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CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025	L\$198.1185/US\$1.00	L\$200.9970/US\$1.00

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

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Boakai to work with quorum

Koffa's allies go wild at Capitol



P11

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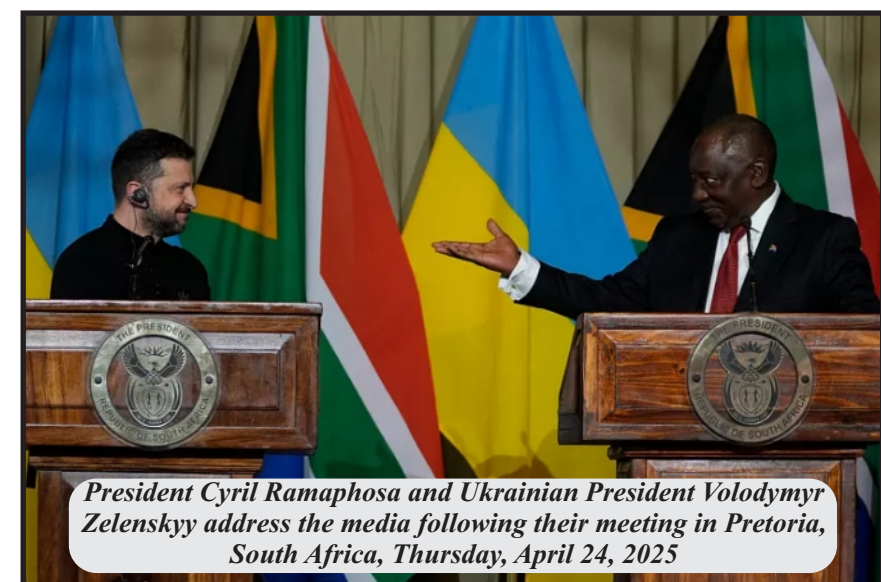
Continental News

South Africa's Ramaphosa holds phone call with Trump, to meet 'soon'

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said Thursday he will “meet soon” with U.S. President Donald Trump to discuss relations between the two countries. Ramaphosa said he had spoken to Trump and the two leaders had also agreed to discuss the peace process in Ukraine and the end to the Russia-Ukraine war. "We both agreed that the war should be brought to an end as

“We also spoke about the need to foster good relations between our two countries," he added. Ramaphosa did not indicate when the meeting with Trump was likely to take place. Relations between South Africa and the U.S. have deteriorated since Trump took office earlier this year. Trump has criticized South Africa's stance on Israel's war on Gaza, which has seen the country take Israel to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and accuse

financial aid to South Africa and has also slapped South Africa with 37% trade tariffs on its exports to the U.S., which he subsequently paused for 90 days. The cuts were an additional blow to the country after it also lost U.S. funding for its key health programmes including the fight against HIV. Trump has also falsely accused South Africa of illegally seizing farms owned by white Afrikaner farmers after it enacted the Expropriation Act which empowers the government to expropriate land for public use. He has offered to facilitate the resettlement of white Afrikaner farmers who wish to leave South Africa and move to the U.S. Last month, the U.S. expelled Ebrahim Rasool, the South African ambassador to the U.S., over his criticism of Trump, who has hinted that he may not attend the G20 summit of world leaders scheduled to take place in Johannesburg in November. Ramaphosa revealed his conversation with Trump as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy was on an official visit to South Africa. Zelenskyy held a meeting with Ramaphosa at the government's Union Buildings in Pretoria.



President Cyril Ramaphosa and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy address the media following their meeting in Pretoria, South Africa, Thursday, April 24, 2025

soon as possible to stop further unnecessary deaths. We both agreed to meet soon to address various matters regarding U.S.-South Africa relations," Ramaphosa said in a post on social media platform X.

it of committing a genocide in Gaza. The court in a preliminary ruling said that Israel's actions in Gaza constitute a plausible genocide. Trump has also signed an executive order stopping all

South Africa slashes planned VAT hike after pushback from Democratic Alliance

In a move seen as a last resort to prevent South Africa's coalition government from collapsing, finance minister Enoch Godongwana has dropped a controversial value-added tax increase on Thursday. His decision comes as South Africa's second biggest party, the Democratic Alliance (DA), threatened to leave the governing coalition over the VAT increase. The Democratic Alliance argued that the tax would hurt the country's financially weakest households the most. South Africa has been struggling economically in recent months, with the population facing rising living costs and an unemployment rate currently at 32%.

Godongwana's initial proposal for the tax hike would have seen VAT increase by one percentage point over two years. The measure was intended to contribute to refilling the state treasury and fund crucial sectors like education or health.

With the tax, which the African National Congress (ANC) supported, the government would have made up for 75 billion missing rands in its budget. The finance ministry has confirmed that TVA would remain at its current level at 15%.



President Cyril Ramaphosa greets supporters after casting his vote at the Hitekani Primary School in Soweto, Johannesburg, South Africa Wednesday, May 8, 2019.

As cardinals prepare conclave, thousands flock to pay respects to late Pope Francis

Some of Pope Francis' relatives paid their respects to the late pontiff Thursday at St. Peter's Basilica, where thousands of faithful are pouring in for a last goodbye. So many mourners lined up to see Francis lying in state in a simple wooden coffin inside the Basilica that the Vatican kept the doors open all night due to higher-than-expected turnout, closing it for just an hour Thursday morning for cleaning. The basilica is bathed in a hushed silence as mourners from across the globe make a slow, shuffling procession up the main aisle to pay their last respects to Francis, who died Monday after a stroke. The hours spent on line up the stately via della Conciliazione through St. Peter's Square and through the Holy Door into the

000 people had paid their respects during the first 12 hours of the public viewing , starting at 11 a.m. Wednesday. **A funeral mass on Saturday, followed by the "conclave"** After three days of public viewing, a funeral mass including heads of state will be held Saturday in St. Peter's Square. The pope will then be buried in a niche within the St. Mary Major Basilica, near his favourite Madonna icon. Following two weeks of morning, the Catholic Church's cardinals will then elect a new pope in a tradition known as "conclave". Cardinals arrived Thursday morning at the Vatican gates for their second “congregation” meeting since Pope Francis died. “We are getting ready but we still have not entered into the more intense phase we are in the organisational phase,” explained Italian Cardinal Giuseppe Versaldi.



The late Pope Francis lies in state in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

basilica has allowed mourners to find community around the Argentine pontiff's legacy of inclusion and humble persona. The last numbers released by the Vatican said more than 50

Cardinal Jean-Paul Vesco, the Archbishop of Algiers who became a Cardinal in December, told reporters “We have not yet opened the Conclave." He added "for the moment we are here completely for Francis.”

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EDITORIAL

We hold NOCAL CEO by his words

The National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL) recently presented an impressive progress report to President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., at the Executive Mansion in Monrovia on a partnership with TGS NOPEC, a global geological and geophysical leader.

Reading the report to the President, cabinet minister, and industrial leaders, the Acting ECO of NOCAL, Fabian Lai, said the 23-year collaborative venture has positioned Liberia as West African’s most promising energy frontier, resulting in acquisition of multi-client 2D and 3D seismic survey program. The investment covers more than 15,000 square kilometers of the country’s offshore basin, CEO Lai detailed.

He also disclosed the economic impact of the partnership, stating that Liberia currently enjoys 80 percent of revenues from 3D data sales, which has significantly bolstered government’s financial resources, enhancing public services and development.

The report sounds very promising and motivating, but we think Liberians should celebrate with cautious, given past experiences at NOCAL under this very ruling Unity Party-led government then led by former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, when plunder, cronyism, lavish spending and uncontrollable corruption racked this promising public entity, and shattered dreams and aspiration of ordinary citizens.

NOCAL eventually collapsed under the watch of the former President with her son, Robert Sirleaf, serving at the helm of the entity. Madam Sirleaf took responsibility and that was end of story, for what should have been a great game-changer in post-war Liberia socio-economic development. The rest is history.

But here we are again, with a revised NOCAL under a new administration that has begun to inspire hope in Iberians amidst ongoing widespread corruption in the government, particularly so when the President and Chief Executive Officer Madam Rustonlyn Suakoko Dennis is under suspension over allegation of corruption, financial mismanagement and abuse of public office.

This followed recommendation by the Board of Directors that called for investigation into the purchase of SUV valued US\$75,000 and other financial irregularities when feces flows our streets like a mighty stream of river.

CEO Lai talked of corporate social responsibility efforts initiated by NOCAL as a result of the partnership with TGS NOPEC. Revealing an annual contribution of US\$200,000 for social welfare programs, which we think is a drop in the ocean. But our mind runs to the Sharon-sponsored recreation park right at the entrance of the Gabriel Tucker Bridge in Via Town that reportedly cost over US\$1million under the collapsed NOCAL. Every assessment of that place does not indicate that the facility even worth US\$500,000.

This is why we are sounding an early caution to the Lai-led NOCAL to exert a great departure from the previous NOCAL under Madam Sirleaf md her son, Robert, for that was not a pleasant experience. And we don’t want a re-occurrence.

We want hold CEO Lai by his words that the current partnership with TGS NOPEC is not just about data sales and profits, but empowering citizens and building a future that eluded them under former CEO Robert Sirleaf, so that Liberians can have an opportunity to lead their energy sector. This we believe strongly would frog-leap their socio-economic wellbeing.

Not that we do not have confidence in CEO Lai and his team of officials n managing our energy sector, but experience of the past are or should be very good lessons to propel us into the future that is filled with uncertainties and surprises.

COMMENTARY

by Vera Songwe,
Moritz Kraemer

Climate Action Requires Debt Relief

WASHINGTON, DC – Today's global economic turmoil is not just about trade. As G20 finance ministers gather in Washington this week during the annual spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgievahas warned that growing economic uncertainty and financial market stress pose serious threats to developing countries.

The danger is particularly acute for highly indebted economies, which are now facing weaker growth prospects and reduced financial support from the United States and other donor countries. In February, the IMF estimated that nearly half of the lowest-income countries were at risk of debt distress, at which point they may no longer be able to meet their debt obligations. That number is expected to rise as conditions continue to deteriorate.

Compounding the crisis, the world's poorest countries – especially small island developing states – are highly vulnerable to climate change and biodiversity loss.

Extreme weather events like hurricanes, droughts, and floods can wipe out critical infrastructure and cripple agricultural production in an instant, while slower-onset changes like rising temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns require continuous and costly adaptation measures.

The debt and climate crises are closely intertwined. As more public funds are diverted toward disaster relief and recovery, fewer resources are available for climate adaptation, nature conservation, and long-term investment. This, in turn, increases vulnerability, weakens growth prospects, and drives up borrowing costs, shrinking fiscal space even further. The result is a self-reinforcing, vicious circle.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Over the past year, we have co-chaired the Expert Review on Debt, Nature, and Climate – an initiative launched by the governments of Colombia, Kenya, France, and Germany.

In our final report, “Healthy Debt on a Healthy Planet,” we outline several steps that emerging and developing economies can take to break free from the debt-climate trap and move toward a virtuous cycle of low-carbon, climate-resilient, and nature-positive growth.

First, climate and nature considerations must be integrated into macroeconomic and fiscal analyses.

This is especially critical in the debt sustainability frameworks used by the IMF and World Bank to assess developing countries' fiscal health. Although both institutions have made some progress in recent years, much more needs to be done to ensure that these frameworks fully account for climate-related risks.

Equally important, such assessments must recognize not only the risks posed by climate change but also the economic benefits of investing in resilience. Their value – especially their potential to fuel medium-term growth and reduce a country's financial risks – must be properly reflected in economic and financial models to encourage governments to act.

Second, many developing countries need assistance in reducing their debt burdens. Some are already in debt distress, while others suffer from liquidity problems. Our report proposes new mechanisms for restructuring and refinancing debt in return for investments in climate adaptation and conservation projects that promote sustainable growth. Borrower countries, major global creditors, the IMF, and multilateral development banks (MDBs) must all champion such solutions.

Third, proven approaches to addressing debt, nature, and climate risks must be scaled up. These include contingency clauses in debt contracts that suspend repayments during natural disasters and various forms of sustainability-linked finance.

While debt-for-climate and debt-for-nature swaps are not yet scalable due to a lack of standardization, they have already delivered vital funding for environmental initiatives, demonstrating their value and warranting greater support.

More broadly, MDBs must significantly boost lending to support low-carbon, climate-resilient, and nature-positive growth. While discussions on much-needed recapitalization are ongoing, optimizing MDB balance sheets remains the most effective way to stretch scarce public resources and accelerate sustainable development.

Lastly, our report calls for the development of new financing instruments aimed at mobilizing private capital for climate mitigation and adaptation. For example, we propose establishing a Finance Facility against Climate Change (F2C2) – a special-purpose vehicle designed to issue green bonds backed by future donor commitments. The proceeds would be directed primarily toward climate-mitigation investments in developing countries. If successful, the F2C2 could unlock up to \$1 trillion in private financing.

We also propose a new kind of equity-like instrument to finance climate-resilient infrastructure. Investments in sea walls, flood defenses, and similar systems can significantly reduce the costs of disaster relief and recovery. As the primary beneficiaries, insurance companies must work together with MDBs to develop an instrument capable of translating these savings into returns for investors.

These are all practical, actionable proposals. When combined with technical assistance and policy support, they could significantly improve the growth prospects of developing countries grappling with debt and climate risks. Making debt management both fiscally and environmentally sustainable is not only feasible but also essential to safeguarding global growth, which is in the interest of all countries – not just the poorest.

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Lord, Ley Papay moh wake up again

Dear Father:

Ley Papay moh bear gee again? Him say, him na dedicating no hand pump again-our village na pass hand pump place .

Bor wait ooh, da who make ley Oldman vex so?

Father, ehn da that orlor conned man who come make ley Oldman drive from here for 10 hours just to go dedicate one small kenen, kene hand pump in one lay village. And ever since thing, ley Papay too ya, him can really hurl-lay oh.

Bor da small thing. Ley man go make ley Oldman drive way to da far place jus to show him that kene kene thin. And they say what make ley Oldman vex more is ley way ley man lied through him teeth. Da small money ley man moh call again-ley man say da small thing cost hundreds of thousands of Unlce Sam’s money. You joking!

Yes, ooh, Father. They say da ley one really made ley Oldman vex. Bor him jus decided to let da one slide. They say da why after all those times, him come bring it back in him speech to warn him. So, if him know, him know. So, this Oldman know that him people can just be pushing him around some funny, funny project them ehn.

Father, him know ooh. Bor, we don’t know why him jus allowing them to be doing some funny, funny thing them around here.

Just imaging your man saying ley amount him spent on that thing that can’t ever water one person farm, before you say a town.

Bor da it na Gowerment job sweet. Father, da na lie ooh, da small free money ley people can be eating. And ley people them who can be doing ley hard, hard part can see ley money sef.

Anyway, Father, leh talk so, and talk so oo. Ehn da ley same Oldman who said he can even ride wheelbarrow to work. Have you seen him latest convoy ley entire village talking about? Aaah, they say one of him car price can buy medicine for 5 clinics in a town for 6 years and take care of 20 village schools for 5 years.

You joking my son! Father, da na joke oo. Ley Oldman car can even go to war front and all. They say, it can even deter bomb.

Wait oo, your still fighting war in your village? Father, da ley question everybody asking here oo. So, tell me na,ley man who say him can even ride wheelbarrow to work can go buy ley most expensive car ever for our village Chief in Chief, then da him will hold him word?

Ehn da bad ley village people go do. We here, we moving.

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OP-ED

by Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan

Developing Countries Can Lead in Medical Innovation

KUALA LUMPUR – The successful collaboration between the health ministries of Malaysia and Thailand, industry partners in Egypt and Malaysia, and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) to bring a new hepatitis C antiviral drug – ravidasvir – to market in 2022 was an important milestone. For years, a 12-week course of treatment using sofosbuvir cost between \$70,000 and \$80,000, putting it out of reach for many in the Global South. But ravidasvir – a safe and effective alternative when combined with sofosbuvir – costs far less, averaging less than \$500 per course.

This type of South-South cooperation could serve as a model for developing countries with endemic disease, highlighting how collective action can help them address health challenges and promote medical innovation. As this year's chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Malaysia plans to advance the agenda of collaborative, need-driven research, and foster the development of therapeutics and diagnostics in the Global South.

Ravidasvir's success depended on several factors. First, DNDi worked with an Egyptian drug manufacturer to develop the molecule, which was originally produced in the United States but overlooked by large pharmaceutical companies. Second, once it became clear that this R&D initiative would produce an independent, affordable treatment for hepatitis C, the Malaysian Ministry of Health (where I am Director-General of Health), together with DNDi leadership in Southeast Asia, designed an aggressive access strategy based on market competition, driving down the prices of three treatment options. Throughout the process, Global South partners were in the driver's seat.

This sense of ownership prompted a flurry of activity in Malaysia, ultimately lowering the barriers between siloed government departments and dispelling conventional thinking. For example, our regulatory authority was the first to register the combination of ravidasvir and sofosbuvir without approval by a stringent regulatory authority. Pharmaniaga, a Malaysian generic-drugs manufacturer, supported these efforts by taking on the challenge of preparing a registration dossier for a new chemical entity.

The Malaysian health ministry has continued to advance this treatment option. In February, the ministry unveiled results from a clinical trial showing that a shorter regimen (eight as opposed to 12 weeks) of sofosbuvir-ravidasvir treatment was not inferior in non-cirrhotic hepatitis C patients. This represents a big win for those living with the disease in the Global South, as it lowers the therapeutic cost even further and improves patient compliance.

While making treatment affordable and accessible is an important step toward eliminating hepatitis C, the same needs to be done for diagnostic tools. Traditional lab-based testing is expensive and logistically challenging for mass screening programs across Southeast Asia. But instead of waiting for high-income countries to develop solutions, the Global South should take the lead in innovating point-of-care diagnostics that are inexpensive and scalable.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the fragility of global medical-supply chains and the limits of solidarity among countries in the face of a public-health crisis. The Global North's reluctance to share vaccines, tests, personal protective equipment, and therapeutics fueled an “every country for itself” mentality. As a result, a credibility crisis has consumed the global health system, now exacerbated by a widening funding gap, largely owing to America's recent withdrawal from the World Health Organization. The need for new models has never been clearer.

Recognizing the need for greater regional resilience, Southeast Asian countries have shown an increasing willingness to support clinical trials and boost local manufacturing of medical devices and pharmaceuticals. Malaysia has played a central role in these efforts. In July 2024, the Malaysian government hosted a workshop with the United Kingdom's Academy of Medical Sciences to explore strategies for improving diagnostic and therapeutic access in the region. Workshop attendees recommended establishing a product-development partnership to foster collaboration among governments, academia, and industry.

In May, Clinical Research Malaysia, a research management organization under the health ministry that has focused on building clinical-trial capacity across the country – including for first-in-human phase 1 studies – will host CRM Trial Connect. Focused on accelerating clinical trials in Asia, the conference will bring together more than 1,000 academics, clinical researchers, industry leaders, and policymakers from across the region.

As the current chair of ASEAN, Malaysia is also well positioned to engage in dialogue with regional and international partners on how to address the Global South's health challenges. The ASEAN-Gulf Cooperation Council-China Summit scheduled for May will provide a venue for exploring ways to strengthen South-South collaboration, particularly regarding knowledge and technology transfers and access to medical innovation.

The development of ravidasvir offers insights into how regional collaboration and targeted investment can lead to affordable medical innovations, adding to a growing playbook of strategies for improving access to therapeutics and diagnostics in the Global South. If these countries agree to act collectively, they can likely repeat this success for a wide range of neglected and non-communicable diseases – and take ownership of a process long dominated by the Global North.

ARTICLE

Statement by His Excellency, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr.
On the Supreme Court Ruling Regarding the Legislative Impasse
April 24, 2025



My Fellow Liberians,

Yesterday (April 23, 2025), the Supreme Court of Liberia, our nation's highest arbiter of justice, delivered its ruling on the Bill of Information relating to the ongoing impasse in the House of Representatives.

As President of the Republic, I acknowledge the ruling of the Supreme Court.

However, we must all note that the House of Representatives' problem remains unresolved.

Accordingly, my government has already initiated broad consultations with relevant national stakeholders to determine the most appropriate and constitutionally sound path forward. We have actively involved our traditional and other national leaders in addressing this matter.

In doing so, we remain fully committed to **preserving the sanctity of our democracy and the principle of three separate but coordinate branches of government.**

Fellow Liberians, our Constitution and the Supreme Court have defined what constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business in the Legislature. We intend to vigorously uphold this vital principle of our constitutional democracy. We will continue to work with the quorum that will ensure the full functioning of our government.

Over the past months, we have watched with growing concern as the division in the House of Representatives remained unresolved, undermining public confidence in one of our most vital democratic institutions. Tragically, we have also witnessed the torching of the Capitol Building, a national symbol of our democracy, by arsonists intent on sowing chaos and discord. Today, we received a report of acts of vandalism intended to desecrate the dignity of our public institutions and buildings. The Police are investigating.

Let me be clear: **under my leadership, the government of Liberia will not be held hostage by narrow interests or acts of lawlessness.** The work of governance will continue, and nothing will distract us from our duty to serve the Liberian people.

We are a country governed by laws, not by mobs or self-serving ambition. Those who undermine peace, violate the law, or seek to disrupt national harmony will face the full force of the law and justice.

To all Liberians, I urge you to **go about your daily lives peacefully and confidently.** Your government remains functional and steadfast in its responsibility to deliver services, maintain order, and uphold the values of democracy and good governance.

I call on every elected leader to remember their oath, not to themselves, but to the Liberian nation-state and people. I call on every citizen to rise above division and to demonstrate the enduring values of **patriotism, unity, and national purpose.**

As we seek a political resolution to the impasse, let us do so with calm heads and committed hearts, ever mindful that Liberia is bigger than any one person, party, or position.

We will protect our democracy. We will preserve our peace. And together, we will move Liberia forward.

May God bless us all, and may God bless the Republic of Liberia.

ARTICLE

I saw needs of motorcyclists

-Baba 2switt gives away free gasoline worth LRD720,000

Businessman gives to commercial motorcyclists in Paynesville.

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh

Monrovia, Liberia, April 25, 2025 - Popular musician and business tycoon Mamudu Dabor, affectionately known as Baba 2switt, gives away free gasoline to motorcyclists in Paynesville, outside Monrovia.

A singer and songwriter, Dabor is Chief Executive Officer of the Magic Group of Companies/Magic Foundation and Money Empire. He locked down Petro Trade Gas station at Duport Road Junction, Paynesville with magnificent give-away gasoline gesture.

During the exercise, the Liberian musician said the gesture is his way of identifying with the youths.

“We are pleased to identify with our brothers; it gives us more courage to empower young people.” He noted that the Money Empire isn't a political group but rather a group of young

people that are determined to change the narratives of the various systems in Liberia.

“I Baba 2switt does music to elevate people, my passion has always been helping young people”, he reiterated.

Meanwhile, the main junction of Duport was rocked on Thursday as Baba 2switt gave motorcyclists another chance to fill their tanks at no cost to them, while distributing safety jackets.

There was also side attractions as popular Liberian musicians Christoph The Change, J Slught, among others served motorcyclists.

The Money Empire organizer said a total of 1,000 gallons of gasoline were distributed, costing US\$3, 650 or 720,000 Liberian Dollars. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



#: 1220-2024

SITTING IN ITS APRIL TERM A.D. 2025.

BEFORE HIS HONOR .. NECULAR Y. EDWARDS, RESIDENT JUDGE, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT

IN RE: THE PETITION OF GERALD PADMORE AND JANINE PADMORE STEGALL, PRAYING YOUR COURT TO ADMIT INTO PROBATE THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE LATE GEORGE ARTHUR PADMORE OF THE CITY OF MONROVIA.

NOTICE!

NOTICE!!

NOTICE!!!

THIS IS TO NOTIFY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE FOLLOWING DISTRIBUTEES OF THE LATE GEORGE ARTHUR PADMORE (PEYTON PADMORE, ROCHEFORTE PADMORE, RAGNAR PADMORE, MICHAEL PADMORE, VIVAN PADMORE, JOHN PADMORE AND MRS. GEORGETTE CASSETTE) THAT THE INSTRUMENT PURPORTED TO BE THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF THE LATE GEORGE ARTHUR PADMORE, WAS IN DUE FORM BROUGHT TO THE MONTHLY AND PROBATE COURT FOR MONTERRADO COUNTY AND SAME READ IN OPEN COURT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW OF LIBERIA ON THE 4TH DAY OF FEBRUARY A.D. 2025. THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DISTRIBUTEES IS/ARE FURTHER INFORMED THAT IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, ALL PERSONS HAVING LEGAL OR FORMAL OBJECTIONS TO THE ABOVE MENTIONED “PETITION” ARE TO FILE SAME IN THIS HONORABLE COURT THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE AFORESAID COURT ON OR BEFORE THE 4TH DAY OF MAY A.D. 2025, AT THE HOUR OF 10:00 A.M.

FAILURE TO DO SAME WITHIN THE PERIOD INDICATED HEREINABOVE, WILL LEAVE THIS HONORABLE COURT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO ORDER SAID “PETITION” GRANTED AND LETTERS TESTAMENTARY ISSUED TO THE EXECUTOR/TRIXES.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF COURT
THIS 3RD DAY OF APRIL A.D. 2025



HELENA SOGBE-STEWART
CLERK, MONTHLY & PROBATE COURT
MONTERRADO COUNTY, R.L.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

World Bank pledges US\$490 Million in support to ARREST agenda

The Management of the World Bank has agreed to support Liberia's Development Agenda through its New Country Program Framework (CPF) in the tune of United States Dollars Four Hundred Ninety Million. The New Country Framework, which will help reduce the cost of IMF/World Bank Spring Meeting, and as a follow-up to recent engagements in Kuwait, Mr. Ngafuan and the Liberia delegation held a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer of the Suadi Fund for Development Mr. Sultant AI Marshad, during which the Fund committed to joining the Kuwaiti and other Arab lenders to provide financing for the Salayea-Voinjama leg of the Gbarnga Mendikorma Road Project. Meanwhile, Liberia's Finance Minister Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan was today unanimously elected Chairperson of the Standing Committee of the Board of Governors of the African Development Bank (AfDB) on Conditions of Service for Elected Officers of the AfDB from 2025 to 2026. The members of the Standing Committee Gabon, Korea, Ireland, Guinea Bissau and Liberia.

which would be submitted to the World Bank Board at the end of the month, focuses on support to Energy, (to increase Liberia's Energy Access from 33% to 75%, On the sidelines of the



Central Bank of Liberia joins World Bank RAMP

-Global partnership of public asset managers

From left to right: Henry Saamoi, Executive Governor & Chairman of the Board of Governors, Central Bank of Liberia and Jorge Familiar, Vice President & Treasurer, World Bank at a ceremony in Washington, DC.

WASHINGTON April 23, 2025 - The World Bank announced the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) as the newest Reserve Advisory & Management Partnership (RAMP) program member. CBL joins RAMP through a World Bank Group multi-donor trust fund to advance public asset management in lower-income, fragile, or conflict-affected states. Representatives from the Central Bank of Liberia and the World Bank signed a technical assistance agreement in Washington, DC, to formalize the partnership. Announced in late 2023, the trust fund enables RAMP to deliver the World Bank's public asset management expertise to countries facing barriers to joining. "We are honored to welcome the Central Bank of Liberia to RAMP," said Jorge Familiar, World Bank Vice President & Treasurer. "Their joining reflects the growing demand for high-quality asset management support and recognition of the World Bank as the trusted partner for public asset managers. With support from our development partners through the donor-funded trust fund, we can extend RAMP's benefits to countries where it is needed most."

"Joining the World Bank RAMP is a significant step forward for Liberia. This partnership will enhance our capacity to manage public assets effectively, ensuring stability and fostering growth. We are committed to implementing reserve management best practices to benefit the Liberian people," said Henry F. Saamoi, Executive Governor & Chairman of the Board of Governors, Central Bank of Liberia. "We are proud to support the Central Bank of Liberia in building institutional capacity and advancing financial resilience," said Georgia Wallen, World Bank Country Manager for Liberia. "This collaboration is a testament to our shared commitment to robust reserve management as a foundation for development."

The World Bank Reserve Advisory & Management Partnership (RAMP) delivers advisory services, executive training, and asset management services in a global network of public asset managers, contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals of quality education, decent work and economic growth, climate action, strong institutions, and partnerships. Established in 2001, the World Bank RAMP promotes countries' stability, resiliency, and prosperity through public asset management— helping central banks respond to economic shocks, sovereign wealth funds protect intergenerational wealth, and



Samuel Kogar wins Nimba Senatorial by-election

Representative Samuel Kogar of Nimba County has been declared winner of April 22, 2025 Senatorial By-election held in the county, replacing late Senate Prince Yormie Johnson.

By Thomas Domah/ Nimba County

Sanniquellie, Liberia, April 25, 2025- The National Elections Commission has declared Representative Samuel Kogar as winner of the Nimba County Senatorial By-election held Tuesday, April 22, 2025. Announcing final results of the by-election in the county, NEC Chairperson, Madam Davidette Browne Lasanna, said the Movement for Democracy and Reconstruction-Unity Party Alliance Candidate, Representative Samuel Kogar, won the polls by a total of 62,136 votes, constituting 52.08 percent of the total votes, followed by lone female Candidate Edith Gongloe-Wehyee with 40,506

Samuel Kogar. The New Dawn gathered that most of the people from the Mano tribe of Madam Gongloe-Wehyee did not turn out hugely to vote, unlike voters from the Gio-speaking region. Others blamed her constant absence from the county and long stay in the United States of America as factors responsible for her consistent defeated, this being her fourth time vying for the senate unsuccessfully. Kogar's victory Vice President Jeremiah Koung, current leader of the MDR, personally VP Koung was seen touring various towns and villages, campaigning for Kogar. Reservation



votes, receiving 33.95 percent of the total votes cast. In third place is Candidate B. Mack Gbliwon. Prior to the NEC pronouncement on Thursday in Sanniquellie City, Nimba County, Chairperson Browne Lasanna extended thanks to Nimbaians for a peaceful conduct of the election, while Madam Edith Gongloe-Wehyee conceded defeat to her main challenger, Representative

Several Nimbaians have expressed reservation about Representative Samuel Kogar's election to the senate, which has automatically created a vacant seat in the House of Representatives and need for another by-election to fill his seat in District#5 that could that could cost millions of dollars from the already bleeding national coffer. **Editing by Jonathan Browne**

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Starts from page 6 **Central Bank of Liberia joins World Bank RAMP**

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Jeety eases water crisis at Monrovia Central Prison

Indian businessman Jeety, provides water to Monrovia Central Prison.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Monrovia, Liberia, April 25, 2025 - Indian businessman Upjit Singh Sachdeva, commonly known as Jeety, initiates a significant drilling project at the Monrovia Central Prison to restore reliable water supply to the facility. The prison, also known as South Beach, is Liberia's largest correctional facility, which has been grappling with severe water shortages, conditions that have worsened already challenging circumstances for over 1,500 inmates in recent weeks. In response to a request from prison authority, Mr. Sachdeva launched the borehole drilling effort to bring immediate relief. “Water is life and a basic human right,” he stated during the project's commencement here Thursday, stressing “Regardless of their circumstances, every individual deserves access to clean water. This is just my small way of supporting and uplifting the vulnerable segments of our society.” The project marks yet another philanthropic initiative from Mr. Sachdeva, who has long been a dedicated supporter of Liberia's underprivileged communities. Since the launch of his hot cooked meal program in 2017, he has served nearly four million meals to inmates, disadvantaged youths, and other marginalized populations across the country. His support to the Monrovia Central Prison is not new. In past years, he had contributed a water system and a generator to the facility, significantly improving living conditions of inmates. Beyond prison walls, his generosity reaches deep into Liberian communities. During the festive season, he distributed Christmas packages to over 4,000 children in Margibi County, spreading joy and hope to countless families. Also speaking, the Superintendent at the Monrovia Central Prison, Mr. Roosevelt Varney, expressed excitement and appreciation for Mr. Sachdeva's continued involvement. “Jeety has been a pillar of support for us. His contributions have significantly improved the welfare of our inmates, and we are immensely thankful for his unwavering commitment.” Rooted in a simple yet powerful philosophy, Mr. Sachdeva often says, “Don't give to get; give to inspire others.” His actions continue to exemplify this belief, inspiring many to serve with compassion and purpose. Jeety made the disclosure during a visit to the Monrovia Central Prison as he celebrated his birthday on April 24, 2025. He said he chose to celebrate it with the inmates and disadvantaged youths by distributing hot cooked meal, soft drink and cake to them, saying they are part of him. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Observation groups term Nimba By-election peaceful

Election observers certified Nimba Senatorial By-election as peaceful.

By Thomas Domah, Nimba County

Ganta, Liberia, April 25, 2025 - The Election Coordinating Committee (ECC) Liberia Election Observation Network (LEON) and West Africa Network for Peace building (WANEP) have commended the peaceful participation of voters in the Nimba County Senatorial By-election. Urging all citizens to remain calm and await the official announcement of the results by the National Election Commission, the three groups also commend the NEC for timely distribution of election materials and adequate deployment of polling staff. The three domestic observation groups noted the slow pace at which voters turned out to vote despite the anticipation of an enthusiastic election. According to them, their Preliminary They said that a final comprehensive report including a full analysis and recommendations about the Nimba County 2025 senatorial by-election will be published and shared with partners. On key Findings. Overall, the Election observers groups noted that polling process was peaceful with two notable instances of incidents reported, what the law is without fear or favor,” the ruling stated. Citing Articles 33 and 49 of the 1986 Constitution, the Court reaffirmed that only the Speaker or, in his absence, the Deputy Speaker may preside over House proceedings. “A quorum must be presided over by the constitutionally-defined presiding officer,” the Court further emphasized. However, Rep. Koon rejects the ruling, arguing the Koffa was lawfully removed by a two-thirds majority in line with Article 49 and the House Rule 9(a). He accused the Court of overreach. “The Supreme Court has today deviated from its own standard not to interfere in internal legislative affairs unless there's a clear constitutional violation,” Koon said in a formal statement issued under the Speaker's seal. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



Chief Allen applauds Supreme Court's ruling

Chairman emeritus of the National Patriotic Party (NPP) welcomes Supreme Court's ruling on House of Representatives' crisis.

By Naneka A. Hoffman

Monrovia, Liberia, April 25, 2025 - The Chairman Emeritus of the National Patriotic Party (NPP), Chief Cyril Allen, applauds the Supreme Court of Liberia for upholding the Constitution by granting the Bill of Information filed by House Speaker Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa. In an exclusive interview moments after the ruling, Chief Allen described the decision as a "victory for our democracy and Constitution", clarifying that it is not a personal win for Koffa, as perceived by some within political circles. "People must take the bull by the horn if our democracy and Constitution must move forward," underscores. At the same time Chief Allen expresses disappointment over what he calls delayed judicial processes, which he believes which exported goods to neighboring countries and Asia. Allen acknowledges progress in Liberia's democratic process but stresses that much remains to be done. The Supreme Court's ruling on Wednesday invalidated the election of Representative Richard Koon as Speaker of the House and nullified all legislative actions taken by his so-called “majority bloc,” declaring them unconstitutional and without legal effect. This decision stemmed from an amended Bill of Information filed by Speaker J. Fonati Koffa and his allies, who accused Koon and his bloc of violating the Court's December 6, 2024 opinion regarding constitutional procedures for legislative leadership. “This Court emphatically declares that it is within the power and authority of the Supreme Court of Liberia to say



contributed to the recent leadership conflict in the House of Representatives. He criticizes President Joseph N. Boakai for allegedly failing to address the power struggle within the House, despite the President's decades of experience in governance. Allen urges President Boakai to revisit successful past initiatives like the Lofa County Agriculture Development Project and Bong County Agriculture Development Project, which once provided thousands of jobs and boosted the agricultural sector. He calls for investment in Liberia's untapped fishing industry, citing the nation's 300 miles of coastal waters and the need for modern fishing vessels and processing facilities. He recalls success of the timber and plywood industry, including a US\$33 million plywood plant in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County,

Français

Des du parti au pouvoir rejettent la décision de la Cour suprême

La récente décision de la Cour suprême rétablissant l'honorable J. Fonati Koffa dans ses fonctions de président de la Chambre des représentants a suscité un tollé au sein du Parti de l'unité (UP), au pouvoir.

dénoncé ce qu'il considère comme une contradiction juridique, affirmant que la Cour aurait rendu deux décisions divergentes sur une même affaire. « La Cour suprême du Liberia est probablement la première au monde à émettre deux opinions distinctes sur une seule et même

page Facebook officielle. Dans le même esprit, M. Mo Ali, directeur général de la Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation, a qualifié l'arrêt de « déroutant ». Il a déclaré : « Lorsqu'une décision de la Cour ne peut être appliquée, cela sape l'autorité même de l'institution. L'honorable Richard Koon reste notre président. Que la Cour aille constituer elle-même une majorité pour son président. » Togar M. Cephus, directeur adjoint de la National Transit Authority et président de la Ligue des jeunes de l'UP, a renchéri, jugeant l'arrêt de la Cour « ambigu et juridiquement confus ». Cependant, certains observateurs, tels que l'ancien président pro tempore du Sénat, Armah Zolu Jallah, y voient une opportunité de tourner la page. Sur Facebook, il a salué la décision de la Cour comme une confirmation



Plusieurs partisans, notamment le ministre des Mines et de l'Énergie, M. Wilmot Paye, ont exprimé leur frustration sur les réseaux sociaux. M. Paye a

question. Cela complexifie davantage, voire rend impossible, toute résolution rapide de la crise parlementaire. Comment des juges peuvent-ils être plus confus que le public ? » a-t-il écrit sur sa

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Édith Gongloe-Weh prend une légère avance sur Samuel Kogar

Les résultats préliminaires publiés par la Commission électorale nationale (NEC) placent Mme Edith Gongloe-Weh, unique femme candidate à l'élection sénatoriale partielle dans le comté de Nimba, en tête de la course face à son principal rival, le représentant Samuel G. Kogar. S'exprimant lors d'une conférence de presse le mercredi 23 avril, la présidente de la NEC, Mme Davidetta Browne Lansanah, a salué la conduite pacifique et ordonnée des électeurs lors du scrutin qui s'est tenu la veille, mardi 22 avril 2025. « Sur 94 bureaux de vote dépouillés sur un total de 736, soit 12,77 %, la candidate Edith Gongloe-Weh a recueilli 7 275 voix, représentant 46,55 % des suffrages valides. Son principal adversaire, le représentant Samuel G. Kogar, a obtenu 6 725 voix, soit 43,03 %. Le total des votes valides s'élève à 15 629, tandis que les bulletins invalides comptent pour 353, portant le total des votes exprimés à 15 982 », a déclaré

Mme Browne Lansanah. Les autres candidats ont enregistré des résultats plus modestes. M. R. Martenokay Tingban a recueilli 131 voix (0,84 %), suivi de M. Wonokay Farngalo avec 99 voix (0,63 %). Me Garrison Yealue a obtenu 657 voix (6,20 %), M. Mack Gbliwon 623 voix (3,99 %), et enfin, Dr. George Gonpue a rassemblé 190 voix (0,76 %). Mme Browne Lansanah a rappelé que seule la NEC est habilitée, conformément à la loi, à publier les résultats officiels des élections : « Toute annonce ou diffusion de résultats en dehors de la Commission électorale nationale est illégale et nulle de plein droit. Nous appelons la population à faire

preuve de patience pendant que nous poursuivons la publication progressive des résultats préliminaires. » Cette élection partielle intervient à la suite du décès du sénateur Prince Y. Johnson, figure politique influente et fondateur du Mouvement pour la démocratie et la reconstruction (MDR), décédé l'an dernier après une courte maladie. Sept candidats officiellement validés par la NEC étaient en lice pour lui succéder. Le comté de Nimba comprend neuf districts électoraux et compte au total 736 bureaux de vote.



Éditorial

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

Par Raghuram Rajan

La 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 Koffa.

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 pays.

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.

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Français

Des du parti au pouvoir rejettent

constitutionnelle de l'équilibre des pouvoirs. « Le recours en information était une manifestation de l'engagement politique, mais le résultat envoie un message clair : le Liberia doit aller de l'avant, au-delà des querelles judiciaires et des manœuvres partisanses », a-t-il déclaré.

Des juges de la Cour suprême menacés de destitution

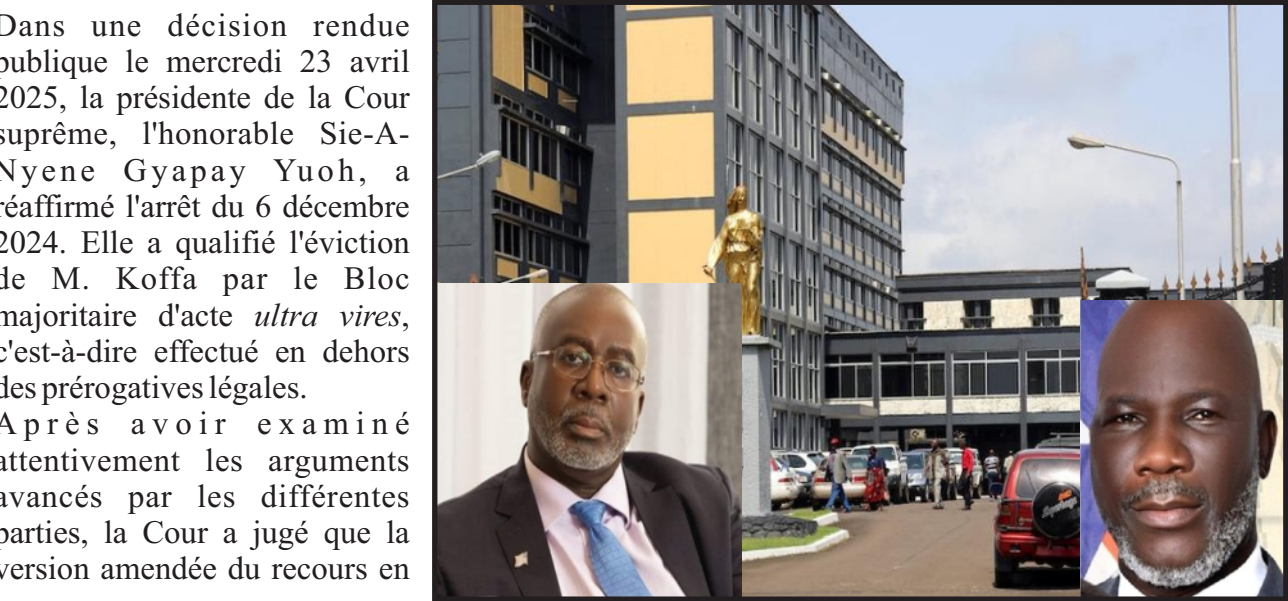
Le climat politique au Liberia s'est considérablement tendu après que le représentant James Kolleh a brandi la menace de destitution contre les juges de la Cour suprême, à la suite de leur décision défavorable à son camp majoritaire au sein de la Chambre des représentants. Cette réaction fait suite à l'arrêt historique rendu mercredi par la plus haute juridiction du pays, qui



a déclaré inconstitutionnels les actes du bloc majoritaire autoproclamé. La Cour a ainsi invalidé la nomination du représentant Richard Koon en tant que président de la Chambre et a également démis le représentant Kolleh de ses fonctions de

La Cour suprême confirme Koffa comme président de la Chambre des représentants

La Cour suprême du Liberia a validé le recours en information introduit par l'honorable J. Fonati Koffa, confirmant ainsi sa position en tant que président légitime de la 55^e législature libérienne. Par la même décision, elle enjoint au bloc majoritaire, favorable à Richard N. Koon, de se conformer strictement à son arrêt. Dans une décision rendue publique le mercredi 23 avril 2025, la présidente de la Cour suprême, l'honorable Sie-A-Nyene Gyapay Yuoh, a réaffirmé l'arrêt du 6 décembre 2024. Elle a qualifié l'éviction de M. Koffa par le Bloc majoritaire d'acte *ultra vires*, c'est-à-dire effectué en dehors des prérogatives légales. Après avoir examiné attentivement les arguments avancés par les différentes parties, la Cour a jugé que la version amendée du recours en



Weah presse Boakai de respecter la décision de la Cour suprême

L'ancien président George Manneh Weah a appelé le président en exercice Joseph Nyuma Boakai ainsi que son administration à respecter et à faire appliquer la récente décision de la Cour suprême du Libéria, qui confirme l'honorable J. Fonati Koffa comme président légitime de la 55^e Législature de la Chambre des représentants. Dans une déclaration publiée mercredi sur sa page Facebook officielle, M. Weah a salué cette décision comme une confirmation majeure de l'État de droit et un moment charnière pour la démocratie libérienne. L'ancien chef de l'État a mis en garde contre toute tentative de la part du gouvernement actuel de remettre en cause ou d'ignorer l'autorité du pouvoir judiciaire, avertissant que cela pourrait engendrer une instabilité nationale et menacer l'ordre constitutionnel du pays. « Aujourd'hui, la Cour suprême du Libéria a rendu un avis historique concernant la requête déposée par l'honorable président de la Chambre des représentants, Me J. Fonati Koffa, et certains membres de la Chambre », a déclaré M. Weah. « La Cour a clairement statué que les actions du soi-disant bloc majoritaire à la Chambre sont inconstitutionnelles et illégales. Elle a réaffirmé que Me Koffa demeure le président légitime et constitutionnel. » M. Weah a insisté sur le fait que cette décision ne se limite pas à une simple interprétation juridique, mais qu'elle constitue une affirmation essentielle de l'ordre constitutionnel qui soutient la



démocratie libérienne. « Ignorer ou rejeter ce jugement mettrait en péril les fondements mêmes de notre nation. Cela risquerait de plonger le Libéria dans une crise constitutionnelle que notre paix fragile et les progrès démocratiques durement acquis ne pourraient supporter », a-t-il souligné. L'ancien président a également exhorté les partenaires internationaux du Libéria à encourager l'administration Boakai à se conformer au jugement et à protéger les institutions légales et démocratiques du pays. « Vous êtes nos alliés, et vos investissements ont été essentiels à la stabilité du Libéria et à ses avancées démocratiques », a-t-il déclaré à l'adresse de la communauté internationale. S'adressant directement au peuple libérien, George Weah a lancé un appel à l'unité et à la résilience dans la défense des principes démocratiques du pays. « Notre démocratie repose sur la justice, la légalité et le respect de l'État de droit. Il est de notre devoir collectif de défendre ces principes avec fermeté, quelles que soient les pressions ou les circonstances politiques », a-t-il affirmé. En conclusion, M. Weah a insisté sur le fait que la force du Libéria réside dans son attachement à la justice et à l'ordre constitutionnel. « Alors que nous traversons ce moment décisif, réaffirmons notre engagement à bâtir un Libéria pacifique, stable et prospère – un Libéria qui reste un symbole d'espoir et de démocratie dans la région. Que Dieu continue de bénir le Libéria et de nous guider en ces temps cruciaux », a-t-il conclu.

FEATURE

ARTICLE

Africa's economic growth showing resilience

WASHINGTON, April 23, 2025 – Economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is showing some resilience despite uncertainty in the global economy and restricted fiscal space. Regional growth is expected to reach 3.5% in 2025 and further accelerate to 4.3% in 2026-2027. This growth is mainly due to increased private

Countries rich in resources and those facing fragility, conflict and violence are growing more slowly than more diversified economies, and the region is struggling to create enough good jobs for its young population.

“There is a growing gap between people's aspirations for good jobs and

policy changes will materialize and evolve over time, African economies have the option to liberalize and diversify their markets, including leveraging the African Continent Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to boost regional trade, to expand economic activity and provide jobs for young people.



consumption and investments as inflation cools down and currencies stabilize. The median inflation rate in the region declined from 7.1% in 2023 to 4.5% in 2024.

However, growth is still not strong enough to significantly reduce poverty and meet people's aspirations – a core concern of the 31st edition of Africa's Pulse, which focuses on [Improving Governance and Delivering for People in Africa](#). Real income per capita in 2025 is expected to be approximately 2% below its most recent peak in 2015.

functioning public services and often sub-optimal markets and institutions,” said Andrew Dabalen, World Bank Chief Economist for the Africa Region. *“Urgent reforms, backed by more competition, transparency and accountability, will be key to attract private investments, increase public revenue, and create more economic opportunity for millions of Africans entering the workforce each year.”*

Sub-Saharan Africa faces heightened uncertainty due to changes in trade dynamics, regional conflict, and climate change affecting people and crops. While the direct and indirect impacts of

The report provides policy recommendations for African governments to maintain growth and rebuild trust in a volatile context. Faced with high debt and declining global aid, countries can seize the opportunity to increase the efficiency of government spending to provide better access to essential services like health, education, water and electricity. This would strengthen the relationship between governments and taxpayers. Improved public services, a fair tax system, stronger accountability and clear market rules will also help businesses compete, grow, and create jobs. -Dispatch.

Boakai to work with quorumKoffa's allies go wild at Capitol

President Boakai on Thursday night gave his opinion about the recent Supreme Court decision, while issuing stern warnings.

Monrovia, April 25, 2025: President Josph Boakai says his administration will continue to work with the Constitutional quorum to ensure the functioning of the government, while insisting that government will not be held hostage by narrow interests or acts of lawlessness.

Wednesday, April 23, has not resolved the issue. “As President of the Republic, I acknowledge the ruling of the Supreme Court. However, we must all note that the House of Representatives' problem remains unresolved.” Boakai opined.



H. E. Joseph N. Boakai

“Let me be clear: **under my leadership, the government of Liberia will not be held hostage by narrow interests or acts of lawlessness,**” President Boakai said Thursday night while addressing the nation on the Supreme Court ruling into the ongoing Legislative impasse. “The work of governance will continue,” he said, “... nothing will distract us from our duty to serve the Liberian people.” “...our Constitution and the Supreme Court have defined what constitutes a quorum for the conduct of business in the Legislature. We intend to vigorously uphold this vital principle of our constitutional democracy. We will continue to work with the quorum that will ensure the full functioning of our government.” President Boakai went on. While acknowledging the Supreme Court's ruling on the subject matter, President Boakai who has publicly taken side in the ongoing Speakership dispute at the House of Representative argued that the Court's ruling on

Meanwhile, Mr. Boakai said his administration has already initiated broad consultations with relevant national stakeholders to determine the most appropriate and constitutionally sound path forward. “We have actively involved our traditional and other national leaders in addressing this matter,” he said. “In doing so, we remain fully committed to **preserving the sanctity of our democracy and the principle of three separate but coordinate branches of government.**”

Giving an uphill appraisal of the political stalemate at the House of Representatives, the President recounted that over the past extended months, the country has watched to both “Regime Speaker” with growing concern as the Richard Koon and Deputy House Speaker Thomas Fallah Representatives remained unresolved. This ongoing dispute, he acknowledged, has continued to undermine public confidence in the legislature which he described as one of the nation's most vital democratic institutions. “Tragically, we have also witnessed the torching of the

Capitol Building, a national symbol of our democracy, by arsonists intent on sowing chaos and discord. Today, we received a report of acts of vandalism intended to desecrate the dignity of our public institutions and buildings. The Police are investigating. We are a country governed by laws, not by mobs or self-serving

ambition. Those who undermine peace, violate the law, or seek to disrupt national harmony will face the full force of the law and justice,” he assured. The president further assured citizens that the government remains functional and steadfast in its responsibility to deliver services, maintain order, and uphold the values of democracy and good governance. Meanwhile, Cllr. Koffa, whose Speakership has been reaffirmed by the Supreme Court, said consultations are underway for the next course of action, following the President's speech. Speaker Koffa on Wednesday extended arms of reconciliation to both “Regime Speaker” Richard Koon and Deputy House Speaker Thomas Fallah following the Supreme Court's verdict. Koffa made specific mention of Deputy Speaker Thomas Fallah, Majority bloc leader Richard Koon, and other lawmakers who had earlier sought his removal. However, it remains to be seen how far this crisis will go. -

Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

Supporters of Speaker J. Fonati Koffa have vandalized the conference room of the House of Representatives, tearing down a portrait of Representative Richard Nagbe Koon, who describes himself as a “Regime Speaker.”

By Bridgett Milton

Monrovia, Liberia, April 25, 2025 -Less than a day after the ruling by Supreme Court, allies of Speaker Fonati Koffa, including Representatives Yekeh Kolubah Thursday, April 24, 2025, entered the Capitol Building, damaging a portray photo of “Regime Speaker” Richard Koon and calling on departmental heads not to take instructions from any member of the majority bloc.

Video images showed Representative Yekeh Kolubah entering the House's Conference room and removing a portray photograph of Koon, smashing it on the ground before existing.

Meanwhile, addressing workers at the Capitol Rep. Malvin Cole, said they were instructed by Speaker Koffa to convey this information to all departmental heads, not to take instructions from anyone and act accordingly.

Their actions followed barely a day after Koffa publicly called for reconciliation among lawmakers after the Supreme Court ruled in his favor, recognizing him as the

Richard Koon, to form a joint reconciliation and transitional committee aimed at healing divisions and restoring full functions of the House of Representatives.

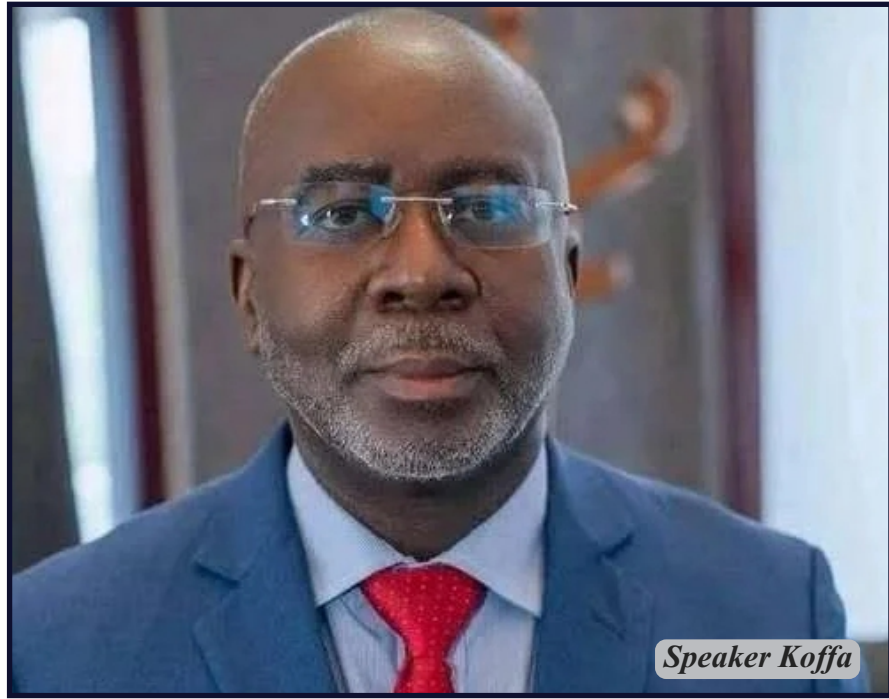
According to him, he was not unmindful that reconciliation and progress will require that he makes the ultimate sacrifice, and he was not unwilling to pay that price, but they should show the nation how democracies are built.

Montserrado County district #9 Representative, Yekeh Kolubah, was seen vandalizing official portrait of “Regime Speaker” Richard Koon, placed in the Conference room of the House of Representatives.

According to Rep. Kolubah, his reason for damaging the portrait of Koon's is that he is not a Speaker and so his portrait shouldn't be placed anywhere in the Capitol Building.

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court of Liberia ruled that any sitting of the majority bloc to the exclusion of Speaker J. Fonati Koffa is unconstitutional, unauthorized and illegal.

According to Chief Justice, Her Honor, Sie-A- Nyene Gyapay Yuoh, the bench



Speaker Koffa

legitimate Speaker of the 55th Legislature.

After the ruling on Wednesday, Speaker Koffa announced plans to reach out to Deputy Speaker Thomas Fallah and Representative

stands by its December 6, 2024, ruling that all actions the Majority bloc are ultra vires or actions carried out illegally. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Starts from page 7Observation groups term

while observers reported from the field that voting commenced on time, having all essential voting materials been available with an adequate deployment of security officers throughout all electoral districts of Nimba County, in addition to Party agents and other observers deployed to observe the process. On Campaign activities. The official campaign period commenced on 31 March 2025 and ended on 19 of April 2025 respectively. About the Arrival and opening of polling places. They explained that all observers were permitted to access and observe at their assigned polling places. Observers also reported that nearly all polling places

had opened for voting and the remaining observed polling places opened on time. Speaking to reporters, Chairperson of the Election Coordinating Committee Mr. Malcolm W. Joseph and Augustine S. M. Tamba, head of Secretariat of the Liberia Election Observation Network (LEON) and The West Africa Network for Peace building (WANEP) Chairperson Cllr. Tonieh A. Talery Wiles said their respectively institutions collaborated to observed the peaceful conduct of the Nimba County senatorial by-election which was coordinated from a joint election data center in Ganta, Nimba County, as they followed all of the election processes to an end on Wednesday April 23, 2025. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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