



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

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR DATE **BUYING SELLING** MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025 L\$200.8042/US\$1.00 L\$198.9252/US\$1.00

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

French Version Inside

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Gov't prosecutes Mary Boimah, others

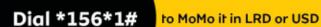
-In 2024 SRC protest

Liberia's offshore potential gets boost P6



-As Nocal and TGS Nopec deepenstrategic partnership

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ontinenta

DR Congo and M23 rebels to hold Zimbabwe president to suspend tariffs direct talks after months of fighting on imports from the United States

head of the first direct chairperson. appointment of Faure offensive since January. Gnassingbé as the new mediator.

replace his Angolan from their homes. counterpart, João Lourenço who has said he wants to focus on his work as the AU

talks between the After years of fighting, the mediation process, Democratic Republic Rwanda-backed rebel group of Congo and M23 rebels, the seized eastern Congo's two African Union has endorsed the largest cities in a lightening

thousands of people and forced The Togolese president will hundreds of thousands others

Highlighting the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the eastern DRC, Lourenco said there

was a need for momentum in the

fighting could evolve into a wider regional war.

This resulted in the death of from the strategic town of Walikale, describing the move as a goodwill gesture ahead of planned peace talks with the government in Doha next Wednesday.

> The meeting comes after the two sides reportedly held private talks last week - and analysts believe the offer the greatest hope of a halt to hostilities.

> Some have raised concerns, however, about how the AU mediation in parallel with the facilitation process in Doha might lead to coordination problems.

> The United Nations and Western governments say Rwanda has provided arms and troops to the ethnic Tutsi-led M23, an accusation Kigali



country.

In a statement on the social media platform, X, Mnangagwa described the measure as an attempt to

Zimbabwean exports to his

imbabwe's President, build a "mutually beneficial and positive relationship" with the Trump administration.

US government data shows that trade between the two countries amounted to \$111.6 million in 2024.

Zimbabwe's main trading partners are the United Arab Emirates, South Africa, and China, and its limited exports to the US comprise mainly tobacco and sugar.

Harare-based political analyst, Tendai Mbanje, told the AFP news agency that the move would like only benefit the United States.



Rwandan government announces death of deputy spokesperson Alain Mukuralinda

heart attack. He was 55 years career in the justice sector. old.

Alain Mukuralinda, through in 2002. an official statement.

A well-known figure in prosecutor's office and became an anthem for the Rwandan media, national prosecutor, Rwandan national football Mukuralinda had been Mukuralinda held several team. serving as the deputy high-ranking positions within

The passing of a government spokesperson the public ministry until 2015, Rwandan figure. Alain since December 2021, as dealing with cases involving Mukuralinda, the reported by our correspondent alleged genocidaires and

on Thursday, April 3, in a main spokesperson, Yolande opposition leader Victoire hospital in Kigali due to a Makolo, after a distinguished Ingabire from 2012 to 2013.

The Rwandan government Belgium during the 1990s, he known in the music scene as has announced the passing of began working in the Alain Muku, was also a its deputy spokesperson, Rwandan prosecution office prominent figure in the

Beyond his public service Following his law studies in career, Alain Mukuralinda, country's music industry, As the spokesperson for the famously creating a song that

Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa

Mukuralinda, the reported by our correspondent deputy government in Kigali, Lucie Mouillaud. spokesperson, passed away He held this position under the including the trial of fighting armed Islamist groups

Special Representative _ of the Secretary-General has expressed concern over Niger's decision to withdraw from the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNTJF) fighting armed Islamist groups in West Africa. Leonardo Santos Simão, who is also head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), on Thursday told the Security the region that the military coalition continues its operations.

He said stakeholders at the Lake Chad Basin Governors'

he United Nations Forum in Maiduguri, Nigeria, had "stressed the importance of continuing diplomatic efforts and also financial support" to the force. Santos Simão added that the MNTJF is currently the only security

> the region. The coalition is mandated to combat the Boko Haram insurgency and also includes Benin, Cameroon, Chad, and Nigeria.

> mechanism which is operational in

"In spite of the continued good offices to maintain the integrity of Council that it was crucial to this coalition, Niger recently announced that it would withdraw from the taskforce. This announcement comes at a time when security is the main concern for the region."





by Alain Ebobissé,

Fatih Birol

EDITORIAL

the "chaotic trend" in Liberia

he Supreme Court of Liberia recently described the ongoing leadership crisis in the House of Representatives as a "chaotic trend" in Liberia that needs to needs to be reversed. We couldn't have agreed with the High Court any

Despite the presence of the legitimate Speaker of the House, a group of lawmakers, referring to themselves as Majority Bloc gathered and elected Montserrado County Sistrict#11 Representative, Richard Nagbe Koon, of the ruling Unity Party as Speaker. This action was done outside the Constitution of the Republic of Liberia.

Though illegal, their action is being backed by the Executive that has interpreted in its favor, an earlier Supreme Court opinion that noted that actions taken at the House were ultra vires, contrarily inducting Representative Koon in office as Speaker in spite of the presence of embattled Speaker J. Fonati Koffa.

Ultra vires is a Latin phrase that is used in law to describe an act that requires legal authority but is done without it.

Speaker Koffa has challenged his illegal removal before the Supreme Court twice, with the recent being a Bill of Information, at which hearing the Court sounded the early warning about chaotic trend" in the governing system of the country.

The regional bloc, ECOWAS, thru its parliamentary body has tried | twice in intervening to salvage the impasse without succeeding largely as a result of non-cooperative posture by members of the so-called majority bloc.

In their obsession with power, they have gone to the extent of writing the ECOWAS Parliament, requesting withdrawal of three Liberian Representatives who were sent to that body under the l Koffa leadership. But the Parliament trend the request down because it contravenes its rules.

We are of a very strong conviction that no institution can resolve or address this flagrant violation of the Constitution of Liberia than the Supreme Court that interprets the laws of the land.

Now that the Court itself has observed that the prevailing situation in the country is "chaotic trend", it has the power to reverse this trend by properly and boldly interpreting the constitution for all parties involved without any ambiguity.

The last time the Court spoke on the issue, it left the public in suspense and doubt, a moment the Executive branch of government took advantage of and provided its own interpretation, justifying its actions.

This time around, we are asking the Highest Court of the land to come clear in this matter by letting the chip fall where it may in line with the law regarding which party is in the wrong. This will enable the Liberian people to understand the law and reflect l accordingly.

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S/Court ruling should change What African Electrification Requires

dependable and affordable.

the continent.

electricity reliability and affordability a prime example. connections will likely end up underused.

Agency (IEA) estimates that Sub-Saharan greater integration. today.

African governments must engage the their potential pool of customers.

recipe for success.

Brazil, policy and regulatory reforms administrative processes. initiated in the 1990s opened the country's achieve universal electricity access.

ASABLANCA – Too often, the manager created by African governments and conversation about Africa's energy the African Development Bank, and Power ✓ challenge focuses only on Grid Corporation of India, one of the world's connecting end users. With around half of largest transmission infrastructure the people living in Sub-Saharan Africa developers and operators, have co-developed lacking access to electricity, and with four the Kenya Transmission Public-Private out of five in need of clean cooking Partnership. In collaboration with the solutions, extending electricity connections Kenyan government, the partnership aims to is indeed an urgent priority. But connecting construct approximately 250 kilometers (155 households and businesses to power sources miles) of new transmission lines to channel is only part of the solution. The other part is renewable energy generated in northern to ensure that energy supply is both regions to industrial hubs and demand centers in the country's west.

Among Africans who do have access to an Such public-private partnerships are crucial electricity grid, not even half can count on a for closing the massive gaps that persist in reliable supply. Yet without dependable energy infrastructure funding and electricity, households and businesses implementation. Through regulatory reforms cannot adopt lighting, stoves, computers, and risk-sharing mechanisms, private capital irrigation, farming equipment, sewing can help to advance projects that would be machines, and other devices that could challenging to finance otherwise. India has boost prosperity and improve living benefited from such models ever since it standards. This is one of the main reasons started deregulating its power sector in 1998. why electricity demand remains low across The Tala Transmission project - a partnership between the state-owned Power One of the keys to resolving Africa's Grid Corporation of India and Tata Power – is

challenges is greater investment in grids. Closer regional coordination is also The right investments in transmission can essential. Investing in modern grid help stabilize the grid, reduce outages, interconnectors allows electricity to be improve efficiency, and make better use of traded from countries with excess supply to the lowest-cost sources of energy wherever those with not enough. Such networks can they are on the continent. Without play a major role under emergency transmission, all other investments in conditions, such as the devastating drought electricity generation and household crippling Zambia's hydropower output. Already, 12 African countries in the West The cost of developing transmission African Power Pool have permanently projects is only a small part of the total synchronized their grids, and the South outlays needed to deliver universal African Power Pool is developing several electricity access. The International Energy interconnector transmission lines to support

Africa needs annual energy-access Still, Africa will need more dispatchers and investments exceeding \$30 billion per year planners to make full use of existing regional between now and 2030 - more than eight grid interconnections and lay the times the \$3.7 billion invested annually groundwork to commission new ones. Greater regional integration also will help To mobilize higher investment in grids, investors derisk their projects, by expanding

private sector. That means establishing Africa will not achieve universal access to clear, long-term regulatory and policy reliable electricity without significant frameworks that will attract investors and investment in transmission infrastructure; reduce the cost of financing for new but such investment will not materialize projects. As matters stand, nearly all without fostering greater private-sector transmission networks on the continent are participation. Globally, investment in the operated and financed by state-owned energy sector is growing, particularly in utilities with limited financial resources. renewables, electrification, and resilient grid We know that this can work. In 2024, infrastructure. But to capitalize on this trend Africa's power sector achieved another year governments must lead with meaningful of double-digit growth, largely owing to policy and regulatory changes. Countries like rising private-sector participation. Now, the South Africa, Kenya, and Morocco offer transmission buildout can follow the same clear examples, having successfully attracted private-sector energy investment by African countries can also look to other establishing long-term energy plans and developing and emerging-market targets, encouraging public-private economies for serviceable models. In partnerships, and streamlining

Developing and emerging-market power networks to private investment. economies can learn from one another. Those Since then, according to the IEA, that have delivered near-universal access to transmission and distribution capacity has electricity have done so by unlocking the more than quadrupled, allowing Brazil to necessary capital flows. This should be policymakers' top priority. Once you have Similar models will soon make their debut secured reliable power, you can pursue in Africa. For example, Africa 50, a economic development and start to improve multilateral infrastructure investor and asset hundreds of millions of lives.

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By Daron Acemoglu

Two Models for Agentic Al This UN Debt |

OSTON – AI "agents" are coming, whether we are ready or not. While there is much uncertainty about when AI models will be able to interact autonomously with digital platforms, other AI tools, and even humans, there can be little doubt that this development will be transformative – for better or worse. Yet despite all the commentary (and hype) around agentic AI, many big questions remain unaddressed, the biggest being which type of AI agent the tech industry is seeking to develop?

Different models will have vastly different implications. With an "AI as adviser" approach, AI agents would offer individually calibrated recommendations to human decision-makers, leaving humans always in the driver's seat. But with an "autonomous AI" model, agents will take the wheel on behalf of humans. That is a distinction with profound and far-reaching implications.

Humans make hundreds of decisions every day, some of which have major consequences for their careers, livelihoods, or happiness. Many of these decisions are based on imperfect or incomplete information, determined more by emotions, intuitions, instincts, or impulses. As David Hume famously <u>put it</u>, "Reason is and ought only to be the slave of the passions." Humans may make most decisions without systematic reasoning or due attention to the full implications, but as Hume recognized with the "ought" part of his statement, this isn't all bad. It is what makes us human. Passion reflects purpose, and it may also play a key role in how we cope with a complex world.

With AI advisers that provide customized, reliable, context-relevant, useful information, many important decisions can be improved, but human motives will remain dominant. But what's so bad about autonomous AIs making decisions on our behalf? Couldn't they improve decision-making even further, save time, and prevent errors?

There are several problems with this perspective. First, human agency is critical for human learning and flourishing. The very act of making decisions and contemplating outcomes — even if the inputs and advice come from nonhuman agents — affirms our own sense of agency and purpose. Much of what humans do is not about computation or collecting inputs to decide on an optimal course of action; rather, it is about discovery — an experience that will become increasingly rare if all decisions are delegated to an AI agent.

Moreover, if the tech industry mainly pursues autonomous AI agents, the likelihood of automating more human jobs will increase substantially. Yet if AI becomes primarily a means of accelerating automation, any hope of widely shared prosperity will be dashed.

Most importantly, there is a fundamental difference between AI agents acting on behalf of humans and humans acting for themselves. Many settings in which humans interact have both cooperative and conflictual elements. Consider the case of one company providing an input to another. If this input is sufficiently valuable to the buyer, a trade between the two companies is mutually beneficial (and typically also benefits society).

But for there to be any exchange, the price of the input must be determined through an inherently conflictual process. The higher the price, the more the seller will benefit relative to the buyer. The outcome of such bargaining is often determined by a combination of norms (such as about fairness), institutions (such as contracts that will impose costs if violated), and market forces (such as whether the seller has the option of selling to somebody else). But imagine that the buyer has a reputation for being completely uncompromising – for refusing to accept anything but the lowest feasible price. If there are no other buyers, the seller may be forced to accept the lowball offer.

Fortunately, in our day-to-day transactions, such uncompromising stances are rare, partly because it pays not to have a bad reputation and, more importantly, because most humans have neither the nerve nor the aspiration to act in such aggressive ways. But now imagine that the buyer has an autonomous AI agent that does not care about human niceties and possesses nonhuman steely nerves. The AI can be trained always to adopt this uncompromising stance, and the counterparty will have no hope of coaxing it toward a more mutually beneficial outcome. By contrast, in an AI-asadviser world, the model might still recommend an uncompromising position, but the human would ultimately decide whether to go down that path.

In the near term, then, autonomous agentic AIs may usher in a more unequal world, where only some companies or individuals have access to highly capable, credibly hard-nosed AI models. But even if everyone eventually acquired the same tools, that would not be any better. Our entire society would be subjected to "war-of-attrition" games in which AI agents push every conflictual situation to the brink of breakdown. Such confrontations are inherently risky. As in a game of "chicken" (when two cars accelerate toward each other to see who will swerve away first), it is always possible that neither party will cave. When that happens, both drivers "win" – and both perish. An AI that has been trained to win at "chicken" will never swerve. While AI could be a good adviser to humans – furnishing us with useful, reliable, and relevant information in real time – a world of autonomous AI agents is likely to usher in many new problems, while eroding many of the gains the technology might have offered.

Daron Acemoglu, a 2024 Nobel laureate in economics and Institute Professor of Economics at MIT, is a co-author (with Simon Johnson) of Power and Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle Over Technology and Prosperity (Public Affairs, 2023).

OPINION

by Mahmoud Mohieldin, Yan Wang, Paolo Gentiloni, Trevor Manuel, Paolo Gentiloni

This UN Debt Initiative Is Different

ASHINGTON, DC/ROME/JOHANNESBURG/BOSTON – Economic development requires financing that is affordable, accessible, and has maturities matched to development outcomes. Yet, for most developing countries, none of the above apply. Instead, an escalating "debt disaster" is unfolding across much of the developing world, exacerbated by a series of cascading global crises.

The urgency of the current crisis cannot be overstated. Over half of the 68 countries eligible for the International Monetary Fund's Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) are now facing debt distress—more than double the number in 2015.

But even this figure fails to capture the scale of the problem, as many countries outside the PRGT framework are also grappling with crippling debt burdens and liquidity challenges. Between 2017 and 2023, developing countries' average debt-service costs surged by nearly 12% per year – more than double the growth rate of their exports and remittance earnings. Consequently, external debt sustainability deteriorated in two-thirds of developing countries over this period, including in 37 of 45 African countries with available data.

Despite their unsustainable debt burdens, many countries are reluctant to default, owing to inefficient debt-resolution mechanisms and prohibitively high political and economic costs. As a result, indebted countries prioritize their creditor obligations over their own development, as ballooning debt-service payments crowd out vital investments in infrastructure and human capital, stifling growth and delaying climate action. Today, 3.3 billion people live in countries that spend more on debt servicing than health care and education, the vast majority of them in middle-income economies.

If left unaddressed, current liquidity constraints could quickly morph into a fullblown solvency crisis. Urgent intervention is therefore needed to avert a wave of defaults and put indebted countries on the path to economic independence.

In response to the escalating debt crisis in the Global South, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres established the Expert Group on Debt in December 2024. Its members are tasked with identifying and advancing policy solutions to help developing economies – particularly African countries and small island developing states – break free from the vicious cycle of debt distress.

Although previous UN working groups have tackled sovereign debt issues, several factors set this initiative apart. The first is timing: successive economic shocks have forced developing countries to borrow, typically at high interest rates, severely restricting their fiscal space. With just five years left until the 2030 deadline for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), developing countries – impeded by a persistent \$4 trillion annual financing gap – are on track to meet less than one-fifth of the SDG targets.

Second, while previous initiatives focused on developing countries' ability to repay and service their debts, the Expert Group aims to ensure that any proposed solutions support sustainable development.

Third, the Expert Group aims to identify and promote solutions that can gain political and public support at the global, regional, and national levels. While bold and ambitious measures are essential to addressing the current debt and development crisis, we cannot afford to pursue proposals that stand little chance of achieving the support required to drive meaningful change.

With this in mind, the Expert Group seeks to develop comprehensive strategies. If solutions apply only to new debt or fail to foster economic growth, stabilizing debt dynamics could take years. Trade-offs must also be carefully considered; increased reliance on guarantees, for example, might mobilize more private capital but could reduce access to concessional financing and grants for sovereigns.

Lastly, the Expert Group's composition and outreach make it uniquely positioned to address these issues. Supported by UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and other international bodies, the Group brings together former and current officials, policymakers, and leading academics, combining technical expertise with high-level influence.

The Group's strong ties to key institutions and networks – including international financial institutions, the G20, Jubilee 2025, and various regional and national organizations and agencies – create valuable opportunities to engage policymakers, scholars, civil-society representatives, and other stakeholders. By fostering coordination among UN member states, the Group can help mobilize political will and refine emerging proposals.

Three upcoming gatherings, in particular – July's Fourth International Financing for Development Conference in Spain, the G20 Summit in South Africa, and November's UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Brazil – could serve as critical platforms to promote realistic and practical policy solutions.

To be sure, no single reform will resolve the developing world's debt crisis overnight. But the crisis has laid bare the limitations of conventional approaches, underscoring the urgent need to rethink the structure and purpose of sovereign debt so that countries are no longer forced to choose between repaying their creditors and securing their future.

securing their future.

Given the stakes, any solution must be both swift and capable of uniting a broad coalition of stakeholders. But speed cannot come at the expense of long-term progress. To break the cycle of debt distress, solutions must go beyond short-term

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fixes and serve as a foundation for sustainable development.

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Liberia: A nation shooting itself in the leg

iberia, a West African country blessed with abundant mineral resources, vast forests, and a climate conducive to agriculture, also has ample water resources. Despite these natural endowments, Liberia is still one of the poorest countries in the world.

It is an irony that a nation so rich in natural resources struggles with entrenched poverty. Come to think of it, the key reasons for this are multifaceted, touching upon poor human capital, inadequate infrastructure, stability issues, and a toxic political environment that deters investors.

Another barrier to Liberia's progress is the lack of skilled labor. Without a workforce proficient in modern techniques and technologies, the potential of Liberia's resources remains untapped.

This is compounded by infrastructure issues - poor roads, unreliable electricity, and inadequate communication networks. These deficiencies make it difficult for businesses to operate efficiently.

The toxic political environment

The political landscape in Liberia is another significant deterrent to economic growth. Political instability and corruption create an environment of uncertainty that scares off potential investors.

The fear of abrupt changes in policies and the absence of a reliable legal framework make long-term investments risky.

In recent years, major corporations like Sime Darby have been forced to cease operations in Liberia due to unrest. This unrest is not only driven by local politicians exploiting the populace's ignorance but also by local chapters of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the Green Advocates.

Many of these NGOs have been accused of fabricating stories and coaching locals to tell harrowing tales to secure funding.

While these actions may help the NGOs thrive locally, they harm the country's economic prospects. The false narratives peddled sometimes incite locals against companies attempting to provide jobs and the government striving to attract investors.

The "Land Grabbed" Narrative

A recurring theme propagated by these NGOs is land grabbing. This narrative paints investors in the agriculture sector as villains, exploiting local communities. Such stories, whether true or exaggerated, have a chilling effect on potential investors who fear being maligned by NGOs such as the local Chapter of the Green Advocates.

These investors, wary of damaging their reputations, prefer to steer clear of Liberia, resulting in missed opportunities for economic growth.

These fabricated stories, which more often at times are at the root causes of violent protests at some of these plantations resulting to force closures, leave many families even poorer with no other alternative source of income.

When these companies fold-up and leave, these advocates leave these families helpless and jump into another region.

The hostile investment climate created by these factors means that Liberia continues to miss out on economic opportunities. Without foreign investment, the development of critical sectors such as agriculture, mining, and manufacturing is stymied. This has a direct impact on employment, income, and overall economic development.

Liberia has the potential to become a prosperous nation. However, it cannot achieve this under such toxic environment where NGOs, fabricate and instigate industrial unrests that continue to scare investors away.

News Analysis: A Brief Perspective on the Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC) Saga: The Injustice of Implicating Businessman Jeety

he Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC) plantation has been a crucial player in Liberia's economic landscape since its establishment in 1959, covering 8,000 hectares in Margibi County. At that time, it was the country's fourthlargest rubber-producing and processing company, significantly contributing to economic stability and job creation. However, before its sale to Indian businessman Jeety, SRC faced various challenges, including local claims of land encroachment and environmental concerns. In response, SRC committed itself to upholding its concession agreement by compensating for damaged crops and actively engaging in dialogue with surrounding communities. This approach demonstrated SRC's dedication to sustainable development in Liberia.

Unfortunately, in June 2024, SRC ceased operations in Liberia following a violent incident at the site involving the Worker Union, led by Madam Mary Bolmah. The unrest was sparked by protests regarding inadequate pay and poor labor conditions, when Jeety was nowhere around.

Additionally, an investigation by the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) revealed significant environmental and social repercussions resulting from the company's activities. It is noteworthy that the same Worker Union had previously led a protest around 2019, during which they burned down the only magistrate court and police station built by the United Nations Mission in Liberia Quick Impact Project. The head of the SRC Worker Union, Madam Mary Bolmah, along with others, was arrested and later released on bail through the intervention of the District Representative, Hon. Clarence Garr. However, after SKY International Insurance Corporation withdrew their bond due to concerns about the financial implications of the delayed case, Mary Bolmah, Lawrence Gborbor and others were re-arrested.

For the record, they were charged with several alleged crimes, including armed robbery, arson, terroristic threats, rioting, failure to disperse, burglary, theft of property, criminal mischief, aiding and abetting a crime, criminal conspiracy, criminal facilitation, attempted murder, and criminal solicitation.

They were indicted by the 13th Judicial Circuit Court for Margibi County during its February Term in 2025, but the trial venue was changed to Montserrado County at the request of the prosecution attorney.

Court documents indicated that the damage caused by the accused amounted to USD 275,210. Consequently, to secure the necessary insurance bond, an amount of USD 550,420.00 must be made available. Apparently, this is yet to be secured.

Jeety's Role in Redeeming SRC and Saving Employees:

Three months after the SRC was burned and the attempted murder of the SRC General Manager, on August 26, 2024, SRC was sold to Jeety by the Socfin Group, the original owner of SRC. Jeety, an industrial businessman, began operating SRC, refurbishing the facilities and employing Liberians, some of whom were initially employed by SRC. It has been established that since taking over, prior grievances, including poor housing, inadequate medical care, and unfair labor practices, have been addressed by Mr. Jeety. Workers, predominantly tappers, have reported noticeable improvements in their working environment.

The concerns of Implicating Jeety in the case:

It is therefore far-fetched and incomprehensible that individuals, motivated by political interests, would attempt to implicate Jeety as responsible for the imprisonment of the former SRC Worker Union President, Madam Mary Bolmah and others.

Let these questions linger in your mind:

- 1. Was Jeety the owner of SRC when it was set on fire? No
- 2. Was it Jeety who sued them for which they are still in imprison? No
- 3. Is it the Government of Liberia that is prosecuting them? Yes. Please see the case Title attached

It is therefore my opinion that those who want to politicize the case should stop and allow Madam Mary Bolmah and others have their day in court with a strong legal representation and account for their alleged actions.

Section I. Invitation for Bids

APRIL 07

Republic of Liberia Ministry of Finance and Development Planning P.O.BOX 9013 Broad & Mechlin Streets 1000 Monrovia, 10 Liberia West Africa

Title of bid: Supply of Assorted Stationery

Contract Identification No.: IFB/MFDP/NCB/001/2025

- 1. The government of Liberia through the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning (MFDP) intends to apportion funds towards the cost of procuring stationery for the operation of the Ministry through a *framework agreement* during the Fiscal Year 2025.
- 2. The MFDP now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the supply of assorted stationery during the Fiscal Year 2025. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding process in accordance with procedures specified in the Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concessions Act (PPC Act) published and approved: September 18, 2010.
- The supply of assorted stationery as per the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning requirements is summarized in the below table:

Description	Lot #:	Number	Quantity	Delivery Schedule
Stationery and supplies	1	IFB/MFDP/NCB/001/2025	See attached consumption for last fiscal year	To be delivered upon request
Genuine Sealed Cartridges	2			

- All Interested eligible bidders may obtain a complete set of the bidding document from the Electronic Government Procurement portal (e-GP) beginning April 2, 2025.
- 5. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of US \$2000.00 for lot one (1) and US \$2000.00 for lot two (2) in the form of a Manager's Check, Bank Guarantee or an Insurance
- 6. All bids must be submitted on the Electronic Government Procurement (e-GP) on or before Friday May 2, 2025 at or before 2:00 PM. Bid opening will be done promptly thereafter at 2:30 PM, in the presence of bidders, their representatives or those who choose to attend. Bids shall be valid for a period of 90 days after the deadline of Bid submission. Late bids will be rejected. Only Electronic bidding will be permitted.
- 7. Qualification requirements include the following:
 - Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry)
 - II. **Current Tax Clarence Certificate (Liberia Revenue Authority)**
 - III. Power of Attorney
 - IV. Compliance with PPCC Vendor Regisration procedures
 - Bid Security of US \$2,000.00 for lot one (1) and US \$2,000.00 for lot two in the form of a Bank Guarantee, Manager's Check, or an Insurance Bond
 - VI. **Company Profile**
 - Statements of past performance from at at three (3) clients including the VII. names and contact numbers
 - VIII. Present list of assorted stationery including price
- Submissions must be signed and delivered on the Electronic Government Procurement portal (e-GP) SUPPLY OF STATIONERY -IFB/MFDP/NCB/001/2025, and addressed to:

Assistant Director of Procurement

Room 045–3rd Floor

Ministry of Finance and Development Planning

Broad & Mechlin Streets 1000 Monrovia 10, Liberia

MOBILE NUMBER: +231-777-513-373

EMAIL ADDRESS: gksheriff@mfdp.gov.lr

The Ministry of Finance and Development Planning reserves the right to reject or accept any bid submitted and to annul the entire process at any time without incurring any liability and without assigning any reason thereof.

Assistant Director of Procurement

Approved:

Deputy Minister for Administration



www.thenewdawnliberia.com

Two-decade alliance delivers unprecedented economic growth, technological advancement, and social transformation.

onrovia, Liberia - April 7, 2025 – In presentation at the Executive Mansion over the weekend, Fabian Lai, Acting CEO of the National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL), delivered a comprehensive progress report on NOCAL's groundbreaking partnership with global geological and geophysical leader TGS NOPEC to President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, cabinet ministers, and industry leaders.

This transformative 23-year collaboration has positioned Liberia as West Africa's most promising energy frontier while setting equitable resource US\$15,000. development benchmarks.

strategic partnership has resulted in the acquisition of an extensive multi-client US\$142,955 have greatly contributed to 2D and 3D seismic survey program, covering over 15,000 square kilometers of Liberia's offshore basins. This has positioned Liberia as a promising player in the energy sector, attracting interest US\$40,000 towards initiatives that and investment from supermajors and benefit women entrepreneurs and the independent oil companies.

Lai emphasized the partnership's economic impact, stating that Liberia currently receives 80% of revenues from legacy 3D data sales. This revenuesharing model has significantly bolstered investment with the anticipated executive

retained within the industry. In his presentation, Lai indicated that the partnership is not just about data and profits, but also about empowering the people and building a future where Liberians lead their energy sector.

Additionally, the Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives undertaken by NOCAL as a result of this partnership demonstrate a profound commitment to the community. Lai revealed annual contributions of US\$200,000 for social and welfare programs. Notable projects supported by these funds include the renovation of the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and the expansion of the trauma unit at the John F. Kennedy Medical Center, with a total investment of

Moreover, the provision of medical According to the Acting CEO, the equipment valued at US\$60,000 and the acquisition of ICU beds costing enhancing healthcare services in the capital.

Lai highlighted the support for market women and the Group of 77 by providing disabled, ensuring that the economic empowerment of communities is paramount.

Looking to the future, Lai shared his leadership's plans to attract additional



and community development.

role in the country's frontier oil and gas stimulate local economies. industry and national development.

faced by the country, particularly regarding the reduction in USAID aid, the Liberian leader proffered the need for solidify TGS NOPEC as a responsible President Boakai further mandated a follow-up with TGS NOPEC on increasing its CSR contributions, while also exploring additional avenues for collaboration.

A cornerstone of the collaboration has been its focus on capacity building and local empowerment. NOCAL, together with TGS NOPEC, has committed to funding the education and professional development of Liberian staff both

domestically and internationally, ensuring that local talent is nurtured and

the government's financial resources, allocation and conduct further geological allowing for enhanced public services and geophysical studies onshore. Plans are also underway to conduct a feasibility In response, President Joseph Boakai study on constructing a shore base to lauded TGS NOPEC for its enduring support offshore exploration activities, partnership and highlighted its significant which will undoubtedly create jobs and

NOCAL's acting CEO reaffirmed his Underscoring the difficult circumstances team's unwavering commitment to leveraging its partnership with TGS NOPEC for the collective benefit of all Liberians.

increased CSR contributions in order to He emphasized their determination to ensure that the energy sector transforms into a cornerstone of national development, paving the way for prosperity and growth for future generations.

> With these initiatives, the partnership between NOCAL and TGS NOPEC continues to set a benchmark for corporate collaboration in Liberia, blending technological growth with sustainable development and community empowerment.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE

ccess to land limits women's participation in agriculture "Punish the sheep and protect the wolves

2025

Women's access to land or land ownership continues to limit their ability to progress on so many in front including engaging in agriculture.

omen's participation production and contributing to in agriculture is being national food security. to Agnes Fred, Program in Monrovia, Development.

She emphasized that land foodproduction. ownership and accessibility She noted that while women remain major challenges make up a large percentage of preventing women from fully Liberia's agricultural workforce, engaging in agricultural many do not have control over

severely hindered by Speaking at the recent Daylong limited access to land, according Agriculture Journalism seminar Madam Fred Coordinator at Women in highlighted the struggles faced Agriculture and Sustainable by women in acquiring farmland, despite their significant role in

By: Edwin N Khakie

the land they cultivate.

This, she explained, limits their ability to expand their farming activities, secure financial support, and improve their livelihoods.

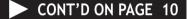
The female Agriculture specialist made a passionate appeal to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Liberia's Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) to intervene and support

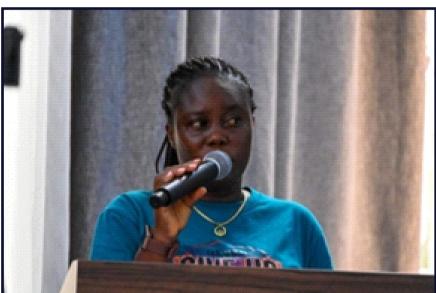
women in securing farmland.

She urged these institutions to create policies and initiatives that would grant women easier access to agricultural land, enabling them to become key contributors to the nation's agricultural growth.

"We are calling on the FAO and MOA to assist women farmers in obtaining land for agricultural purposes.

Without land, women cannot engage in sustainable farming, and this affects their economic empowerment and Liberia's food production," Fred stated.





By: Edwin N Khakie -for hands-on student training

In a bold move to strengthen agricultural education and professional development, Future Farmers Liberia has announced plans to enter a strategic partnership with agricultural colleges and universities across Bong, Nimba, and Lofa Counties.

institutions.

ong County, April 7, model for community-led 2 0 2 5 : The agricultural transformation. organization is The organization focuses currently finalizing a heavily on inclusive farming Memorandum of practices, empowering women Understanding (MOU) that and youth through piggery, will enable students from these poultry, fish farming, institutions to receive hands- vegetable gardening, and on training on its cassava and maize production. The upcoming MOU demonstration farm.

The announcement was made represents a holistic step by the Executive Director of toward capacity building, Future Farmers Liberia, Mr. aligning the organization's Darius K. Nupolu, during a practical strengths with the special gathering at the academic expertise of organization's headquarters in Liberia's agricultural

Mr. Nupolu described the In Bong County students from Liberia's agricultural and exposure to sustainable education system.

"This initiative is about preparing the next generation of Agri-professionals,' Nupolu stated.

"By allowing students to engage in real-time agricultural activities ranging from animal husbandry and aquaculture to crop production and agribusiness they will gain the skills and confidence needed to drive innovation in the agriculture sector."

Established as a grassroots initiative, Future Farmers Liberia has rapidly become a

farming techniques helping to reinforce lessons learned in the classroom.

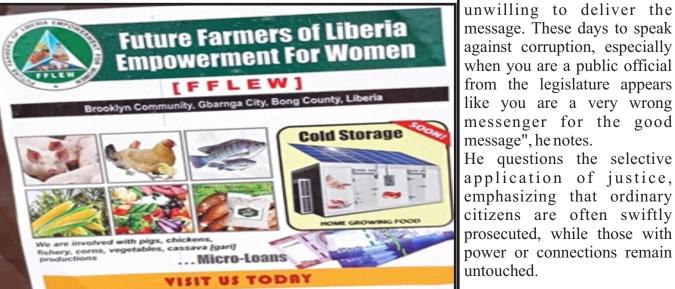
Mr. Nupolu emphasized that the collaboration is designed to not only enhance student learning but also suppor broader national goals of food security employment creation, and rura development.

Currently Liberia is striving to rebuild and diversify its economy, where agricultur remains a cornerstone of growth.

Initiatives like this MOU place education National Bar Association and practical skills at the center of that (LNBA) 2025 General vision, By investing in youth, promoting innovation, and empowering communities Future Farmers Liberia continues to lead by example.

Mr. Nupolu concluded by reaffirming th organization's commitment to nationa development: "We are building a futur where Liberian farmers are not ju producers, but professionals, innovators and leaders.

MOU as a milestone effort to the Bong County Technical. The official signing of the MOU is expected bridge the persistent gap College (BCTC) will benefit to take place in the coming weeks, setting justice are themselves avoiding between theoretical learning from guided mentorship, the stage for a transformative experience for it. The system has become and practical application in access to experimental plots, students and a stronger agricultural future for Liberia.



Senator Darius Dillon says here that the Liberian Judiciary has failed to prosecute corrupt officials, instead, it goes after ordinary citizens.

By Lincoln G. Peters

ontserrado County, Liberia, April 7, 2025 – Montserrado County Senator Abraham Darius Dillon, criticizes Liberia's justice system, accusing the judiciary of failure to punish corrupt officials. He describes the Justice System here as one that "punishes the sheep and protects the wolves." Delivering a brief remark on behalf of the Liberian Senate over the weekend particularly, the Judicial Committee of which he is a member, Senator Dillon accused the Justice System of protecting impunity, shielding the powerful, while punishing the powerless.

Addressing score of legal

"Who must bring people to court? And when they are brought, who must muster the courage to punish wrongdoing? Until we answer those questions honestly, justice will remain out of reach for the average Liberian", he laments. Senator Dillon further places specific lense of a legal loophole he believes is contributing to Liberia's culture of impunity - The Statute Of Limitations on noncapital offenses, particularly corruption.

"In this country, if someone commits a corrupt act or embezzles, mismanages, or abuses public trust, the Status of Limitations provides five year-time limit, and when that



practitioners, stakeholders and time passes without politicians at the Liberian Assembly held at the Temple of Justice in Monrovia, he described Liberian judicial system as a "broken justice system."

"When it comes to the fight against corruption and accountability, it sometimes disassembled. The messengers of justice seem afraid or unwilling to deliver the message. These days to speak against corruption, especially when you are a public official from the legislature appears like you are a very wrong message", he notes.

messenger for the good He questions the selective application of justice, emphasizing that ordinary citizens are often swiftly

prosecution, they walk free. All the evidence in the world won't matter. The law says: it's too late. This is an affront of us who want to fight justice", Dillon notes.

He describes the current fiveyear statute of limitations "a legal shield for the corrupt", adding that in order to address the legal gap, he has proposed seems as though the very legislation to extend the people mandated to deliver timeframe for prosecution from five to fifteen years.

> "Corruption doesn't disappear with time. It gets buried, protected, or forgotten. But justice delayed should not mean justice denied. When appointments and investigations are based on family ties instead of merit or evidence, we are nurturing a culture of corruption," he warns here.

> In a direct appeal to his audience, Dillon calls on the legal community to support reforms and resist complacency. Editing by Jonathan Browne

rança Nancy Doe rejette les projets de mémorial pour son défunt époux

'ancienne Première dame du Liberia, Madame Nancy B. Doe, a exprimé son opposition ferme aux initiatives prises en vue de commémorer son époux défunt, l'ancien président Samuel Kanyon Doe, sans son autorisation.

mémoire du défunt président soit traitée avec respect et dignité.

Voici l'intégralité de sa déclaration : Déclaration officielle de Madame Nancy 3 avril 2025

Il nous est revenu qu'un prétendu service commémoratif militaire traditionnel a été organisé par le Dans une déclaration publiée le sénateur Zoe Emmanuel Pennue, un

claire et catégorique, qu'aucune personne ou groupe de personnes en particulier dirigé par le sénateur Zoe Emmanuel Pennue – n'a le droit de s'immiscer dans les affaires concernant les restes de mon mari sans notre approbation expresse et sans la participation active de moi-même et de notre guide spirituel désigné.

Monsieur Pennue, bien qu'appartenant à la famille Pennue et étant, par lien de sang, un neveu du président défunt, ne détient aucun droit ni aucune autorité sur la famille Doe tant que je suis en vie, tout comme nos enfants. Il doit immédiatement cesser toute ingérence injustifiée, illégale et non autorisée dans les affaires familiales, notamment celles touchant aux restes de mon défunt

La famille Doe — composée de moi-même, de nos enfants et de notre lignée directe — collabore activement avec Son Excellence le Président Joseph Boakai et son gouvernement afin de garantir que le président Samuel K. Doe soit réinhumé de manière digne et respectueuse. La date de cette réinhumation sera annoncée ultérieurement par les autorités compétentes. Aucune initiative





jeudi 3 avril, Madame Doe a dénoncé les démarches entreprises par le sénateur Zoe Emmanuel Pennue, qu'elle qualifie d'illégitimes et inappropriées. Elle exige que la Nous tenons à préciser, de manière

individu qui, depuis plusieurs années, tente de faire avancer son propre agenda malveillant sous le prétexte de rendre hommage au président défunt Samuel Kanyon Doe, Sr.

Le Liberia risque de compromettre sa

candidature au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU respecté professeur Ibrahim Gambari, reconnaissent pas la stature d'un

'ancien candidat à la présidence et éminent avocat de défense des droits de l'homme, Maître Tiawan Saye Gongloe, tire la sonnette d'alarme : les agissements du bloc majoritaire à la Chambre des représentants, avec l'aval du président Joseph N. Boakai et du Sénat, pourraient sérieusement compromettre la candidature du Liberia à un siège non permanent au Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies.

Dans une tribune publiée le jeudi 3 avril 2025, Me Gongloe revient sur la crise politique en cours au sein de la Chambre des représentants, où le bloc majoritaire a refusé de coopérer avec deux missions de la CEDEAO, malgré l'intervention de la Cour suprême du Liberia.

Selon lui, la reconnaissance officielle de ce comportement par l'exécutif et le Sénat constitue une violation flagrante de la Constitution libérienne et un affront aux principes démocratiques.

« La conduite du bloc majoritaire, validée par le président Boakai et le Sénat, met en péril la candidature du Liberia au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU. Plus grave encore, le refus de ces parlementaires de collaborer avec deux délégations de la CEDEAO, dont l'une dirigée par le président du Parlement de la

CEDEAO et l'autre par le très

est une humiliation nationale », a déclaré Me Gongloe.

Ancien procureur général, l'avocat dénonce un recul démocratique inquiétant et exhorte les Libériens à ne pas rester passifs face à ce qu'il qualifie d'abus de pouvoir et de mépris flagrant de la légalité.

« Le Liberia a longtemps été perçu comme un phare de la démocratie en Afrique. Ce statut est aujourd'hui menacé. Aucun citoyen soucieux de l'avenir de notre pays ne devrait tolérer que notre Constitution soit ainsi piétinée », a-t-il insisté.

Maître Gongloe a également exprimé son indignation quant au manque de respect manifesté envers le professeur Ibrahim Gambari, diplomate nigérian de renommée internationale et ancien haut fonctionnaire des Nations Unies. « Il est inconcevable que des parlementaires libériens ne

tel homme d'État. C'est non seulement une démonstration d'ignorance, mais également un comportement indigne de tout élu du peuple.»

Face à cette situation, il appelle les Libériens, tant à l'intérieur qu'à l'extérieur du pays, à se mobiliser pour la sauvegarde des institutions démocratiques.

« Je reste un optimiste invétéré. Je refuse d'abandonner le Liberia. À tous les Libériens de bonne volonté, je dis comme les soldats sur le front : Pas de retraite, pas de reddition! La lutte pour un Liberia meilleur doit continuer jusqu'à ce que nous élisions des dirigeants dévoués au service de la nation et non à l'enrichissement personnel. Restons vigilants et déterminés à faire respecter l'État de droit », conclut-il.



Editorial

La décision de la Cour suprême doit inverser la tendance chaotique au Liberia

Par Raghuram Rajan

a Cour suprême du Liberia a récemment qualifié la crise de leadership en cours à la Chambre des représentants de "tendance chaotique" qui doit être corrigée. Nous ne saurions être plus en accord avec cette déclaration de la plus haute juridiction du pays.

Malgré la présence d'un président légitime à la Chambre, un groupe de députés se faisant appeler le "Bloc majoritaire" s'est réuni et a élu Richard Nagbe Koon, représentant du district #11 de Montserrado et membre du parti au pouvoir, l'Unity Party, comme président de la Chambre. Cette démarche a été menée en dehors du cadre constitutionnel du Liberia.

Bien que cette action soit illégale, elle a bénéficié du soutien de l'exécutif, qui a interprété à son avantage un avis précédent de la Cour suprême. Cet avis indiquait que les décisions prises à la Chambre étaient "ultra vires", c'est-à-dire prises sans autorité légale. Cependant, au lieu de corriger cette situation, l'exécutif a permis l'induction du représentant Koon en tant que président de la Chambre, en dépit de la présence du président contesté J. Fonati

Le président Koffa a contesté son limogeage illégal à deux reprises devant la Cour suprême, la plus récente étant une requête en information. Lors de cette audience, la Cour a mis en garde contre la "tendance chaotique" qui affecte le système de gouvernance du

La Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO), à travers son organe parlementaire, a tenté par deux fois d'intervenir pour résoudre cette impasse. Cependant, ces efforts ont échoué en grande partie en raison de l'attitude non coopérative des membres du soi-disant "Bloc majoritaire".

Dans leur quête du pouvoir, ces députés sont allés jusqu''à demander au Parlement de la CEDEAO le retrait de trois représentants libériens désignés sous la direction de Koffa. Toutefois, cette demande a été rejetée car contraire aux règlements de l'institution.

Nous sommes convaincus qu'aucune institution, en dehors de la Cour suprême, ne peut régler cette violation flagrante de la Constitution du Liberia. En tant que seule instance habilitée à interpréter les lois du pays, elle doit user de son autorité pour clarifier la situation sans ambiguïté et rétablir l'ordre constitutionnel.

Lors de sa dernière prise de parole sur cette affaire, la Cour suprême a laissé le public dans l'incertitude, une situation qui a été exploitée par l'exécutif pour justifier ses actions.

Cette fois-ci, nous exhortons la plus haute juridiction du pays à se prononcer avec fermeté et clarté sur cette affaire, en se fondant uniquement sur le droit. Il est essentiel que la Cour détermine de manière décisive quelle partie est dans son tort, afin que le peuple libérien puisse comprendre la loi et agir en conséquence.



Starts from page 8 Nancy Doe rejette les projets de

non autorisée ne sera tolérée.

Il est inacceptable que Monsieur Pennue, qui n'a cessé de harceler mes enfants et moi-même au fil des années, cherche aujourd'hui à s'impliquer dans une affaire aussi solennelle. Il s'agit du même individu qui a publiquement déclaré : « C'est pour cela que Samuel n'a pas de tombe, et je m'assurerai, en tant que législateur et haut fonctionnaire, qu'il n'en ait jamais. » Ces propos, parmi tant d'autres, révèlent clairement ses intentions malveillantes.

Nous exigeons que Monsieur Zoe Emmanuel Pennue se retire immédiatement de toute activité liée aux

restes de mon époux et qu'il laisse la famille Doe, en coordination avec le gouvernement libérien, procéder à la réinhumation dans la dignité et le respect.

Toute action future non autorisée de la part de Monsieur Pennue fera l'objet d'une opposition juridique rigoureuse. La famille Doe est résolue à garantir que le président Samuel K. Doe repose enfin en paix, sans interférences ni manipulations d'aucune

Signé: Madame Nancy B. Doe Ancienne Première dame de la République du Liberia

Le CSNL rejette les accusations de violation des droits de l'homme contre l'homme d'affaires indien Jeety

fermement rejeté les récentes affirme le CSNL. accusations portées contre L'organisation indique que, selon Rubber Corporation (SRC), dans cours. le comté de Margibi.

la société.

détention prolongée de Mme y a quelques années. Gorgbor, ancien secrétaire général, arrêtés pour leur rôle présumé dans les violentes manifestations du 27 juin 2024 sur le site de la SRC à Weala. Pourtant, le CSNL rappelle que ces événements se sont produits quatre mois avant que M. Jeety ne prenne possession de l'entreprise. Selon le communiqué, ce n'est pas M. Jeety, mais bien le gouvernement libérien qui poursuit en justice Mme Boimah et ses collègues, en raison de leur implication présumée dans une affaire ayant des implications pour la sécurité nationale.

« Associer M. Jeety à cette affaire

e Civil Society Network judiciaire est non seulement of Liberia (CSNL), une injuste, mais aussi dangereux organisation de défense pour l'image du pays en matière des droits de l'homme, a d'accueil des investisseurs »,

l'homme d'affaires indien, M. les informations obtenues auprès Upjit Singh Sachdeva, connu du tribunal, la détention des affectueusement sous le nom de personnes concernées est liée à la "Jeety". L'organisation dénonce poursuite des enquêtes et à la une campagne de désinformation recherche d'autres suspects. La visant à ternir la réputation de M. libération des inculpés pourrait, Jeety et à nuire à son selon la justice, compromettre investissement dans la Salala l'intégrité de la procédure en

Tout en réaffirmant son Dans un communiqué publié le engagement contre la détention jeudi 3 avril 2025, le CSNL arbitraire, le CSNL estime qu'il qualifie ces accusations de « est nécessaire de prendre en propagande mensongère fondée compte le passé de Mme Boimah, sur l'ignorance », dont le but qu'il décrit comme une figure serait de semer la discorde entre centrale dans des épisodes de l'investisseur et les employés de violence antérieurs, notamment l'incendie du commissariat de Les accusations font suite à la police et du tribunal de Kakata il

Mary P. Boimah, ancienne Le CSNL met également en garde présidente du syndicat des contre la tendance croissante à travailleurs, et de M. Lawrence politiser des faits judiciaires ou

économiques, estimant que cela compromet la stabilité du pays et dissuade les investisseurs potentiels.

« Le fait de salir la réputation d'un investisseur étranger de bonne foi, simplement parce qu'il n'a pas renouvelé les contrats de certains anciens employés, relève d'une mauvaise foi manifeste », souligne le communiqué.

Le CSNL révèle que son enquête interne montre que les accusations découlent du mécontentement lié au refus de la direction actuelle de réintégrer Mme Boimah et ses alliés. Toutefois, le réseau rappelle que lors de la reprise de l'entreprise par M. Jeety, tous les anciens employés avaient été dédommagés, et un nouveau processus de recrutement, fondé sur le mérite, avait été lancé.

« L'entreprise, agissant dans le cadre légal et éthique, a pris la décision professionnelle de ne pas réembaucher des individus faisant l'objet d'une mise en accusation. Il est donc illogique de rendre M. Jeety responsable des décisions du tribunal », conclut le CSNL.



deux candidats indépendants à Nimba

pour le 22 avril 2025, le 3 avril 2025. Mouvement pour la Démocratie et C e p e n d a n t, la Reconstruction (MDR), parti quelques minutes politique collaborateur, a annoncé avant l'audience, le le retrait « avec réserve » de sa MDR a adressé une plainte déposée auprès de la correspondance à Commission électorale nationale la NEC annonçant (NEC) du Liberia.

Le MDR, parti fondé par le défunt requête. sénateur Prince Yormie Johnson, La lettre, signée avait introduit une plainte contre par Michael T.V. deux candidats indépendants en lice Deddeh, vice-: Tee Wonokay-Farngalo et Edith L. président national Gongloe-Weh. Le parti soutient la du MDR chargé

le retrait de sa

candidature de l'actuel représentant des affaires

lors que les citoyens du du comté de Nimba, Samuel Kogar. électorales, précise que le retrait comté de Nimba se La plainte, qui portait sur des s'effectue « avec réserve », une préparent à la tenue d'une accusations de violations formule laissant entendre que le élection sénatoriale partielle prévue électorales, devait être entendue le parti pourrait relancer la procédure



ArcelorMittal Liberia présente une nouvelle promotion de jeunes stagiaires libéri

rcelorMittal Liberia a officiellement lancé une nouvelle cohorte de stagiaires dans le cadre de ses programmes de formation des Artisans et Opérateurs de procédés, marquant ainsi un investissement majeur dans le développement professionnel de la jeunesse libérienne.

Cette initiative s'inscrit dans la stratégie globale de l'entreprise visant à renforcer les compétences techniques de la main-d'œuvre locale et à appuyer les objectifs de développement national du Liberia.

La campagne de recrutement, lancée à grande échelle, cible plus de 200 jeunes issus des comtés de Bong, Nimba et Grand Bassa. Ces stagiaires ont été sélectionnés pour se préparer à occuper des postes dans le cadre du projet d'expansion de la Phase II d'ArcelorMittal Liberia, notamment la construction d'une nouvelle usine de concentration à Yekepa.

Le programme de formation, alliant théorie et pratique, vise à doter les participants des compétences nécessaires pour manipuler des équipements de traitement complexes. À l'issue de leur formation, les stagiaires auront la possibilité d'intégrer ArcelorMittal Liberia en tant qu'Opérateurs de procédés.

L'Académie de formation d'ArcelorMittal Liberia (AMLTA), située à Yekepa, joue un rôle central dans cette dynamique, offrant un enseignement technique et professionnel dans des disciplines telles que la mécanique diesel, l'électromécanique, et la fabrication de produits. Le programme débute par six mois de cours fondamentaux en sciences de l'ingénierie, mathématiques, dessin technique et théorie des métiers.

Une cérémonie de lancement de carrière a été organisée le jeudi 3 avril 2025 à l'AMLTA, en présence du personnel d'ArcelorMittal Liberia. Les stagiaires, visiblement enthousiastes, ont exprimé leur gratitude pour cette opportunité cruciale dans leur parcours professionnel.

Lors de la cérémonie, plusieurs d'entre eux ont partagé leur expérience, soulignant l'importance des compétences pratiques acquises en exploitation, en résolution de problèmes et en travail d'équipe. Barebo T. Toure, apprenant opérateur de procédés, et Cyrus Bsryogar, artisan en formation, ont salué la qualité de l'enseignement dispensé et l'accompagnement constant de l'entreprise.



Le Directeur général d'ArcelorMittal Liberia, M. Michael Vandermerwe, a accueilli les stagiaires avec enthousiasme et leur a assuré son soutien indéfectible.

« C'est une opportunité qui marquera le début de votre carrière, et nous sommes fiers de faire partie de votre parcours », a-t-il déclaré.

De son côté, M. Kleber Silva, PDG d'ArcelorMittal Liberia Mining, s'est réjoui de l'intérêt croissant des jeunes pour les initiatives de l'entreprise. Il a souligné le rôle déterminant de la formation dans le développement économique du pays, exprimant sa confiance quant à la capacité des stagiaires à contribuer à un Liberia moderne et prospère.

En proposant un programme complet et multidisciplinaire, l'AMLTA témoigne de l'engagement fort d'ArcelorMittal Liberia à bâtir une maind'œuvre qualifiée, inclusive et durable. À travers cette initiative, l'entreprise continue de jouer un rôle essentiel dans la formation des futurs leaders du Liberia.

à l'avenir. Aucune explication entraînant ainsi le retrait du dossier de aux motifs de cette décision.

Ce retrait constitue votre autorité Le retrait de cette plainte survient à

Commission. La NEC devrait enregistrer stratégique de Nimba.

formellement ce retrait,

officielle n'a été fournie quant son rôle. Sauf nouvel acte du MDR, l'affaire est désormais classée.

« Veuillez consigner au procès- Dans sa plainte initiale, le MDR verbal de l'affaire contestait l'éligibilité de M. Wonokaysusmentionnée que le plaignant, Farngalo, invoquant sa précédente le Mouvement pour la candidature dans le comté de Démocratie et la Reconstruction Montserrado. Il accusait également (MDR), retire par la présente sa Mme Gongloe-Weh d'irrégularités plainte avec réserve. liées à l'enregistrement des électeurs.

légale et suffisante », peut-on quelques semaines du scrutin, laissant lire dans la lettre adressée à la place à une compétition électorale qui s'annonce serrée dans le comté

MORE HEADLINE

Starts from page 7 Access to land limits women's

2025

In addition to appealing to policymakers, Fred also called on the media to play a proactive role in advocating for women in agriculture. She encouraged journalists and media institutions to highlight the challenges women

face, create awareness, and mobilize support from both governmental and nongovernmental organizations. "The media has a critical role in ensuring that

the voices of women in agriculture are heard. We need strong advocacy to push for policies that will enable women to own and access farmland without restrictions," she added. Women's involvement in agriculture is crucial

for national development. Experts suggest that providing women with

secure access to land will not only enhance their productivity but also improve household

nutrition, reduce poverty, and strengthen Liberia's agricultural sector.

To achieve this, stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector actors, and civil society organizations, must work together to: Implement land reform policies that recognize women's rights to own and use land. Offer financial and technical support to women farmers to boost their agricultural activities.

Strengthen agricultural cooperatives where women can collectively acquire and manage farmland.

With the right support, women can significantly contribute to Liberia's agricultural development, ensuring food security and economic sustainability for generations to come.

it is now up to policymakers, donors, and stakeholders to act. Investing in women's agriculture is an investment in Liberia's future. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

ith Gongloe-Weh battles propaganda

In Nimba senatorial race By S. Matthew M. Quoi, Jr., Nimba County

The Lone female candidate in the Nimba Senatorial By-election dismisses allegation brought against her as political propaganda.

imba County, Liberia, April 7, 2025 – Madam Edith Gongloe-Weh, the lone female candidate in the April 22nd Nimba County Senatorial By-Election, dismisses recent allegation of voter registration irregularities brought against her as political propaganda designed to tarnish her hard-earned reputation.

The National Elections Commission (NEC) recently received a complaint from the Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction (MDR), accusing Madam Gongloe-Weh of not possessing a valid 2023 biometric voter ID.

However, before the NEC could officially trash the complaint, the MDR hurriedly withdrew the case, prompting Gongloe-Weh to suggest the complaint was baseless and politically-motivated.

"This was a calculated move by the MDR to stain my name, knowing the reputation I have built over the years," Madam Gongloe-Weh states during a press briefing.

She strongly denies claims that her sister had registered on her behalf, labeling the accusation as "a desperate lie."

Addressing concerns about her voter ID photo, she explains the photo discrepancy with humor, saying she looked "much younger" because she had just returned from the United States.

"Let me tell you the secret," Madam Gongloe-Weh says with a smile. "I had just come from America, and when you come from the cold, your skin looks fresh. That's why I looked younger."

She emphasizes that her sister, Mercy, does not resemble her, and to claim the photo was Mercy's, is completely "out of order."

Gongloe-Weh reiterates her clean record, noting that she has never engaged in fraudulent activities, especially not regarding voter registration.

Asked if she would sue the MDR for defamation, Gongloe-Weh says she has no intention of doing so, adding that the party has already lost public

"They have been sued in the court of public opinion," she notes confidently.

She urges the MDR to go on air and admit their actions, which she described as a "deliberate and calculated propaganda."

The MDR's complaint, she says, defied logic, especially considering the biometric system in place that makes impersonation impossible due to unique fingerprint identification.

"They know no two persons can share the same fingerprint, yet they spread this propaganda across the internet to mislead the public," she

At the same time she accuses her opponents of being afraid of her growing popularity, so they are trying to undermine her candidacy through misinformation.

She recalls that this wasn't the first time she had faced such smear tactics in her political career.

Over the years, she has faced formidable male opponents and endured harsh political climates, but she has remained resilient and committed to serving Nimba County.

Her first Senatorial race was in 2011, when she lost to former Senator Thomas Grupee.

In 2014, she contested in the Special Senatorial Election against the late Senator Prince Johnson, but was again unsuccessful.

In 2017, she faced off against Jeremiah Kpan Koung, who is now Liberia's Vice President, and lost for a third time.

Despite these defeats, Gongloe-Weh has remains a persistent and inspirational figure in Nimba County politics.

She continues to advocate for gender equity and has called on women across the county to support her historic bid.

"I have struggled for this county and for our women for years. Now is the time for us to rise together," she declares.

Madam Gongloe-Weh believes 2025 may finally be the year she breaks the political glass ceiling in Nimba.

With resilience and hope, she enters the by-election confident that the people of Nimba will choose integrity, experience, and vision over propaganda. Editing by Jonathan Browne



The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Liberia, Ramat Mohamed, has visited the Borough of New Kru Town to acquaint herself with development there.

By: Naneka A. Hoffman

onrovia, Liberia, April 7, 2025 - The Nigerian .A m b a s s a d o r accredited near Monrovia has paid an official visit to the Municipal Borough of New Kru Town on Bushrod Island in Monrovia to familiarize herself with activities and challenges there.

Speaking during a program held to welcome her to the borough, Ambassador Ramat Mohamed, thanked the people of New Kru

protracted civil wars in Liberia and the fact that Nigerians are highly welcome to stay and do business in the country attest to the warm relations.

She commended Nigerians in Liberia for being law-abiding and cautioned them to remain as such in order to develop themselves along with their Liberian partners.

Earlier, the Governor of the Borough of New Kru Town, Robert Teah, presented a threeyear development plan to



opportunity to explore assistance. development and challenges in the area.

Governor Teah for extending an collection and disposal of invitation to her to visit the garbage, flooding during the Borough of New Kru Town, including reception accorded her and her entourage by the people. She said Liberia and Nigeria have enjoyed cordial and mutual relations since the establishment share experiences. of diplomatic relations between During the ceremony, than 60 years ago.

According to her, Liberia and Nigeria consider each other as strategic partners in regional and global affairs and have enjoyed diplomatic relations across economic, political, cultural and social affairs, mostly in the area of peace and security.

instrumental in ending the Editing by Jonathan Browne

Town for giving her an Ambassador Mohamed for

According to Governor Teah, the borough is challenged when it The Nigerian envoy commended comes to logistics in the rainy season and expressed interest of visiting the Federal Republic of Nigeria in order to establish relations with governors of states in order to

the West African countries more Ambassador Mohamed was honored, gowned and named "Decontee" (meaning everything has time in the Kru and Bassa dialects) by women of the Borough.

Residents of New Kru Town are predominantly of the Kru language in Liberia. They are fond of living near coastal areas, Ambassador Mohamed noted engaging in fishing on small that Nigeria was very scale for daily sustenance.



2025

The Government of Liberia is resolute in the prosecution of former Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC) Workers Union leaders following a 2024 protest on the plantation that led to looting and widespread destruction of the company's properties amounting to over US\$275,000.

onrovia, April 7, Corporation (NASSCORP) 2025: Salala local office at the SRC R u b b e r plantation in Weala.

Corporation former Workers' It took the effort of officers of Union President Mary P. the Liberian National Police Boimah and Secretary to rescue the managers and



including armed robbery, perpetrators absconded. property.

and others, which led to US\$275,000. significant destruction of Government's intervention SRC's properties including On Tuesday, July 2, 2024, the including contractors, on the production manager. demanding increased Mr. Piah noted that the including housing.

during a 5-day go-slow at the incident at SRC. plantation.

The Protest

Boimah, engaged the former Information.

amounted to 13 counts. days they were off work scare away investors. contractors and employees, incident accountable. set fire to the residence of The indictment

Lawrence Gborbor, along bring the situation under with six other individuals, control, with several arrests are facing multiple charges, made, while many

arson, criminal facilitation, Documents obtained solicitation, conspiracy, following the police mischief, and theft of investigation into the SRC violent protest which took The case involves a June 27, place under the then Socfin 2024, violent protest staged S.A. Management of SRC put by Madam Mary P. Boimah the cost of property damage at

the administrative Minister of Information, headquarters, among others. Cultural Affairs, and Before the protest, tension Tourism, Jerolinmek M. Piah, had been brewing at the SRC announced that the violent Plantation with workers, protest was a targeted attack

salaries, employment, health government would ensure and other social benefits, accountabilities for all involved, adding that the The workers, through their government had dispatched a leader Madam Mary P. team of investigators led by Boimah, had also demanded the Ministry of Justice to payment for lost wages ascertain the details of the

The team included representatives from the On the morning of June 27, Ministry of Agriculture, the 2024, the workers, through Acting Inspector General of their leaders led by Madam Police, and the Ministry of

SRC Management over the He noted that despite workers' demand, which Liberia's high unemployment rates compared to other Part of the 13 counts was the countries, the government demand for payment for the would not support efforts to

protesting, which the The information minister management refused. This affirmed the government's resulted in a protest that intention to use this case to set turned violent and escalated. an example by holding those SRC workers, including responsible for the Salala

plantation manager Sangeeth Following the arrests and Sathyan and looted the charges of Madam Mary company's warehouse. They Boimah, Lawrence Gborbor, also set ablaze a National and others, the Grand Jury of Social Security and Welfare Margibi County in the March term of the court indicted Madam Boimah and other, charging them with the crimes of criminal facilitation, solicitation conspiracy, mischief, and theft of property.

Court records showed that Mary Boimah and Lawrence Gborbor were rearrested on March 17, following the Grand Jury of Margibi County's decision to upgrade their indictments to include charges of arson and armed robbery, based on a review of additional evidence.

The rearrest came about after SKY International Insurance Corporation—whose bond had previously kept Mary Boimah and Lawrence Gborbor out of prison since their initial arrest in June 2024—notified the Court of its decision to withdraw the bond valued at US\$550,420. Meanwhile, upon being

notified of SKY International **Insurance Corporation's bond** withdrawal, the Margibi County Attorney's Office of the Ministry of Justice promptly filed a request for a change of venue. The request was granted, and on March 20, 2025, Mary Boimah and Lawrence Gborbor were transferred to Criminal Court 'A' in Monrovia and subsequently imprisoned at the Monrovia Central Prison where they remain in custody pending the posting of a new

Mary P. Boimah's link to previous violent protests

In 2019, she led a group of protesters in Weala Town, where they set fire to two police stations in response to the death of a local motorcyclist. The protests escalated further, with demonstrators burning the Baypolu Magisterial Court, blocking highways, and destroying several properties. This past history has played a significant role in the government's decision to pursue legal action against Madam Boimah.

The Jeety factor

The case involving Madam Mary Boimah, Lawrence Gborbor and others has no link with the current Management of SRC headed by Jeety Rubber LLC.

Rather, the case predates Jeety Rubber LLC's ownership of SRC. By the time Mr. Jeety bought SRC in August 2024, Mary Boimah, Lawrence Gborbor, and others accused were already indicted and awaiting trials.

Story By Othello B. Garblah.

From Back Page **Arcein'i**N

Phase 2 concentrator, a key part of some of whom have encountered the company's growth strategy. Mr. Vandermerwe also highlighted

ArcelorMittal's focus on job creation and skills development in Liberia. Over the past few years, the company has established one of the largest technical training centers in Liberia and recently launched a career program for artisans in training and process operator learners.

"We are blessed in this country with some of the most beautiful minerals. These minerals will keep Liberia advancing for many decades to come," he assured the crowd. "Your children today will work on this mine, and their children will still work on this mine. We will not even be halfway through, and that is the guarantee."

While reflecting on the past 20 years, Vandermerwe thanked government officials and local authorities for their support, which has helped the company reach this milestone. He also reaffirmed the company's ambitious goal of producing 15 million tons of iron ore this year, with the new concentrator boosting production

He encouraged the company's more than 7,000 employees to contribute to the local economy by purchasing goods and services from surrounding communities, which would help improve local living standards.

Government and Community Support:

In his remarks, the National Bureau of Concessions (NBC) congratulated ArcelorMittal Liberia on its achievements and assured the company of continued support, particularly as it enters Phase 2 of its expansion project. The NBC committed to closely monitoring regulatory issues within the Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) and pledged to assist AML in its continued growth.

Alex Cooper Somay, the Labor Commissioner for Nimba County, representing the Ministry of Labor (MoL), acknowledged that ArcelorMittal has been in compliance with labor laws, continued success and further However, he urged the company to continue guiding its subcontractors, development.

challenges in meeting labor standards.

Saye Meanah, Chairperson of the Legislative Caucus of Nimba County, expressed appreciation for ArcelorMittal's contribution to the country's economy, noting that the company has helped close economic gaps. However, he emphasized that with the increase in production, the benefits should be more evident in the lives of the local people.

The chiefs and elders of the county also expressed gratitude, especially for the career paths and job opportunities that AML has provided for their children. At the same time, they urged the company to fulfill its promises of building town halls in Bong, Grand Bassa, and Nimba counties and providing bikes, pickups, or buses as previously promised.

A Transformative Force in Liberia's Mining Sector:

ArcelorMittal Liberia has played a transformative role in the country's mining sector by promoting innovation, sustainability, and operational excellence. As the first private company to enter Liberia after the civil war, ArcelorMittal helped restore hope, attracted other companies, boosted the economy, and created thousands of jobs.

Over the past two decades, ArcelorMittal has been one of Liberia's largest investors, contributing significantly to the national economy. The company has invested over US\$2.5 billion and created more than 7,600 jobs, both directly and through contractors.

ArcelorMittal Liberia is part of the global ArcelorMittal group, formed after the merger of Arcelor and Mittal Steel. The company initially acquired a concession to mine iron ore in Nimba County and has since committed to significant infrastructure investments, including the rebuilding of the Yekepa to Buchanan railway.

As ArcelorMittal Liberia celebrates its 20th anniversary, the company looks forward to contributions to Liberia's





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ArcelorMittal Liberia promises more benefits to locals

Arcelor Mittal Liberia continues its 20th anniversary celebration in one of host counties, Nimba over the weekend revealing its expansion plans for its new mineral development deal.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah ekepa, April 7, 2025: The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ArcelorMittal Liberia, Michael Vandermerwe, outlined the company's impressive expansion plans, revealing that it has produced between 3 and 5 million tons

prior, the company reached a significant milestone by selling 2.04 million tons of salable products. "What does that mean for the quarter? That is by far the biggest amount that ArcelorMittal has done in Liberia," he stated. "You will see more of the benefits from this achievement come shortly."



years.

However, the company now aims to increase production to 15 million tons per year.

Mr. Vandermerwe proudly announced that just two days

of iron ore annually in recent The AML boss emphasized that the company's growth would continue, bringing increased production and tangible benefits to local communities. "Big increases in production and the

benefits that go with it for all of the people around us. We are together, and we are going to have a great future not only for those in Bong, Grand Bassa, and Nimba counties but for all of Liberia."

To mark its 20th anniversary, ArcelorMittal Liberia hosted a grand event on Friday, April 4, 2025, at the EB Football Field in Yekepa, Nimba County. The celebration began with a parade from the Concession Gate to the field, followed by speeches, cultural performances, dances, and singing.

Reflecting on the company's journey, Vandermerwe noted that ArcelorMittal began operations in Liberia in 2005, just two years after the devastating civil war. He acknowledged the numerous challenges the company faced, including the Ebola outbreak, the COVID-19 pandemic, and economic downturns.

"Starting with the construction of the concentrator many years ago, which was halted for a long period of time, we have picked up momentum since last year to get Phase 2 started," Vandermerwe said. He expressed excitement about the imminent commissioning of the

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