFL at every

around the world, a number of Following the approximately President George Manneh presidents have been seen five minutes inspection, the Weah; look there; the man is riding vehicle to inspect and Commander-In-Chief of the not even fit to lead our carry out other engagements, Armed Forces of Liberia country. We're really suffering disembarked the vehicle and for president", one by Jonathan Browne

# and best practices, NPHIL aims attend tax communication workshop

By Bridgett Milton

- African Tax Media collection. Network (ATMEN) with support "When tax matters are from the African Tax communicated effectively, they Administration Forum (ATAF) foster trust, accountability, and communication on taxation mobilization", he emphasized. journalists across Africa.

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso administrators and journalists brought together tax must work together to ensure administrators, journalists, clarity in tax policies and and communication experts, regulations. citizens.

Séré, underscored the vital citizens". economic independence, yet revenue collection.

strategies often lead to public uagadougou, Burkina resistance to tax policies. Faso, February 12, 2025 ultimately hampering revenue

has commenced a two-day voluntary compliance, which are workshop aimed at enhancing essential for sustainable revenue and domestic resource He cited instances where mobilization for over 30 inadequate communication had led to protests against tax The opening session, held in measures, emphasizing that tax

who emphasized the Also speaking, the Chairperson importance of clear and of ATMEN Danicius Kaihenneh transparent tax Sengbeh reiterated the communication in fostering network's mission to bridge the compliance and trust among gap between tax policies and public awareness.

Speaking at the kickoff of the "Taxation is the backbone of workshop on Tuesday, February national development, and the 11, 2025, the Representative media must play a central role in of Economic, Finance Finance, ensuring that policies are and Forecasting, Mamadou understood and embraced by

role of taxation in national He encouraged African development, and called for journalists to use their platforms stronger engagement between to educate the public on taxtax institutions and the media. related matters and advocate for "Taxation is the foundation of transparent governance in



policies", he said.

administrators and journalists engagement. culture of compliance.

misinformation often fuels tax development.

national revenue efforts.

struggle with low revenue participants focused on mobilization due to public strategies to counter misunderstanding of tax misinformation about taxation, simplify complex tax policies for Mr. Séré stressed that this is public understanding, and utilize why collaboration between tax digital tools to enhance

is essential to ensure accurate Tax administrators and and accessible information journalists agreed that reaches the public, fostering a improving communication is essential to fostering voluntary Séré noted that tax compliance and economic

resistance, making it crucial The workshop continues with for the media to play an active interactive sessions, case role in promoting tax studies, and expert education and transparency. presentations aimed at He urged journalists to remain equipping journalists with the committed to fact-based knowledge and tools needed to reporting that supports report effectively on taxation. ATAF reaffirmed its commitment Representing ATAF Executive to supporting these efforts Secretary, Eugene Southgate through training, capacitystressed the importance of building programs, and media engagement in tax continuous engagement with the administration. He pointed out media. *Editing by Jonathan* that poor communication Browne

# r'rançais

Fouta Corporation : Un geste de reconnaissance pour ses employés retraités de leurs nouvelles maisons, construites par Fouta

commerce d'import-

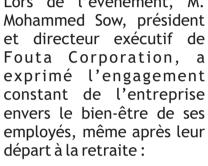
outa Corporation Bondca M. Bar, ancien (FCC), le leader du responsible des ventes, Charles Bonnie, décédé, et Alfred Sekou export au Libéria, a Cook, ont reçu chacun un récemment remis des logement après avoir consacré maisons à trois de ses plus de 20 à 25 ans à employés retraités en signe l'entreprise. Ils ont atteint

construites par Fouta Corporation en témoignage de reconnaissance pour leurs années de service.

Ces logements, situés dans le quartier de New Redemption, au sein de l'Upper Caldwell Township, comprennent deux chambres, une salle de bain, une cuisine, un salon ainsi que des vérandas à l'avant et à l'arrière, et sont équipés de panneaux solaires et de l'électricité. Ces installations modernes se trouvent dans une enceinte clôturée, offrant ainsi sécurité et intimité aux bénéficiaires.

Un engagement renouvelé en faveur du bien-être des employés

Lors de l'événement, M.







de reconnaissance pour l'âge légal de la retraite, fixé leurs longues années de service au sein de l'entreprise.

Des logements pour Lors d'une cérémonie exceptionnelles

respectivement à 65 et 70 ans, conformément à la législation libérienne.

honorer des carrières marquante qui s'est tenue à Caldwell, les retraités ont reçu Les trois bénéficiaires, les clés et les actes de propriété

# Liberia : 142 fidèles quittent l'Église Méthodiste

Unie en opposition au mariage homosexuel L'Église Méthodiste Unie du

Liberia traverse une crise majeure alors que 142 membres de la congrégation de 72nd Junction, à Paynesville, annoncent leur rupture avec la Conférence du Liberia (LAC-UMC). Cette décision, prise à une écrasante majorité, fait suite à l'adoption par l'Église Méthodiste Unie (UMC) mondiale d'une l'ordination de pasteurs et

Une opposition ferme aux nouvelles orientations de l'UMC

d'évêques issus de la

communauté LGBTQ.

Lors d'un service religieux le 9 février 2025, les fidèles dissidents ont exprimé leur désaccord avec les nouvelles directives de l'UMC et officialisé leur départ en adoptant une résolution en sept points.

« Nous refusons d'être associés à une Église qui s'éloigne des enseignements bibliques en acceptant le mariage homosexuel et l'ordination de pasteurs LGBTQ », a déclaré Francestina C. Sesay, fidèle de 67 ans.

Le révérend Kenneth Jackson, pasteur de la congrégation, a souligné la nécessité de préserver l'intégrité spirituelle de l'Église :

« Nous sommes une Annuelle Méthodiste Unie communauté de croyants attachés à la parole de Dieu. Cette décision est difficile, mais essentielle pour rester Caroline du Nord. fidèles à nos principes. »

doctrinale qui, selon lui, « homosexuel et permet réforme autorisant le compromet les fondements l'ordination de membres mariage homosexuel et bibliques du christianisme LGBTQ, a suscité des ». Une crise théologique au sein divisions au sein de

Cette scission intervient alors que s'ouvre la 192 Conférence Annuelle Méthodiste Unie du Liberia à Gbarnga, dans le comté de Bong, du 10 au 16 février 2025. Les délégués doivent y définir la position officielle de l'Église libérienne face à la réforme adoptée lors de la Conférence Générale d'avril 2024 à Charlotte, en

Cette réforme, qui Il a dénoncé une évolution reconnaît le mariage



# Éditorial

# **Les préoccupations du Barreau** méritent une attention sérieuse

Par Daron Acemoglu

L'Association du Barreau National du Libéria (LNBA) exprime son inquiétude face à des événements récents qui, selon elle, compromettent la démocratie constitutionnelle du pays. Elle dénonce des violations présumées des droits fondamentaux, des décisions exécutives discutables, le non-respect des jugements judiciaires et une ingérence excessive du pouvoir législatif. Autant de dérives qui, selon le Barreau, menacent les principes fondamentaux de l'État de droit.

Face à cette situation, la LNBA réaffirme son engagement à collaborer avec les décideurs politiques pour garantir le respect de la Constitution et promouvoir des réformes juridiques conformes aux aspirations du peuple libérien.

Le président récemment élu de l'Association, Me Bornor M. Varmah, souligne que la LNBA opère sous un cadre statutaire qui expose ses fonctions réglementaires, disciplinaires et administratives à des influences extérieures. Il plaide pour une autonomie renforcée afin de garantir au Barreau une plus grande indépendance dans l'exercice de ses missions.

« La LNBA doit disposer du pouvoir de fixer et d'appliquer des normes éthiques rigoureuses, d'améliorer les exigences en matière d'agrément des avocats et de mener des actions disciplinaires sans ingérence indue. En tant qu'institution dédiée à la justice, elle doit bénéficier d'une indépendance institutionnelle lui permettant de contester les actes inconstitutionnels, de plaider pour des réformes judiciaires et d'engager des actions d'intérêt public sans crainte d'influence politique », affirme Me Varmah.

Cette déclaration intervient alors que des divergences d'interprétation juridique entourent la destitution du président de la Chambre des représentants, J. Fonati Koffa. Cette controverse a suscité des interrogations quant à la gestion de l'affaire par la Cour suprême, qui s'est abstenue de rendre un avis clair sur la procédure à suivre.

Ce silence a laissé un vide juridique don't l'Exécutif a profité pour imposer sa propre interprétation et justifier la destitution du président de la Chambre en dehors des règles établies. Une situation qui, selon la LNBA, affaiblit la confiance du public dans le système judiciaire et nuit à l'équilibre des pouvoirs.

Il est impératif que la Cour suprême exerce pleinement son rôle en apportant des clarifications définitives sur les affaires qui lui sont soumises. En tant que seule instance habilitée à garantir la stabilité du système démocratique par le contrôle judiciaire et l'interprétation des lois, elle doit éviter toute ambiguïté qui pourrait semer le doute.

Dans cette optique, Me Varmah appelle à une collaboration étroite entre la LNBA et la Cour suprême afin d'améliorer la qualité des décisions judiciaires. Il insiste sur l'urgence d'une telle réforme, rappelant que la Constitution de 1986 confère à la Cour suprême un pouvoir fondamental de contrôle judiciaire. Ce rôle essentiel doit être exercé avec rigueur et indépendance pour garantir la clarté, l'impartialité et la stabilité du droit au Libéria.

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**Fouta Corporation : Un geste de reconnaissance** Starts from page 8

2025

« Ce geste s'inscrit dans notre volonté de récompenser ceux qui ont œuvré au succès de l'entreprise pendant de nombreuses années. Il est essentiel que nos employés partent en retraite dans la dignité et la satisfaction, sans regrets. »

M. Sow a précisé que ce n'était pas la première fois que Fouta offrait des logements à ses retraités et que l'entreprise avait l'intention de poursuivre cette initiative à l'avenir.

« Il est regrettable de constater que certains employés, après une longue carrière, ne disposent d'aucune sécurité matérielle autre que leur modeste pension de la National Social Security and Welfare Corporation. C'est pourquoi, en tant qu'entreprise responsible, nous avons acquis un terrain pour la construction de logements destinés à nos employés retraités. »

Un geste qui marque les esprits

Au nom des bénéficiaires, Bondca M. Bar, ancien responsible des ventes, a exprimé sa profonde gratitude envers la direction de l'entreprise, soulignant que ce geste était imprévu mais d'une valeur inestimable.

« Ce cadeau de Fouta est un geste que nous n'aurions jamais imaginé. Il restera gravé dans nos mémoires pour le reste de nos vies », a-t-il déclaré.

Il a également encouragé les employés actuels à travailler avec patience, intégrité et discipline, des qualités indispensables pour réussir et atteindre un jour l'âge de la retraite avec dignité.

« Ce geste témoigne de la reconnaissance de l'entreprise, et nous espérons qu'il encouragera les autres à persévérer dans leur travail en adoptant des valeurs de discipline et d'honnêteté. »

À propos de Fouta Corporation

Fondée en 1995, Fouta Corporation est l'un des principaux acteurs du commerce et de la distribution au Libéria, spécialisée dans des produits comme le riz, l'acier, les matériaux de construction et le ciment sous la marque Goltas. Dans le cadre d'un partenariat de licence, Fouta importe et distribue ce ciment. Plus récemment, l'entreprise a lancé la filiale Fouta Cement Corporation, dédiée au développement et à l'exploitation d'une usine de broyage de ciment à

### Starts from page 8

# Liberia : 142 fidèles quittent l'Eglise Méthodiste

nombreuses congrégations à l'Église Méthodiste Globale, Ces dernières années des scissions majeures.

Dans leur déclaration, les progressistes de l'UMC. membres de 72nd Junction nouvelle affiliation

leur intention de rejoindre l'UMC à l'échelle mondiale.

travers le monde, entraînant un mouvement conservateur plusieurs congrégations ont créé en réponse aux réformes choisi de se séparer de

dénoncent une membres de l'Église la place des personnes LGBTQ transformation en Méthodiste Unie. Nous dans l'Eglise. contradiction avec la restons méthodistes, mais Avec cette rupture, l'Église doctrine traditionnelle et nous refusons de Méthodiste Unie du 72nd rappellent que des évêques compromettre notre foi », a Junction rejoint une liste ouvertement homosexuels affirmé Lincoln Mayson, croissante de paroisses sont désormais en fonction porte-parole des dissidents. prenant leurs distances avec aux États-Unis. Vers une Ce départ s'inscrit dans un l'UMC, marquant ainsi un mouvement plus large de tournant dans l'histoire du Les dissidents ont annoncé contestation qui affecte méthodisme au Liberia.

l'organisation en raison de « Nous ne sommes plus divergences théologiques sur

# Le Liberia lance une campagne nationale pour un siège au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU

Street. Cette initiative vise à sensibiliser les Libériens, tant au niveau national qu'à l'étranger, à l'importance de cette ambition diplomatique. Si la campagne a été inaugurée à New York, où se

entend fédérer l'ensemble du pays autour de cette candidature stratégique. Un enjeu diplomatique

majeur pour l'Afrique

tiendra le vote en juin

prochain, ce lancement local

officiellement ce lundi une qui s'est exprimé en amont sièges non permanents.Il a campagne nationale afin de de l'événement, a rappelé souligné que l'Union mobiliser le soutien de ses que, bien que les 193 États africaine a déjà exprimé son citoyens en faveur de sa membres de l'ONU soient soutien unanime à la candidature au Conseil de représentés à l'Assemblée candidature libérienne. sécurité des Nations Unies générale, seuls 15 siègent au Toutefois, garantir une place (CSNU) pour le mandat 2026- Conseil de sécurité. Celui-ci au Liberia au sein de cet 2027.Le président Joseph se compose de cing membres organe décisionnel crucial Nyumah Boakai présidera la permanents disposant d'un nécessitera une mobilisation cérémonie de lancement à 11 droit de veto et de dix nationale forte et un heures au Pavillon du membres non permanents engagement diplomatique Centenaire, sur Ashmun élus pour un mandat de deux soutenu.

Liberia lance L'ambassadeur Lewis Brown, ans. L'Afrique y détient trois

# **Poursuites judiciaires : Koijee** fie l'administration Boakai

'ancien maire de Monrovia dénonce une campagne de diffamation et réclame un procès pour laver son nom Monrovia, √ 5 février 2025 – L'ancien maire de Monrovia, Jefferson Tamba Koijee, exhorte le gouvernement du président Joseph Boakai à ouvrir une enquête sur les accusations portées contre lui et à engager, si nécessaire, des poursuites judiciaires. Il affirme avoir été victime d'une campagne de diffamation persistante sous l'administration de George Weah, sans qu'aucune preuve concrète n'ait été apportée. M. Koijee, anciennement accusé d'être impliqué dans des assassinats, des disparitions forcées et des activités paramilitaires, a été sanctionné en décembre 2023 par l'Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) du département du Trésor américain. Selon lui, ces sanctions reposent sur des allégations infondées relayées par des personnalités aujourd'hui membres du gouvernement Boakai. Malgré ses appels répétés à une enquête indépendante, il déplore l'absence de réponse des autorités, estimant que ce silence confirme l'absence de fondement des accusations à son encontre. « Après des années de propagande acharnée, aucune charge légitime n'a été retenue contre moi, tandis que les véritables criminels circulent librement sous la protection de l'administration Boakai », a-t-il déclaré. Accusations contre l'administration Boakai M. Koijee accuse l'actuel gouvernement de protéger ceux qui l'ont accusé à tort et de favoriser un climat d'impunité. Il cite notamment l'affaire du meurtre très médiatisé de Charloe Musu, dans lequel son nom a été évoqué. Selon lui, la seule personne arrêtée et inculpée dans cette affaire, l'ancienne juge en chef Gloria Musu Scott, a non seulement été acquittée, mais a également été nommée à un poste gouvernemental. Pendant ce temps, affirme-t-il, le véritable coupable présumé reste en liberté. « Qu'est-il advenu de la justice ? Ne s'applique-t-elle qu'aux opposants politiques ? » s'est-il interrogé. Il accuse l'administration Boakai d'instrumentaliser les institutions de



l'État pour régler des comptes politiques, tout en protégeant des criminels présumés et en fermant les yeux sur des violations des droits humains. Violations présumées des droits humains M. Koijee affirme que sous l'administration actuelle, la Police nationale libérienne (LNP) 'est transformée en un instrument de répression, accusant les forces de l'ordre d'être impliquées dans des actes de brutalité, des exécutions extrajudiciaires et la suppression de la dissidence. Il cite plusieurs cas de violations présumées des droits humains, notamment: Voinjama, comté de Lofa : Une femme de 45 ans, surnommée "Yarmah", retrouvée mutilée, dans ce qui s'apparente à un meurtre rituel. Voinjama Un détenu de 19 ans retrouvé mort dans une cellule de police, sans enquête ni explication officielle. Montserrado : Un commerçant peul, Hassan Jalloh, aurait été assassiné par des agents de l'Agence de lutte contre la drogue du Liberia (LDEA), suivis d'une tentative présumée de dissimulation des faits. Selon lui, ces événements ne sont qu'un échantillon des 22 cas documentés de violations des droits humains sous l'administration Boakai, sans qu'aucune réaction internationale ne soit enregistrée. « Pourquoi ce silence ? Où sont les sanctions et les appels à la responsabilité lorsqu'il s'agit du gouvernement Boakai? » at-il questionné. Appel à la communauté internationale M. Koijee affirme avoir été la cible d'une campagne de dénigrement pendant six ans, menée par ceux qui dirigent aujourd'hui le pays. Il accuse l'administration actuelle de manipuler la justice pour persécuter ses adversaires politiques, tout en favorisant la corruption et l'impunité. « Le monde ne doit pas détourner le regard face à l'hypocrisie et à la brutalité qui sévissent au Liberia », a-t-il averti. Il exhorte la communauté internationale à agir contre ce qu'il qualifie de dérives autoritaires et d'injustice systémique. « Si le gouvernement Boakai refuse de faire respecter l'État de droit, alors il appartient à la communauté internationale d'intervenir avant que le Liberia ne sombre dans l'anarchie », a-t-il conclu.

À ce jour, l'administration Boakai n'a pas réagi aux accusations formulées par M. Koijee.

GBARNGA, BONG COUNTY REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

PETITION

MORTGAGED

DEED

FORCLOSURE OF

`FOR

SHERIFF'S OFFICE

The Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai assures men and women of the AFL better living condition, including improved housing facilities in barracks across the country.

By: Wise Wesseh

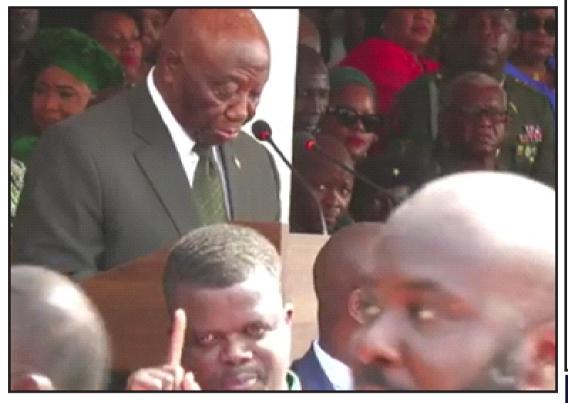
onrovia, Liberia, February 12, 2025 President Joseph Nyumah Boakai Tuesday assured soldiers of the Armed Forces of Liberia of government's commitment to improving their livelihoods, as they stand in bravery to defend the country.

"To our gallant men and women of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), your bravery and dedication inspires us; as you stand guard at our borders, protect our airspaces and secure our waters, note that the entire nation stands with you in solidarity and support", President Boakai says.

renovate key military barracks across the country.

"I am instructing the Minister of Defense to partner with relevant and line entities to assess military facilities in Harper, Maryland County; Sanniquelle, Nimba County and in Tubmanburg, Bomi County to begin renovation of those barracks", he mandated.

Mr. Boakai acknowledged the longstanding challenges faced by AFL personnel, including inadequate housing, overcrowded barracks, and limited resources for training and recruitment.



The Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia gave the assurance at the 68th Armed Forces Day celebration here.President Boakai also rallied collaborative effort from Liberians and partners in building a resilience Armed Forces of Liberia.

"Let me urge all of us as a nation to always remember the sacrifices made by those who served before us; let us honor their memories by continuing to hold courage, integrity and together we are on the course of building a stronger, more resilience Armed Forces that will defend our country", he said.

President Boakai has instructed the Ministry of National Defense to assess and

Starts from page 6

"We are exploring various avenues Browne

to ensure that our Armed Forces are well-equipped and adequately supported to meet the demands of the critical role they have on their shoulders to play," he further assured. "It is in this regard that we have commenced and will continue the renovation of existing military barracks around the country to ease the problem of congestion at the Edward Binyan Kesselly and other functional barracks." President Boakai continued. Editing by Jonathan

**Erosion threatens Coast Guard Base** 

renovation of barracks. These projects are essential for maintaining well-being and readiness of personnel, but financial limitations have hindered their progress.

In addition, the Liberian Defense Minister reveals significant logistical shortfall affecting the AFL. Operational efficiency is vital to the military's effectiveness, but lack of adequate vehicles, power generation, and insufficient medical supplies have continued to hinder the AFL's ability to function optimally.

"These logistical challenges impact the military's readiness and capacity to carry out its duties effectively, especially in critical situations that require swift and coordinated action", she points out.

Inadequate accommodation and healthcare facility remain a pressing concern, she also notes.

Despite these challenges, she reflects on key achievements of the AFL in 2024, most importantly continued contribution to peacekeeping efforts and regional security.

The AFL according to her, has maintained its role in sustaining security and stability under the United Nations mandate, which showcases commitment and professionalism of the military. This achievement demonstrates that, despite resource constraints, the AFL has managed to uphold its responsibilities on both national and international levels.

George congratulates the men and women in arms for their dedication and hard work in safeguarding humanity over the years. She acknowledges their invaluable service in maintaining peace, both within Liberia and in the broader region. Editing by Jonathan Browne

IN THE CIVIL DIVISION, CIRCUIT, BONG COUNTY

Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company (LEDFC), represented by its General Manager, Mr. Ambrose Houphouet of the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County,

Republic of Liberia.....

### **VERSUS**

A.S. Moye Business Center by and thru its General Manager Mr. Augustine Moye, City of Gbarnga, Bong County, Republic of Liberia...... 1st RESPONDENT

Mr. Augustine S. Moye, of the City of Gbarnga, Bong County, Republic of Liberia ..... 2nd RESPONDENT

### **NOTICE OF SALE**

WHEREAS, Final Judgment in the above entitled captioned case was rendered against the Defendants on the 26th Day of November, A.D 2022, adjudging them liable to pay the amount owed the Petitioner, Liberian Enterprise Development Finance Company (LEDFC), the amount of US\$ 52,760.40 (Fifty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty United States Dollars Forty Cents), by the auction of Mortgaged Property Foreclosed with preference given to the Defendants to redeem the Mortgage by payment of the amount of the Mortgage loan.

WHEREAS, DEFENDANTS failed to make settlement of the full amount of US\$ 52,760.40 (Fifty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty United States Dollars Forty Cents), a writ of Execution was accordingly issued, served and returned and the Sherriff of this Court by authorization of this court, levied upon Mortgaged Property/ assets of the A.S. Moye Business and Mr. Augustine S. Moye lying and located in Gbarnga, Bong County, Republic of Liberia as more fully described herein below:

"Commencing at the Southern-western corner of lot number six, and thence running on these magnetic bearings as follows: North 46 degrees East 132 feet to a point; North 44 degrees West 82.5 feet to a point; South46 degrees West 132 feet to a point; South 44 degrees East 82.5 feet back to the place of commencement and containing 10,890. sq. ft or 1 (one) lot or 1/4 acre of land and no more".

NOW THEREFORE, the general public is hereby informed that by the virtue of this levy and pursuant to the Final Judgment and the Writ of Execution served on the herein described assets/properties, said properties will be sold to the highest bidder on the grounds of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court, Gbarnga Bong County, Republic of Liberia, on the 5th Day of March, A.D. 2025, at the hour of 12:00Noon in the afternoon to raise the total sum of US\$ 52,760.40 (Fifty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty United States Dollars Forty Cents). Interested persons may inspect said property/assets through the offices of the Sherriff of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court, Gbarnga, Bong County, and Republic of Liberia during the official working hours of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court, as well as for further information regarding the day, date place and time of sale.

> GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT THIS 5th DAY OF FEBRUARY, A.D 2025.

Mr. Perry Kender, SHERIFF, NINTH JUDICIAL CURCUIT COURT, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

Cell Nos. 077 605 113 68/0886468397

JUDICIAL BRANCH



BEFORE HIS HONOR: .....SCHEAPLOR R. DUNBAR......ASSIGNED CIRCUIT.
THE PETITION OF MUSA ZOIDULAH PETITIONER, BY AND THRU HIS I
COUNSEL. PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHAN
NAME IN FAVOR OF PETITIONER TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND REFERRED
"MUSA M. JANGABA"

### COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME

THE PETITIONER BY AND THRU HIS LEGAL COUNSEL FILED A PETITION BEFORE THIS COURT REQUESTING THIS HONORABLE COURT TO ORDER THE CHANGE OF HIS NAME FROM MUSA ZOIDULAH TO "MUSA M. JANGABA".

During the hearing, the Petitioner testified that the Change of his name requesting this Honorable Court is intended to reflect his true identity and to conform to his documentation. After conducting the necessary interrogations required by law in these proceedings, the Court observed that the intention is just and legal and that there is no objection to the change of name proposed by lim.

That the Petitioner having shown with justification and satisfaction that he was born on October 17, 1999, in Robertsport City, Grand Cape Mount County. Republic of Liberia, and that he was born unto Mr. Amulah M. Zoidulah and Madam Miatta Zoidulah in Grand Cape Mount County; and that the Change of his name will substantially promote his interest in all of the understandings and more firmly and that he has met all legal requirements for the Change of his pages in his jurisdiction.

THIS DECREE shall be registered in the Office of the Registrar of DEEDS and other Official Documentations within (10) days from this date and also be published twice in any recognized Newspaper operating in the Republic of Liberia within twenty (20) days from this date. AND IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED.

COURT SEAL:

REGISTERED ACCORDING TO LAW IN VOLUME

# Vear 10

Liberian Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Yarmie Quiqui Gbeisay He noted that the Supreme says the Supreme Court did not attend President Joseph Nyuma Boaka's second State of the Nation Address (SONA) to avoid getting into potential conflict.

Associate Justice was recently heard explaining the

onrovia, February whatever you do is ultra-12, 2025: The viral," he added. According to him, the Supreme Court turned to the minority bloc and said the law is that until circumstances leading to you can get a majority; you the absence of the get a quorum; you must



Supreme Court bench at President Boakai's second SONA.

"Our question is our presence there means that we are recognized on one side of the bloc. So, the best thing to do is to remain who we are. That was the rationale," Justice Gbeisay said.

He recalled that there was a conflict going on in the House of Representatives.

When the parties in the conflict appeared before the Supreme Court, Justice Gbeisay said the court made a decision, and the effect of that decision was a law."A law required that the House should have a quorum, and that quorum should be presided over by a speaker," he explained.

"Now that you, the quoteunquote majority bloc has a quorum, but we don't see a speaker there, so continue to adjourn from day to day and compel the other people to adjourn.

"But there are no statutes that tell you how you compel the people. You don't have a rule that tells you how you compel the people," Justice Gbeisay continued.He indicated that there is no law to that effect and the Supreme Court is not in control of politics.

"If for some reason the Senate decides to recognize the majority bloc, the President recognizes the majority bloc, and the government function is going on, then we receive an invitation from the speaker. Many people don't understand, but that was the rationale of the court," he explained.

"... That was a common way of trying to avoid getting involved in [a] potential conflict," he said.

Court was telling the majority and minority blocs to go and solve their problem."We have done our own, we are not in control of politics. If for some reason the Senate decide to recognize majority bloc, president recognized majority bloc and government function is going on, then we received invitation from the speaker.

"Our presence there means we have recognized one side of the bloc. So, the best thing to do is to remain who we are. That was the rationale, many people don't understand it, but that was the rationale of the court". The political crisis at the Capitol disrupted much of the legislative functions for months last year and saw embattled Speaker Jonathan Fonati Koffa illegally removed from office.

Following the Supreme Court's absence at President Boakai's Second SONA, public debate erupted here with some suggesting that the court did not recognize Koon's leadership.

However, explaining the Chief Justice's absence, the Director for Press and Public Affairs at the Judiciary, Darryl Ambrose Nmah, denied the boycott of the Chief Justice and Associate Justices.

Through a Facebook post, Nmah linked their action to some busy activities.

"For the record, the Chief Justice has joined 58 Chief Justices and Presidents of the Supreme and Constitutional Courts of Africa and the Middle East at an Annual High-Level Meeting in Cairo, Egypt, which is held at this time every year," Nmah wrote.

### Starts from page 6

While President Boakai has acted to suspend and dismiss some officials accused of corruption, Miamen said he has failed to do likewise for others.

He suggested that it gives an indication of partiality in his anti-graft efforts.

"We hold the view that [the ] President's move to declare and publish his assets, incomes and liabilities is laudable," said Miamen. According to him, the gross failure to punish his non-compliant officials

# iberia improves in

commitments with deeds.

Maimen added that the is possible. report found that Saharan Like other countries that are Africa's systemic corruption registering remarkable is severely undermining progress, Miamen believes climate action and other that Liberia can climb the

accountability efforts. He indicated that the region other countries.

raises questions about his CENTAL boss said he was ability to fully match his with the conviction that anti-corruption significant improvement in the fight against corruption

CPI ladder and outperform

has once again registered However, he noted that this the lowest average score can be achieved if the globally: 33 out of 100, well national government's fight below the global average of against corruption is 43. Based on the findings of sincere, holistic, impartial, the 2024 CPI report, the and well-funded.

# Sa Lone Bio worries over regional security threat

The Sierra Leonean President says he is happy that, at last, Liberia is peaceful but stresses the need to strengthen regional collaboration to combat and respond to growing regional security threats.

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, February 12, 2025: Sierra Leonean President Julius Maada Bio has spoken of sleepless nights regarding the growing regional threat to the peace and security of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

President Bio, delivering the 68th keynote address of the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL) in Monrovia, urged Liberia to strengthen regional collaboration to combat and respond to this growing security threat to the region."Ladies and gentlemen, as we reflect on and celebrate the AFL's achievements, we also acknowledge challenges ahead," he said.

"The threat to peace and security in our region are tested institutions' resilience and people's will."

"You have prevailed and therefore, Liberia is still standing as a peaceful nation," he noted.

Through all this, President Bio said one truth remains evident, saying sustainable peace and security can't be achieved without the steadfast commitment of professional and disciplined AFL.

He called for an army that served not only as the protector of national sovereignty but also as a pillar of democratic governance. As they gathered to pay tribute to the AFL's unwavering commitment to peace, security, and national development, President Bio reflected on his days in the military when they fought with courageous soldiers of Liberia in defense of life and property to bring lasting peace to the country and region. The Sierra



cyber threats to climaterelated and economic "So, for me today's event brings disparities," he outlined.

institutions.

sacrifice of the AFL but also governance. Liberia and West Africa.

"Like many of our nations, Liberia's history has been Bio. shifted by challenges that

evolving, ranging from Leonean leader further transnational crimes and indicated that he is happy that at last, Liberia is peaceful.

back memories, reminding us of To address those the huge task ahead of us."

challenges, the ex-military He further indicated that the leader recommended that Armed Forces have always the region strengthen its played a central role in ensuring civil-military relations, national and regional security. promote capacity building Beyond the duty of protecting

enhance regional territorial integrity, he detailed collaboration, and that today's military institutions strengthen democratic are pivotal actors in fostering peace, responding to He urged that Liberians emergencies, supporting collectively celebrate not development initiatives, and only the courage and strengthening democratic

the fundamental integral "Liberia and Sierra Leone share a role that it played in history that underscores the consolidating peace, importance of sustainable peace stability, and democracy in and security. The history that binds us in our commitment to a peaceful future," said President



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2025 VOL. 15 NO. 014

# Criticism greets Boakai's inspection at BTC

President Boakai's decision to inspect troops at the Barclay Training Center during official celebration of Liberia's 68th Armed Forces Day receives huge criticisms here, with some questioning the Commander-In-Chief's fitness.

By: Wise Wesseh onrovia, Liberia, February 12, 2025 -

Armed Forces Day here. All previous presidents and several dignitaries, commander-In-Chiefs of the a n AFL had physically walked to

unprecedented move, inspect the troops in President Joseph Nyuma readiness for pass in Boakai, Commander-In- review. But President

occasion was graced by including Sierra Leonean President, Julius Maada Bio, Orator of this year's celebration. Former President Ellen Johnson Sireaf was also in attendance.

President Boakai was escorted into the back of the military pickup, decorated with Liberia's national colors: Red, White and Blue during the celebrated held at the Barrack Training Center (BTC) in Monrovia.

In response to President Boakai's decision not to inspect troops by walking as his predecessor did, President Press Secretary, Miss Kula Fofana, says the President, being Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces of Liberia, decides whatsoever he chooses to do.

"The President is the President of the Republic of Liberia; he decides as to

CONT'D ON PAGE 05



of a twin-cabin military the Barclay Training Center in Monrovia before parade by gallant men and women

of Liberia, rides in the back riding in a military pickup leaves many Liberians pickup to inspect troops at worrying here about his physical health and vitality. Liberia's 68th Armed Forces Day was commemorated in of the AFL in Monrovia on Tuesday, commemoration of 68th February 11, 2025. The









UN Drive, P. O. Box 1266

**Opposite the National Investment Commission** 

Tel: 0886484201 / 0777007529

