



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

LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR DATE **BUYING SELLING** TUESDAY, MAY 06, 2025 L\$201.0380/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.

L\$198.1561/US\$1.00

French Version Inside

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TUESDAY, MAY 06, 2025

PRICE LD\$50.00

Echoes of 2021 resurface









LSams

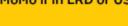
EPS Boss Sam Gaye

-Over threat to withdraw security from political fig.

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Continental News

Ugandan opposition bodyguard charged after torture, lawyer says

Uganda's opposition Mr Sebuufu was in "great pain" leaders, Bobi Wine, and had also faced the has been charged with squeezing of his "private"



Eddie Mutwe (right) to be released

aggravated robbery, days parts". after the head of the military Mr Kazibwe told reporters that said he had detained him.

Kainerugaba, who is also President Yoweri Museveni's son, confirmed that he had been holding Eddie Mutwe disappearance.

The lawyer representing the bodyguard, whose real name is Edward Sebuufu, said his client had been tortured, telling the country's Daily Monitor newspaper that he was beaten using "wires of electricity".

Mr Sebuufu had faced Last week Gen Muhoozi electrocution and that his team were planning to take him to hospital. Rights groups have long accused the authorities of targeting the five days after his opposition especially during the run up to elections.

> As Mr Sebuufu was brought to court on Monday, security operatives tried to shield him to prevent the media from seeing him. But videos showed Bobi Wine's bodyguard barefoot, and hardly able to walk.

Rwanda confirms talks with

bodyguard for one of Magellan Kazibwe added that Last week, Gen Kainerugabai posted on social media that Mr Sebuufu was in his custody. The army chief said the bodyguard had been shaved and that he planned to castrate him.

The detention comes as Uganda gears up for elections in 2026 where Museveni, who has been in power for nearly four decades, is expected to run against Bobi Wine.

Several human rights activists have condemned Mr Sebuufuu's detention, meanwhile Uganda's Human Rights Commission called for his immediate release. Civil society organisations have also warned that his detention is part of a systematic campaign to silence dissent and crush opposition ahead of the general election. However, the government blames the opposition for civilian and police clashes, saying they hold rallies without permission.

Lawyer Mr Kazibwe added that aside from aggravated robbery, Mr Sebuufuu was also charged with simple robbery over an alleged incident in Lwengo District.BBC

US about taking in migrants wanda is in the "early government took office Since coming to office in stage" of talks with last July.Speaking to January, US President the Trump Rwandan TV on Sunday, Donald Trump has focused administration to accept Nduhungirehe said the on speeding up the

migrants deported by the government was in the removal of undocumented US, the East African "spirit" of giving "another migrants, with the promise country's Foreign Affairs chance to migrants who of "mass deportations".

His comments come after added that the talks with deported from the US, month that Washington predict their outcome. was "actively searching" for countries that would take in "some of the most despicable human beings". Nduhungirehe said the talks were "not new to us" as Rwanda had previously agreed to accept migrants deported by the UK. However, the UK abandoned the scheme,

which faced numerous

legal challenges, after Sir

Keir Starmer's Labour

Minister Olivier have problems across the In February, El Salvador Nduhungirehe has said. world". Nduhungirehe offered to take in criminals US Secretary of State the US were continuing, including those with US Marco Rubio said last and it was too early to citizenship, and house them in its mega-jail.



Ghana protesters accuse president of power grab after chief justice's suspension

red and black have all. condemned a decision by A number of lawyers in the Ghana's president to country argue it is within the suspend the country's chief president's power to act when he is interfering in the until retirement.

undreds of was unconstitutional and opposition President Mahama must reverse protesters dressed in it. But that view is not shared by

justice, and are demanding there is evidence of misconduct that she be reinstated with by a public officer, no matter the immediate effect. They position. This view is also backed accuse President John by the president's supporters. Mahama of violating the By law, chief justices in Ghana

constitution by failing to enjoy security of tenure, which follow due process, and say means that they remain in office

independence of the Yet Ghana's constitution does empower the president to Gertrude Torkornoo was appoint, suspend or even fire the removed from her post last chief justice where there is week pending evidence of wrongdoing, investigations into her including incompetence and conduct - the first time a misbehaviour. However some chief justice has been Ghanaians argue due process has



Justice Torkornoo.

opposition New Patriotic the president. Yes, indeed, he Party (NPP), who were in has all the powers as a president, power when Chief Justice but the way he is attacking our were three smaller of high profile political cases, opposition groups. The which she denies. opposition's demands echo She is expected to be summoned

suspended in Ghana's not been followed in this instance.

Action was taken after the One protester, Serwaa Akoto, president said three people told the BBC: "The judiciary is had sent petitions to him under attack and we want the containing undisclosed right thing to be done. Why is he allegations against Chief suspending the chief justice?" Also at the protest was Charles Monday's demonstration in Oteng, who told the BBC: "We Accra was led by the main want to send a strong signal to

Torkornoo was appointed by judiciary is very alarming - and then-president Nana Akufo- we the youth will not sit for him Addo two years ago. The to do whatever he wants to do." NPP's national organiser Chief Justice Torkornoo is the Nana Boakye Yiadom told third woman to hold the position the BBC her treatment was in Ghana. Since winning power, politically motivated and an Mahama's National Democratic attack on democracy. Also Congress has stepped up taking part in the protests accusations of bias in her rulings

those made by the Ghana to answer questions in person in Bar Association last week. front of a committee The grouping of top legal investigating the allegations professionals said against her. BBC

EDITORIAL **National Bar and Supreme Court must ceasefire**

clear divide is emerging in the Liberian Judiciary, with action and counter-action between the Liberian National Bar Association and the Supreme Court of Liberia. Following the Bar's recent public criticism of the Supreme Court's ruling into the leadership crisis at the House of Representatives, the Court has retaliated by boycotting a Law Day celebration organized by the Bar.

The entire bench of the Supreme Court of Liberia was visibly absent from Friday's Law Day commemoration held by the Bar, where Her Honor, Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, had been invited to speak. Unfortunately, neither did Her Honor, Chief Justice Yuoh nor any member of the bench show up, in what seems a complete snub of the Bar.

It was a national occasion reserved for members of the legal profession, including lawyers, judges, law school students, Justices of the Supreme Court, and the Chief Justice or a designee. But the highest echelon of the Liberian Justice System and Final Arbiter of justice distanced itself, right before the eyes of international partners.

It took former Chief Justice, Cllr. Gloria Musu Scott, to save the day by delivering the key note speech, strongly rebuking the LNBA President's public condemnation of the Supreme Court. "Whether we like it or not, we must respect the opinion of the Supreme Court," Cllr. Scott said, and emphasized, "When the Court speaks, it is final!"

She warned against politicizing legal institutions and cautioned the Bar against stepping into political territory under the guise of legal advocacy. "You don't reject or disrespect the Court's decision," she emphasized. "The law clearly states that no lawyer shall do anything to undermine the integrity of the Court."

This is occurring at a time the High Court faces politic maneuvering to cast doubts on its recent opinion rendered on the controversy surrounding the Speakership of the House of Representatives, where the Executive, backed by group of lawmakers, who styled themselves "Majority Bloc", illegally removed Speaker J. Fonati Koffa, replacing him by a ruling party lawmaker, Richard Nagbe Koon that Court does not recognize as Speaker.

It is saddening and quite unfortunate that the bodies clothed with authority to protect and interpret the law of the land would be in so deep disagreement and distance apart, as a result of clear political maneuvering.

But then we are not so surprise. This is what the Executive, purely obsessed with wielding political power, had wanted all along – to have its way in judicial matters for selfish interest, while playing lip-service to respect for the rule of law.

Rather than constitutionally enforcing the ruling of the Supreme Court by restoring the amenities of Speaker Koffa, as the legitimate Speaker of the 55th Legislature, President Joseph Boakai has made it clear that the ruling from the High Court is not enforceable, and therefore, the matter remains unresolved.

We call on both the Bar and the Supreme Court to avoid a tit for tat scenario over this situation, because this is the aim of politicians. We urge both sides to see the compelling need to uphold the sanctity of the legal profession and the Constitution of Liberia, come what may, by ceasing any further action against each other, and allow posterity to judge which side truly is in support of the rule of law, the Judiciary or the Executive.

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Prepare for the Global Euro

ONDON - International monetary and quality, stable institutions. financial systems may not be immutable, of a dominant world power.

In the nineteenth century, that power was Britain. As the world's financial hegemon distress goods, provided by British free trade," England served as a "lender of last resort."

escalating political turmoil that culminated in Bank, and a robust rule of law. World War II.

military power.

At the time, the US accounted for 35% of world GDP. But though America's share of global GDP has declined, the US dollar has retained its those linked to hedging climate risk). dominance as a reserve asset, invoicing still shape the global financial cycle.

supply global public goods, and there is no could be a good starting point. clear candidate to fill its shoes. The European financial markets.

current policy trajectory, it will soon be euro. "relieved" of this burden, whether it likes it or

position in global trade. These qualities the breach. depend on innovative capabilities and growth potential, with military power and geopolitical alliances also playing a role. None of this is possible without an open economy and high-

■but nor do they change often. That is why By pursuing policies that undermine US the upheaval spurred by US President Donald institutions, fundamental research, Trump's trade and tariff war is so remarkable - multilateralism, and the economy's long-run and difficult to decipher. To figure out what is growth prospects, the US under Trump is rapidly going on, it is worth revisiting Charles P. eroding trust in the dollar. Never has this been Kindleberger's theory of hegemonic stability, more apparent than in the wake of Trump's which he spelled out in his book The World in announcement, in early April, of ultra-high Depression: 1929-1939. Kindleberger's theory tariffs on goods from dozens of countries essentially states that an open and stable running bilateral trade surpluses. US Treasury international system depends on the presence yields rose, the US stock market fell, and the dollar depreciated - a combination often seen in emerging economies.

The economic and financial distress Trump leader of the global economic system and initiated in the US creates an opportunity for the issuer of the dominant international currency - eurozone - which issues the world's second-Britain supplied critical public goods. These most-important international currency - to included, as Kindleberger put it, a "market for capture some of the exorbitant privilege long enjoyed by the US. This includes cheaper capital and a countercyclical flow of capital, produced for eurozone governments and businesses by the City of London. Britain also supported which could support fiscal sustainability - and "coordination of macroeconomic policies and easier refinancing during times of crises, since exchange rates," through the "rules of the gold demand for "safe" euro assets would rise. It also standard," which were "legitimized and includes increased geopolitical clout - crucial at institutionalized by usage." Finally, the Bank of a moment when the EU is working to achieve strategic autonomy.

But World War I took its toll on Great Britain, While internationalization does carry risks, the which by the 1930s no longer had sufficient eurozone is well-positioned to mitigate them. resources to underpin the international For example, the eurozone's macroprudential monetary system. And though the United policy frameworks, which are much stronger States was an ascending power, it was not yet than those in the US, can help it cope with ready to fill Britain's shoes. This "Kindleberger increased capital-flow and asset-price gap" - the period between world hegemons - volatility. Europe also boasts powerful coincided with the Great Depression and the institutions, starting with the European Central

But more must be done to enable the eurozone Near the end of the war, in 1944, delegates to raise the euro's international profile. For from 44 countries met in Bretton Woods, New starters, the eurozone must deepen its single Hampshire, where they orchestrated a smooth market in goods and services, and strengthen its transition between the old and the new trade relationships wherever possible. Given hegemons. In doing so, they validated the de Europe's global climate leadership, it could facto supremacy of US trading, financial, and consider starting to invoice climate-friendly products - such as decarbonized energy equipment, electric vehicles, and commodities used in electrification - in euros, while building up corresponding financial instruments (such as

currency, and anchor for fixed exchange rates. The eurozone should also commit to completing Moreover, the US Federal Reserve's policy the banking union and the savings and decisions and the US economy's performance investment union, as spelled out in multiple recent policy reports. To deliver deep and integrated capital markets - crucial for Nonetheless, we seem to be approaching a new innovation and growth - efforts should be made "Kindleberger gap." The existing hegemon to deliver a true eurozone-wide safe asset. Joint appears to be self-destructing, as it refuses to debt issuance for emergency defense spending

Union is not prepared to take up the mantle, Moreover, rather than allowing eurozone and China is not even integrated into global payments to remain largely dependent on US payment systems, the bloc must increase the sovereignty of its own. This would probably rely Whereas the rest of the world views the on a central bank digital currency (CBDC), dollar's primacy as an "exorbitant privilege," complemented with a robust payment system the Trump administration appears convinced that may or may not involve euro stablecoins. that global demand for dollar assets is a Finally, the ECB's function as lender of last burden, as it believes it drives up the resort must be carefully structured, so as to currency's value. But if the US continues on its ensure widespread and strong confidence in the

These changes will not be easy to implement. But if Kindleberger taught us anything, it is that If a currency is to serve an international role, the world economy will be better off if, as the country issuing it generally needs to enjoy America retreats from global economic and economic preeminence and occupy a central financial leadership, Europe steps quickly into

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By Susan Thornton

The US and China Need to Talk

EW HAVEN - The United States and China are caught in an escalating trade war that could gravely damage their economies and even threaten global stability. Since US President Donald Trump's declaration on April 2 of "reciprocal" tariffs on almost all US trading partners, the two countries have imposed triple-digit duties on each other - levels that have effectively created a mutual trade embargo.

Container bookings from China to the US have already fallen by 60%, and orders for all kinds of Chinese products have been canceled. When the effects of this slowdown hit the US in a matter of weeks, not only will consumers find it difficult to buy Chinese-made goods, but so will many US businesses, which sell these imports or use them as inputs. Given that such items are not going to be produced in the US or sourced from other countries any time soon, many businesses will have difficulty coping.

The Trump administration has apparently realized the gravity of the impending crisis. On April 22, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent called the US-China trade war "unsustainable," and an unnamed source said that the White House would consider lowering tariffs on China. Other officials swiftly walked back these comments, saying that the US would not act "unilaterally."

Normally, such a situation would be ripe for negotiation. Instead, the two sides seem unable or unwilling to talk. Trump has repeatedly indicated that he wants to speak with Chinese President Xi Jinping about the tariffs, and has even claimed that Xi called him a few weeks ago - a claim that China denies. According to most accounts, the two leaders have not spoken since Trump's inauguration in January. And despite Trump's recent comment that negotiations are happening every day, a Chinese government spokesperson said on April 24 that there are currently no trade talks between the countries.

Given the urgency of the situation, what is standing in the way of negotiations between the US and China? The first barrier was Trump's insistence on imposing additional duties ahead of trade talks. Chinese authorities seemed willing to engage early, sending Vice President Han Zheng to Trump's inauguration. But Trump quickly levied two rounds of 10% tariffs on China, which went into effect in early February and early March, wrecking any chance of de-escalation.

Recall that China was already subject to the tariffs and sanctions Trump levied in his first term, which were later expanded by his successor, Joe Biden. Perhaps Trump believed that ramping up the pressure would build leverage for an eventual "China deal" - indeed, he adopted a similarly aggressive approach to other partners with his reciprocal tariff threats, and claimed that many countries were "kissing [his] ass" to negotiate their rates. But the Chinese saw it, not unreasonably, as extortion.

A second problem is that the Chinese government and the Trump administration take wildly different approaches to diplomatic engagement. The Chinese bureaucracy is conservative and bound by protocol, whereas Trump likes to call his counterparts and negotiate personally. This is not how Chinese leaders - or most other leaders - work. In fact, no Chinese leader has ever initiated a phone call to a US president. The Chinese side should address this problem. But given how Trump has treated other world leaders, no one would recommend changing course now. Rather than risk humiliation, Xi will probably meet with Trump only after lower-level officials from both sides have agreed on outcomes, as is normal diplomatic practice.

Other institutional asymmetries also weigh on bilateral relations. In China, the premier and vice premiers are responsible for certain aspects of the economy and government - roles that do not correspond neatly to US cabinet secretaries. Since changing these systems is out of the question in the short term, officials should negotiate with their designated counterpart, while also meeting with more senior officials to ensure that messages are getting through. For this reason, previous US administrations created mechanisms to convene US agency heads and Chinese vice premiers for regular dialogues. But these forums were deemed inefficient and subsequently scrapped.

The Chinese have asked the Trump administration to pick a point person with whom they can negotiate. The counterpart for such trade talks would normally be the US Trade Representative, as it was in Trump's first term. But this time around, the US agenda for trade with China is so muddled, and the stated goals so wide-ranging - from rebalancing global trade to stopping the flow of fentanyl, reindustrializing America, and generating revenue - that the USTR would be out of his depth.

This confusion is the biggest hurdle to US-China trade talks. Does the administration want to raise revenue, restore US manufacturing, create jobs, address global imbalances, bring down US debt, bolster security, slow China's rise, or some combination of these?

Perhaps the more fundamental question is whether Trump wants a deal or decoupling. If it's the latter, there is no good reason for China to negotiate. But if it's the former, Trump should say clearly what he wants, and the two sides should start talking in earnest. A de facto embargo on bilateral trade will devastate both economies, and officials should do all they can to salvage the situation. The current standoff ultimately benefits no one.

Susan Thornton, a former acting US assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, is a senior fellow at Yale Law School's Paul Tsai China Center.

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OPINION

By Alfredo Giron

One Hundred Days that Shook US Foreign Policy

EW YORK - We are barely 100 days into US President Donald Trump's second term, but much is already clear. Trump 2.0 is starkly different: more confident and surrounded by a team determined to implement a far more sweeping agenda. Those staffing the administration - amplifiers more than restrainers, enablers more than guardrails - spent the past four years preparing for this moment.

Trump 2.0 is an activist, imperial presidency, at home and abroad. He seems to be everywhere, dominating public space and private conversations alike in much of the world. The contrast with his predecessor President Joe Biden could not be starker.

The administration's principal policy goal thus far has been to make good on Trump's campaign

pledge to secure the United States' southern border. But import tariffs - an across-the-board 10% baseline levy, plus additional country-specific tariffs, reaching 145% in China's case - have become the defining initiative of his presidency.

Foreign policy is also substantially changed. The US has shifted from being a steadfast supporter of Ukraine to tilting decidedly in Russia's favor. The shift appears to be motivated by a clear dislike for Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and an embrace of Russian President Vladimir Putin for reasons unknown.

Trump, who boasted during his campaign that all he needed was a day to end the war, which he regularly blames on Biden and Zelensky, is now talking about walking away from diplomacy to end the war entirely. He is finding it difficult to make good on his campaign promise, in no small part because his pro-Russia policy fails to give Putin any incentive to compromise or Zelensky the confidence to do so. The agreement to establish a US-Ukraine Reconstruction Investment Fund should help, but, to achieve a cessation of hostilities, much more will need to be done to assist Ukraine.

Europe and America's other traditional allies receive no special treatment, either. This is certainly the case with tariffs, which tellingly spared Russia but severely hit Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. Vice President J.D. Vance traveled to Munich in February to ignite a cultural clash with Europeans, while Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth openly raised doubts about the US commitment to Europe at NATO headquarters. This has spurred European preparations to support Ukraine if American assistance wanes and to achieve strategic self-sufficiency more broadly.

In the Middle East, the administration launched what could well prove to be a promising negotiation with Iran. The stage was set by Israeli military action against Iran and its proxies, the fall of the Assad regime in Syria, and Iran's worsening economy, all of which makes backing away from its nuclear program to avoid military attack and secure sanctions relief particularly attractive. If the Trump administration is willing to allow Iran limited uranium enrichment - a concession that may be required to secure a deal - it can expect criticism from some in the US and Israel. But Trump is strong enough to weather the pushback if it comes.

Otherwise, the Trump administration has essentially given Israel's government a free hand to do what it wants in both Gaza and the West Bank. It seems to have lost interest in extending the Hamas-Israel ceasefire, as this would put it at odds with Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who appears to prioritize his coalition's survival, through continuing military operations in Gaza, over freeing the remaining hostages.

Gone is pressure on Israel to rein in its military operations or to even allow humanitarian aid into Gaza, which is almost two months into a full blockade. Trump's own proposal for Gaza, to empty it of its two million Palestinian inhabitants and to rebuild a new Riviera, went nowhere, but seems to have emboldened the Israeli government to depopulate, occupy, and potentially settle large swaths of the enclave.

In the West Bank, the Trump administration rescinded Biden's sanctions on settlers who commit acts of violence against Palestinians and/or their property. There is no call on Israel to refrain from settlement activity or any penalty for not doing so. Indeed, this is the first US administration in modern memory not to push Israelis and Palestinians to narrow their differences. What interest there is in reconciliation is focused almost exclusively on facilitating diplomatic normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia, a prospect set back by Israel's continued use of armed force in Gaza and rejection of any political agenda to address Palestinian aspirations.

The most unexpected dimension of US foreign policy, one neither previewed in Trump's first term nor during the campaign, has been the focus on the Western Hemisphere. Canada and Mexico were singled out for early tariffs over alleged failures to control their borders. There were also heavy-handed calls to assert US sovereignty over the Panama Canal, Greenland, and Canada. More than anything else, these goals have triggered an anti-American backlash - even flipping the outcome of Canada's recent federal election.

There is also what might be described as an amoral slant to US foreign policy. The Trump administration has all but ignored the weakening of democracy in countries such as Turkey and Israel, and has slashed support for democracy promotion efforts around the world.

The biggest foreign-policy uncertainty remains China. On one hand, Trump granted TikTok waivers that allowed it to remain on Americans' phones, despite uncertainty about whether he has the authority to do so. He continues to speak highly of Chinese President Xi Jinping and expresses confidence that the US and China will reach a deal.

But the massive tariffs he has levied on China mean that the US and Chinese economies will increasingly separate, if not actually decouple. Whether the tariffs are an attempt to gain bargaining leverage or are ends in themselves remain perhaps the biggest question in Sino-US relations.

Overall, Trump 2.0's foreign policy is more unilateralist than isolationist. This will remain the case. Less clear is the extent to which Trump will move to reduce tariffs, rethink his pro-Russian stance on Ukraine, and press Israel to modify its approach to Gaza and the West Bank - policies that could revive US and global economic growth and bring peace to two regions that have known little of it. Much will depend on the choices of a man who, for better or worse, is already among the most consequential of US presidents.

Richard Haass, President Emeritus of the Council on Foreign Relations, is a senior counselor at Centerview Partners, Distinguished University Scholar at New York University, and the author of the weekly Substack newsletter Home & Away.

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Invitation to Bid (IFB)

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S n	Code	Contract Package	Bid Price (US\$)	Bid Security	Bid Collection	Submission Deadline Date & Time	Bid Opening Date & Time
1	IFB NO. NOCAL/SP/NCB /001/2025)	Furniture & Interior Decoration (Completion NOCAL Head Office)	\$150.00	2%	April 29, 2025	May 20, 2025 10:00 AM	May 21, 2025 10:30 AM
2	IFB#: NOCAL/NCB/00 2/2025	Solor Infrastructure	US\$150	2%	April 29, 2025	May 27, 2025 12:00 PM	May 27, 2025 12:30 PM
3	IFB NO. NOCAL/SBA/NC B/003/2025	Staff Medical Insurance	US\$100		April 30, 2025	May 27, 2025 1:30 PM	May 27, 2025 2:00 PM
4	IFB NO. NOCAL/SBA/NC B/002/2025	Air Ticket	US\$100		April 30, 2025	May 27, 2025 3:30 PM	May 27, 2025 4:00 PM
5	IFB NO. NOCAL/RB/001/ 2025	Repair & Maintenance of Vehicle	US\$100		May 29, 2025	June 19, 2025 10:00 AM	June 19, 2025 10:30 AM
6	IFB NO. NOCAL/NCB/00 1/2025	Construction of computer hardware, telecommunication, infrastructure network	US\$150		May 29, 2025	June 26, 2025 12:00 PM	June 26, 2025 12:30 PM
7	IFB NO. NOCAL/SBA/RF Q/002/2025	Catering Service			May 29, 2025	June 26, 2025 1:30 PM	June 26, 2025 2:00 PM
8	IFB NO. NOCAL/SBA/NC B/002/2025	Stationery & Supplies	US\$100		May 29, 2025	June 26, 2025 3:30 PM	June 26, 2025 4:00 PM
9	IFB NO. NOCAL/SBA/RF Q/001/2025	Supplies of Potable Water			May 29, 2025	June 12, 2025 1:00 PM	June 12, 2025 1:30 PM

Note! Bid security must be in an irrevocable Bank Guarantee/Manager Check/Bid Securing Declaration form from a reputable bank or insurance company in the Republic of Liberia.

- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the National Oil Company of Liberia, Procurement Unit, and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from Monday – Friday 9:00-5:00 beginning at the date specified in the table above.
- 7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in [English] containing Evaluation Criteria and other relevant requirements and details may be collected by interested bidders from the Procurement Unit of the address below for a non-refundable fee as specified in the table above.
- 8. All Tenders shall be valid for a period of 90 days after the deadline for Tender submission. All Tenders must be accompanied by its requisite Bid Security. Late Tenders will be rejected.
- 9. NOCAL reserve the right to accept, reject or negotiate any or all bids, to waive or not waive informalities or irregularities in bids or bidding procedures, to rebid the project/purchase, and to accept any bid determined by the NOCAL to be in the best interest of the Entity, regardless of price. The reason for rejection may include past performance issues, and compatibility with existing reality or technical nature of the bid. Bidders are required to consider every section of the bidding documents following this advert when preparing their bids.

10. Bidding Requirements

Qualifications requirements include: Technical, Financial, Legal and other requirements as stated in the bidding documents accompanying this advert. However, the minimum requirement includes:

- Valid Tax Clarence (the right and appropriate tax Clarence)
- Valid Business Registration Certificate (Specific Business Activity Code)
- Valid Article of Incorporation
- Bid Security in Bank Guarantee Form/Manager Check
- Social Security Certificate
- Prove of registration on the PPCC vendor database

11. All bids must be address to:

Procurement Unit

National Oil Company of Liberia F&F Building, 2nd & 3rd Floor 63 Coconut Plantation, UN Drive Monrovia, Liberia

0770481851/0770323103

Signed:



Nimba disability community demands inclusion

-In ArcelorMittal deal

www.thenewdawnliberia.com

People living with disabilities in Nimba County advocate for inclusion in ArcelorMittal Liberia's Mineral Development Agreement with the Government of Liberia.

By: S. Matthew M. Quoi Jr., Nimba County

anniquellie City, Liberia, May 6, 2025, -The President of the Nimba County Disabled Community, D. Abestine Tozay, appeals to the Nimba Legislative Caucus, local authorities, and national government, for inclusion of persons living with disabilities (PWDs) in the next Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) with ArcelorMittal Liberia. Speaking in an exclusive interview, Mr. Tozay expressed deep frustration over exclusion of PWDs in the first MDA, which has guided the operations of ArcelorMittal Liberia for over two decades. He described the situation as a long-standing injustice to the disabled community. "For more than 20 years, we've been left behind by a multi-million-dollar company in our own country," Tozay said. "Now that a second MDA is being drafted, we demand our rightful place."

He emphasized that the first agreement was signed during Liberia's post-war recovery period, when the nation's primary focus was

The community leader also points to existing national legislation that mandates companies to allocate at least 4% of their workforce to persons with disabilities - a law he notes, ArcelorMittal has consistently failed to follow. "There are qualified disabled individuals, who have applied for jobs with ArcelorMittal, but they're constantly overlooked," he laments, adding "That is discrimination, plain and simple."Mr. Tozay argues that having disability does not equate to being incapable. "We are educated, skilled, and ready to contribute. We want to earn a living, send our children to school, and live with dignity."

He emotionally emphasizes the desire of the disabled community to move away from dependency on handouts towards economic empowerment through employment and inclusive development programs.

"Our people are tired of begging," he says. "We want to provide for our



attracting foreign investment to jumpstart families from our own hard work — not economic development. "Back then, the from charity." He urges lawmakers, country had urgent needs, and we understood that," he noted. "But today, that excuse can no longer hold. The time for inclusivity is now."

evolving priorities of the country, including equity and social justice for marginalized groups such as persons with disabilities.

He said the agreement should provide comprehensive provisions that ensure readiness to mobilize if their voices access to healthcare, education, are not heard. "We will not be silent employment, and other basic social anymore," he declares. benefits for PWDs in all three counties. The anticipated second MDA between where ArcelorMittal operates: Nimba, Bong, and Grand Bassa.

"The disabled community deserves access to the same opportunities as every other citizen. We're not asking for charity we're demanding our rights," Tozay asserted.He warns sternly that if the concerns of PWDs are ignored in the upcoming agreement, the disabled community will take to the streets in protest. "We will protest at the offices of legislative caucus members. We will block their homes if necessary," he warned. "The world must know that Liberia is failing its disabled citizens."He highlights that Liberia is a signatory to several international treaties and protocols that protect rights and welfare of persons with disabilities, and failure to include them in national

agreements is a violation of those

obligations.

government ministries, and all stakeholders to take immediate action to ensure that the second MDA is inclusive and responsive to the needs According to him, the new MDA must reflect of all Liberians. "If PWDs are included in this new MDA, it will be a strong step toward meeting both national and international responsibilities," he states. He reaffirms the community's

ArcelorMittal and the Liberian

government is currently under review and is expected to be submitted for legislative debate in coming months. Other affected communities have also expressed grievances about lack of development in areas impacted by the company's operations, including poor access to clean drinking water, healthcare services, and infrastructure. As the debate over the MDA continues, pressure is mounting on lawmakers to ensure that the agreement reflects needs of all citizens, especially, those historically marginalized. The inclusion of persons with disabilities in the agreement could signal a major shift toward social equity and inclusive development in

Liberia's extractive sector. Editing by

Jonathan Browne

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

PUL calls for safety measure at Smile FM

2025

May 5, 2025): The Press Broadcast Technician, Cyrus and its media workers, and to Union of Liberia (PUL) is Gbeway, was beaten and calling on the authorities dragged, leading to damage of Grand Gedeh County, to his phone, a Techno Spark. particularly the Office of the In an alarming escalation, Superintendent, topolice, acting on



unconditionally guarantee Superintendent Grant's the safety of journalists and orders, have taken control of media workers at Smile FM, a the only Community Radio community radio station Station in Grand Gedeh. operating in Zwedru.

reportedly acting under the timely, and vital information. During this attack, Smile FM cease the assault on Smile FM

denying staff access and This call by the PUL follows a effectively shutting down its violent attack on the station broadcasts. This action has early Monday, May 5, 2025, by denied the citizens of Grand a group of individuals Gedeh their right to reliable, instructions of "It is time for the local Superintendent Alex Grant. authorities of Grand Gedeh to

reopen the station unconditionally. This will allow journalists and media workers to fulfill their essential roles in information dissemination, facilitating dialogue, and holding political power accountable, without hindrance or fear," stated PUL President Julius Kanubah. The situation at Smile FM

marks a disturbing development, mainly as it occurs just days after the PUL celebrated World Press Freedom Day alongside the government, civil society, and human rights advocates. The station's management team has publicly accused Superintendent Grant of masterminding the assault and of orchestrating the illegal formation of a parallel Board of Directors, which appointed an Acting Station Manager. However, Superintendent Grant, in discussions with the PUL, denied these allegations. He acknowledged the establishment of a new Board of Directors, which has

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A team comprised of the Ministries of Mines and

Energy, Finance and Development Planning, and the Liberia Revenue Authority has concluded a two-day assessment of Bea Mountain Mining Corporation's operations in Western Liberia.

onrovia, Liberia, concession monitoring May 6, 2025 - The strategy. Government of According the Liberia Liberia has concluded a Revenue Authority, the two-day compliance May 3-4, 2025 assessment assessment of Bea focused on evaluating the Mountain Mining company's adherence to Corporation's (BMMC) gold Standard Operating production, processing, Procedures (SOPs) and export procedures governing gold here. The company exportation.

operates in Kinjor, Grand A high-level 20-member Cape Mount County, joint delegation Western Liberia, under a comprising officials from Mineral Development the Ministry of Mines and

Agreement (MDA) with the Government.

Led by the Minister of Mines and Energy, Wilmot Paye, and Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA) Commissioner General Dorbor Jallah, the assessment is part of ongoing efforts to ensure all mineral rights holders comply fully with the Minerals and Mining Law of Liberia. The initiative is a key component of the government's broader

Energy (MME), Ministry of Finance and Development Planning (MFDP) Ministry of State for Presidential Affairs (MOS), LRA, and the Central Bank of Liberia (CBL) conducted the compliance review.

During the visit to Kinjor, the team inspected Bea Mountain's gold smelting, packaging, weighing, and storage operations. The delegation then proceeded to the Roberts International Airport (RIA), where they observed and reviewed the procedures related to the export o gold.

"This compliance visit is just the beginning. Every mining company operating in Liberia will undergo similar

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Sanniquellie Pre-Primary School under renovation

The administration of Nimba County moves to rescue Sanniquellie Pre-Primary School from collapse.

By: S. Matthew M. Quoi Jr., Nimba County ■ imba. Liberia, May 6, 2 0 2 5 - The Administration of Nimba County, under the leadership Superintendent Kou Meapeh Gono, has demolished the "The rebuilding of this school storm-damaged Sanniquellie First Pre-Primary School to pave the way for a full-scale reconstruction project.

The school, one of the county's oldest educational institutions, suffered severe damage on April 28, 2025, when a powerful storm completely tore off its roof, leaving the structure in ruins.

As a result of the storm's impact, all academic activities at the school came

decades.

Superintendent Gono reaffirmed the county administration's commitment to enhancing education and ensuring well-being of schoolgoing children throughout Nimba.

is not just about replacing a roof," Gono stated. "It is about renewing hope and reaffirming our dedication to quality education in Nimba County."

The decision has been met with overwhelming support and appreciation from community members, school authorities, and local leaders. Many residents acknowledged the critical role early childhood education plays in



dozens of early learners in social future of the county. the city.

dilapidated building to process. without delay.

symbolizing a significant Madam Dahn stated. affected students.

Liberia's 18th President, the leadership.

for early childhood

education in the county for

to an abrupt halt, affecting shaping the intellectual and

Madam Vivian Dahn, principal Reacting swiftly to the crisis, of the school, expressed Superintendent Gono strong support for the ordered immediate reconstruction initiative and dismantling of the pledged to assist in the

initiate a rebuilding process "Our office will monitor the work closely and provide local The dismantling commenced materials where necessary to on Saturday, May 3, 2025, ensure smooth progress,"

step toward restoring hope She praised the county and normalcy in the administration for responding educational journey of to the crisis with urgency and compassion, which she Originally constructed by believes reflects true

late President William V. S. When completed, the new Tubman, the school holds facility is expected to feature

historical significance and a reinforced roof, upgraded has served as a foundation classroom settings, and child-

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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Govt. reviews Bea Mountain's operations

2025

Minister Paye and Commissioner-General officials emphasized that the primary goal of Jallah. The delegation admonished the BMMC the exercise was to reinforce the providing the enabling environments for sector-from extraction and processing to investments.

inspections. No one will be left out," said At the conclusion of the assessment, both to stick to every tenets of the SOP of the MDA Government's commitment to transparent as the government remains committed to and accountable oversight of the mining By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh valuation and exportation. Press Release

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PUL calls for safety measure at Smile FM

Lewis from his position.

ordered the police to take control of the the central government to cal station and facilitate its temporary shutdown Superintendent Grant to order and restrai as Acting Station Manager.

Both Superintendent Grant and the group mediate between the involved parties to eninvolved in the attack share the view that the the ugly situation as journalists and media Board of Advisors, headed by Madam Jesadeh workers at Smile FM continue to report living G. Barzon, has been replaced and that in fear amid ongoing harassment an journalist Solo Uriah Lewis was terminated as intimidation. The PUL emphasizes the critical Station Manager by the new Board of need for Grand Gedeh's police commander Directors, led by Madam Watchen Ophelia Moses Gberyan, to provide security for th Boley. The PUL has received numerous station's reopening rather than enforcing its documents indicating that Smile FM currently shutdown based on an order from has two competing Boards and two Station Superintendent Grant, who has been accused Managers, which is a ploy to seize the of political interference in Smile FM's

appointed an Acting Station Manager, Community Radio Station. This situation effectively removing journalist Solo Uriah suggests a political maneuver aimed a undermining the station's independence Superintendent Grant also confirmed that he credibility, and operations. The PUL calls of based on intelligence regarding plans by some him from shutting down the Community Radio citizens to install Mr. Randolp Yonkpao Saydee Station as government does not own Smile FM. To address this situation, the PUL is working to

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Liberian launches waste to energy project

waste management in Monrovia and other Superintendent Whroway Bryant; and the environmental degradation, health risks, and lost economic opportunities," he warned. and generating energy."

strategy.

our atmosphere but strengthens our energy sector. This project brings us closer to global climate goals while supporting local completion within 24 months, with the plant development."

Other prominent speakers included Deputy This initiative represents a significant step Finance and Development Planning Minister toward achieving Liberia's climate action Tanneh G. Brunson; Monrovia City Mayor Hon. goals and joining the global transition to John Charuk Siafa; Montserrado County circular economy.

cities, calling for a firm public-private Managing Director of the Liberia Water and partnership to address the issue. "If we do not Sewer Corporation (LWSC) Hon. Mohamed Ali, act now, mismanaged waste will lead to each expressing support for the project and emphasizing its environmental and economic benefits. The Liberia Resource Recovery "This partnership will transform waste from a Project will include advanced waste burden into a valuable resource, creating jobs segregation, anaerobic digestion, and carbon capture systems. The facility is designed to He underscored the importance of carbon divert large volumes of waste from landfills, capture technology in Liberia's environmental reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and supply clean electricity to thousands of Liberian "Investing in carbon capture not only cleans households. It is also expected to create new employment opportunities in Montserrado she said. County and beyond. Construction is slated for expected to become operational by late 2027

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Sanniquellie Pre-Primarv

friendly amenities conducive for effective of the region. learning.

Community members have been called upon Gono's administration has initiated to actively support the rebuilding process, numerous development projects across the with appeals also extended to development county, gaining widespread praise and partners and humanitarian organizations.

The Nimba County Administration Residents describe her leadership as emphasized the importance of collective dynamic, results-oriented, and centered or efforts in ensuring timely and successful community empowerment and youth the global community, completion of the school project.

According to residents, the Sanniquellie First As construction progresses, optimism and studied in Sanniquellie during their that has served generations and wil formative years.

The institution is recognized as the first Jonathan Browne government school in Nimba County, marking its importance in the educational landscape

In just a year and a half, Superintenden admiration.

development.

Pre-Primary School has impacted lives of continues to grow among residents who many Liberians, particularly those who lived anticipate the rebirth of a vital institution continue to shape future leaders. Editing by the challenges, but said

Gov't committed to transforming aviation industry

-Minister Bility

▲ inister of State

without Portfolio, Mamaka Bility, has assured government's commitments to investing more in air Navigation and support to airports. Addressing the Aviation

awareness Week in Congo Town, under the theme: "Connecting Liberia: The Power of Aviation, Minister Bility said government considers the Aviation industry as key pillar to national development.

She also stressed the strategic importance of aviation in the government's ARREST Agenda. "This administration fully recognizes the strategic importance of Aviation in

history from the establishment of the Robert International Airport which was once a busy hub in West Africa to the countless Liberians who dreamed of connecting by air to every corner of the world.

symbol of ambition, reaching beyond the horizon and opening Liberia to opportunities, she reflected. However, Madam Bility stated that government will partner with regional and international bodies to ensure that Liberia remains vital and competitive in global aviation.

Aviation has always been the

For his part, the Director-General of the Liberia Civil Aviation Authority, Julius D. Dennis Jr. rallied for more



achieving our national goals,"

"So that is why, we are committed to invest in modernizing our airports and air Navigation system," Minister Bility added.

According to her, aviation is a vital service to medical emergencies, and supplies to disasters response among other vital services.

She also mentioned government's determination to meeting and surpassing international safety and security standards.

"Today Aviation is much more than an industry; it is the blood stream of our national development. It links our LCAA Director Dennis, people to each other and to enables businesses to flow and connect culture, which is essential to our ARREST Agenda," she said.

Madam Bility acknowledged Liberia has made significant strives in its aviation history. "I cannot help but reflect on Liberia's proud aviation supports and investment in the (LCAA).

He stressed investment in the LCAA acts as a catalyst for economic growth across economies.

According to him, it enhances international standing as Liberia stands at a crucial juncture in its development.

"Investing in Aviation is key and an opportunity to transform its development agenda and the substantial benefits.

He highlighted the pivotal role of Civil aviation to economic growth, noting it improves infrastructure developments.

describes Liberia as a competitive regional hub, adding that efficient air transport facilitates trade, enhances air connectivity, attracts increased tourism, which in turn generates valuable employment in tourism and related service industries.

ranç

La Cour suprême snobe le Barreau national : tensions croissantes au sein du système judiciaire libérien

sein du système officielle, survient dans un climat Johnson Sirleaf à Congo Town. judiciaire libérien de tension croissante entre la plus L'événement a réuni des s'est révélé au grand jour ce haute juridiction du pays et l'ordre acteurs du secteur juridique, vendredi, lorsque les des avocats, après que ce derniera des représentants du membres de la Cour suprême, critiqué publiquement une gouvernement, des membres

n fossé grandissant au Le boycott, sans explication complexe ministériel Ellen



y compris la présidente, Son Honneur Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, ont ostensiblement boycotté la célébration annuelle de la Journée du Droit organisée par le Barreau national du Libéria (Liberian National Bar Association, LNBA).

décision récente de la Cour suprême relative à la crise de leadership à la Chambre des représentants.

L'édition 2025 de la Journée du Droit, placée sous le thème « Justice, responsabilité et inclusion : bâtir un Libéria plus fort sous l'empire de la loi », s'est tenue au

de la société civile, des partenaires internationaux, des forces de sécurité et des étudiants.

Cependant, l'absence de l'ensemble des juges, qui occupent habituellement une

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Crise à Bong : la Superintendante Hawa Loleyah Norris menacée de poursuites judiciaires pour un projet de rénovation de 280 000 USD du Palais présidentiel

secoué par une vive ■controverse politique alors qu'Aaron V.G. Juakollie, directeur exécutif de la Fondation pour la Dignité Internationale (FIND), menace d'ester en justice contre la Superintendante Hawa Loleyah Norris et l'ensemble du Conseil de gouvernement local. En cause: l'utilisation présumée abusive de 280 000 dollars américains issus du budget de développement du comté pour rénover le Palais présidentiel.

Cette décision, adoptée discrètement par le Conseil de gouvernement local, suscite une indignation croissante au sein de la population et des militants locaux, qui estiment que ce projet profite aux élites politiques plutôt qu'aux citovens ordinaires.

« C'est un vol en plein jour », a dénoncé M. Juakollie lors d'une émission radio diffusée le 2 mai 2025. « Nous ne permettrons pas que ces prétendus leaders détournent nos fonds de développement pour

e Comté de Bong est embellir un palais qui ne répond les fonds de l'État, pas avec en rien aux besoins des habitants du comté de Bong. »

> Militant chevronné des droits humains, Juakollie accuse Mme Norris ainsi qu'Aaron Sackie-Fenlah, président du conseil local, d'avoir comploté pour détourner des ressources publiques à des fins politiques personnelles.

« La rénovation du Palais présidentiel relève des compétences de l'exécutif national, pas des citoyens déjà vulnérables du comté de Bong. Si le président Joseph Nyumah Boakai tient à restaurer ce bâtiment, qu'il le finance avec

ceux destinés à nos écoles, cliniques et routes », a-t-il martelé.

Il a par ailleurs laissé entendre qu'en l'absence de retrait du projet, une vaste mobilisation citovenne serait enclenchée. « Nous sommes prêts à paralyser tout le comté. S'ils pensent pouvoir s'en sortir ainsi, ils se trompent lourdement. »

Un plan de développement sur quatre ans menacé

comté ont validé vingt-cinq

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Éditorial

Le Barreau national et la Cour suprême doivent faire taire les armes

Une fracture nette se dessine au sein du système judiciaire libérien, marquée par une série d'actions et de réactions opposant le Barreau national du Libéria (LNBA) à la Cour suprême du pays. Après que le Barreau a publiquement critiqué l'arrêt de la Cour suprême dans la crise de leadership à la Chambre des représentants, celle-ci a répliqué en boycottant la célébration de la Journée du droit organisée par le LNBA.

Toute la composition de la Cour suprême du Libéria était absente lors de la commémoration, vendredi, de cette journée dédiée à la profession juridique. La juge en chef, Son Honneur Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, qui avait pourtant été invitée comme oratrice principale, ne s'est pas présentée, pas plus qu'aucun autre membre de la Cour. Ce geste a été largement perçu comme un camouflet adressé au Barreau.

La Journée du droit, événement de portée nationale, réunit traditionnellement juges, avocats, étudiants en droit, et magistrats, y compris les membres de la Cour suprême. Pourtant, la plus haute instance judiciaire du pays a choisi de se retirer, et ce, sous les regards attentifs des partenaires internationaux.

C'est l'ancienne juge en chef, Me Gloria Musu Scott, qui a sauvé la mise en prononçant le discours principal. Dans son intervention, elle a fermement critiqué la prise de position publique du président du LNBA contre la Cour suprême. « Que cela nous plaise ou non, nous devons respecter l'opinion de la Cour suprême », a-t-elle déclaré, avant d'insister : « Quand la Cour parle, sa décision est définitive. »

Elle a mis en garde contre toute tentative de politisation des institutions judiciaires, rappelant au Barreau l'interdiction formelle de franchir les limites de l'activisme juridique pour s'immiscer dans les affaires politiques. « On ne rejette pas ni ne méprise une décision de la Cour », a-t-elle martelé.

« La loi est claire : aucun avocat ne doit poser un acte qui pourrait nuire à l'intégrité de la Cour. »

Cette confrontation survient dans un contexte de vives tensions politiques, au moment où la Cour suprême est accusée d'être la cible de manœuvres visant à affaiblir sa récente décision dans le différend sur la présidence de la Chambre des représentants. Le président de l'Assemblée, J. Fonati Koffa, a été évincé de manière contestée par un groupe de députés se désignant comme le « Bloc majoritaire » et remplacé par Richard Nagbe Koon, membre du parti au pouvoir, dont la Cour suprême ne reconnaît pas la légitimité.

Il est profondément regrettable que les deux institutions chargées de défendre et d'interpréter la loi soient à ce point divisées situation alimentée par des considérations politiques.

Cela dit, ce développement n'est pas tout à fait surprenant. L'Exécutif, manifestement préoccupé par la consolidation de son Rappelons qu'en novembre pouvoir politique, semble poursuivre depuis longtemps une 2024, les autorités locales du stratégie de mainmise sur les affaires judiciaires, au détriment du respect de l'État de droit.

> Plutôt que de faire appliquer la décision de la Cour suprême en restaurant les privilèges du président légalement reconnu de la 55e législature, J. Fonati Koffa, le président Joseph Boakai a clairement laissé entendre que l'arrêt de la Cour n'était pas exécutoire laissant ainsi le conflit sans résolution.

> Nous en appelons au sens de responsabilité des deux institutions. Le Barreau comme la Cour suprême doivent éviter toute escalade de représailles. Car c'est précisément le dessein des acteurs politiques : semer la division au sein du pouvoir judiciaire pour mieux le dominer.

Les deux parties doivent prendre conscience de l'impérieuse nécessité de préserver la dignité de la profession juridique et le respect de la Constitution du Libéria. Elles doivent renoncer à toute confrontation publique et laisser l'Histoire juger laquelle d'entre elles a véritablement défendu l'État de droit : la Justice ou l'Exécutif.

ra:

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La Cour suprême snobe le Barreau national : tensions

2025

place centrale lors de cette journée symbolique, a été fortement remarquée. La présidente de la Cour suprême, qui devait prononcer le discours officiel, n'a pas honoré l'invitation, confirmant ainsi une rupture manifeste entre les deux institutions.

Le point de discorde porte sur une décision rendue le 6 décembre 2024, dans laquelle la Cour suprême a affirmé que toute session ou action législative ne respectant pas les articles 33 et 49 de la Constitution est juridiquement invalide (ultra vires). Puis, dans un avis rendu le 23 avril 2025, elle a réaffirmé que l'honorable J. Fonati Koffa demeure le président légitime de la Chambre des représentants, rejetant de fait l'élection contestée du député Richard Nagbe Koon, soutenue par une majorité parlementaire pro-gouvernementale.

Le président du Barreau, Me Bornor M. Varmah, a vivement critiqué cette décision, estimant que la Cour avait abusé de la procédure de Bill of Information - un mécanisme censé clarifier des décisions existantes, et non en créer de nouvelles - pour rendre un second avis substantiel. Il a averti que si cette position n'était pas revue, elle pourrait remettre en cause la légitimité du budget national 2025 et entraîner l'annulation de paiements et de transactions gouvernementales - allant jusqu'à évoquer une « subversion criminelle » du gouvernement.

Ses propos ont suscité un tollé, à la fois au sein de la profession juridique et dans l'opinion publique, certains estimant que le Barreau sape l'autorité de la Cour suprême.

Prenant la parole lors de la cérémonie, l'ancienne présidente de la Cour suprême, Me Gloria Musu Scott, a fermement condamné la sortie publique du président du Barreau. Se

présentant comme une « doyenne de la nation », elle a rappelé : « Que cela nous plaise ou non, nous devons respecter l'avis de la Cour suprême. Quand la Cour parle, c'est la parole finale. »

Elle a mis en garde contre la politisation des institutions judiciaires et a appelé le Barreau à ne pas franchir la frontière entre défense juridique et engagement politique. « Vous ne rejetez pas ni ne méprisez la décision de la Cour. La loi est claire : aucun avocat ne doit poser d'acte qui porte atteinte à l'intégrité de la Cour », a-t-elle martelé.

De son côté, Me Varmah a réaffirmé l'engagement du Barreau à promouvoir l'aide juridictionnelle, l'accès à la justice et la gouvernance démocratique. Malgré les tensions, il a insisté sur le devoir du Barreau de défendre l'état de droit : « Personne n'est au-dessus de la loi. Une justice équitable et inclusive n'est pas un privilège, mais un droit. La démocratie ne se résume pas aux élections ; elle repose sur les institutions, la responsabilité et surtout la justice. »

L'absence remarquée de la Cour suprême et l'escalade verbale entre deux piliers majeurs du système judiciaire libérien soulèvent des inquiétudes sur l'indépendance des institutions, les limites éthiques des organisations professionnelles et la fragilité des normes démocratiques dans un pays encore marqué par les séquelles du conflit.

Alors que la Journée du Droit est traditionnellement une occasion de rassemblement et de célébration des principes fondamentaux du droit, l'édition 2025 laisse entrevoir de profondes divisions qui ne pourront être comblées par de simples gestes symboliques.

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Crise à Bong : la Superintendante Hawa Loleyah Norris projets prioritaires inscrits Pilier 2 : Développement des fournir des manuels et étendre

dans un programme de infrastructures développement sur quatre Ce pilier cible la construction

participation citoyenne. Ce programme stratégique Pilier 3 : État de droit s'aligne sur les grandes Ce volet prévoit le orientations du renforcement des effectifs développement national, de sécurité et de justice dans notamment la Vision 2030 du les 14 districts Liberia. Il est structuré administratifs, l'application autour de plusieurs piliers : stricte des lois contre le viol, la transformation et la rénovation des é c o n o m i q u e , l e infrastructures judiciaires et développement des de sécurité (police, infrastructures, l'État de immigration, armée, droit et le développement du pompiers, etc.). capital humain. Pilier 1 : Pilier 6 : Développement du Transformation économique capital humain Le volet agricole prévoit Ce pilier couvre les secteurs l'augmentation de la delasanté et de l'éducation. productivité via des chaînes Il prévoit l'expansion des de valeur inclusives pour les infrastructures sanitaires, le cultures vivrières, de rente renforcement de la qualité et maraîchères. Il des soins (notamment ambitionne également de maternels), la formation et développer l'élevage (bétail, la rémunération du volaille, œufs) et de personnel médical. Côté construire des éducation, il s'agit de infrastructures de stockage, construire de nouvelles

crédits et formations.

ans, censé répondre aux et la réhabilitation de routes défis majeurs de la région. principales et secondaires, Ces projets, conduits sous la de ponts, ainsi que direction de Mme Norris et du l'extension de l'accès à président Sackie-Fenlah, l'électricité, notamment par s'inscrivent dans le cadre de des solutions solaires. Il la Loi sur la Gouvernance inclut également des projets Locale de 2018, qui promeut de logements sociaux et de la décentralisation et la modernisation des systèmes d'eau et d'assainissement.

tout en facilitant l'accès des écoles, loger les enseignants agriculteurs aux outils, ruraux, intégrer les

enseignants bénévoles,

les programmes de cantines scolaires.

Des centres de formation professionnelle et des structures d'accueil pour les enfants en situation de handicap sont également prévus, ainsi que l'amélioration de l'éducation préscolaire.

Un choix contesté, hors priorités validées Notons que les projets de rénovation du Palais présidentiel ne figurent pas parmi les priorités validées, notamment sous les piliers 4 (Environnement durable) et 5 (Lutte contre la corruption et gouvernance). Le programme de développement avait été validé lors d'un atelier de deux jours organisé par les ministères des Finances et des Affaires intérieures, avec le soutien des Nations Unies et du gouvernement suédois.

Les organisateurs avaient alors insisté sur la nécessité d'un dialogue inclusif et d'une collaboration étroite avec les citoyens pour définir les priorités de développement du comté de

La stratégie nationale de développement, connue sous le nom d'Agenda ARREST, est la quatrième du genre au Liberia. Elle met l'accent sur une croissance économique durable, en harmonie avec les objectifs internationaux.

Aucune démission officielle du président de la Chambre des représentants, Fonati Koffa

e président contesté de la Chambre des représentants du Liberia, Me J. Fonati Koffa, a déclaré qu'il n'avait pas encore pris de décision définitive quant à une éventuelle démission de son poste, malgré les rumeurs persistantes. « Nous sommes encore en négociation. Si les discussions aboutissent,

je démissionnerai. Dans le cas contraire, je continuerai à exercer mes fonctions », a confié Me Koffa au New Dawn, en réaction aux spéculations sur son départ imminent.

Il a précisé que ces discussions se déroulent par des canaux officieux et qu'aucune conclusion n'a encore été arrêtée. Il a également rejeté les rumeurs faisant état d'une décision déjà prise.



Moins d'une heure après son entretien avec le *New Dawn*, Me Koffa a publié un message sur ses réseaux sociaux, déclarant :

« Je suis au courant des déclarations qui circulent sur les réseaux sociaux et autres plateformes médiatiques, insinuant des informations sur ma position en tant que président de la Chambre des représentants. Je suis touché par les marques de solidarité exprimées à mon égard ainsi qu'à l'égard de l'institution que je représente.

J'ai toujours affirmé que les lois de notre nation doivent demeurer la base ultime pour résoudre les différends, y compris le blocage actuel au sein du corps législatif. L'arrêt récent de la Cour suprême a tranché définitivement la question, et je respecte pleinement cette décision.

En conséquence, je mène des consultations avec diverses parties prenantes à travers le pays, y compris mes collègues des différentes tendances politiques, pour envisager une transition et déterminer la voie appropriée à suivre. Je m'engage à tenir le public informé au fur et à mesure de l'évolution de ces discussions.

En attendant, j'appelle tous les citoyens à éviter de relayer des informations non vérifiées, susceptibles de provoquer confusion et divisions inutiles. »

La Cour suprême du Liberia a, la semaine dernière, donné raison à Me Koffa en acceptant sa requête d'information, et a ordonné au groupe parlementaire majoritaire dirigé par Richard N. Koon de respecter l'arrêt rendu. Dans son opinion délivrée le 23 avril 2025, la Présidente de la Cour, Son Honneur Sie-A-Nyene Gyapay Yuoh, a réaffirmé la décision rendue le 6 décembre 2024, qualifiant la tentative de destitution de Koffa d'ultra vires, c'est-à-dire effectuée sans l'autorité légale requise.

Malgré cette décision, le conflit interne à la Chambre reste irrésolu. La situation s'est tendue davantage après que le président Joseph Boakai a déclaré qu'il continuerait à gouverner avec le « quorum constitutionnel», une remarque interprétée par certains juristes et membres de l'opposition comme un mépris manifeste envers la Cour suprême.

L'arrêt de la Cour a également semé la discorde au sein de l'Association du barreau libérien (LNBA), dont plusieurs membres se sont désolidarisés d'une déclaration controversée émise par son président, Me Bonor M. Varmah. Ce dernier a été la cible de critiques virulentes de la part de plusieurs avocats, qui demandent désormais qu'il soit poursuivi pour outrage à la Cour, arguant qu'il a violé les normes éthiques de la profession et terni l'image de la plus haute instance judiciaire du pays.

Dans son communiqué, Me Varmah exprimait son désaccord avec la décision de la Cour, la qualifiant de « précédent dangereux » susceptible d'éroder la confiance du public dans la gouvernance nationale et de paralyser le fonctionnement des institutions. Il lui est reproché d'avoir publié ce texte sans l'aval des autres membres de l'exécutif de l'Association, notamment les présidents des barreaux des 15 comtés.

DEBATE

Topic: Finding a resolution to the House crisis By Naneka A. Hoffman

As the leadership impasse lingers despite ruling by the Supreme Court of Liberia, Liberians suggest ways to finding a common ground, as you may read below.



"I think the way the problem can be solved in the House is by Unity Party people dropping their ego. To be honest, they supported President Joseph Boakai to come to power democratically. Joseph Boakai won the election and he took office, but they continue to support all the wrongs. "Fonati Koffa is the Speaker. They still want to pretend like they have extra law in the Constitution. The best way this can be solved is for the government to accept the fact that the Supreme Court has ruled and they are the final saying. Until they can do that, it cannot be resolved by any other means."

"The problem is we have heard from

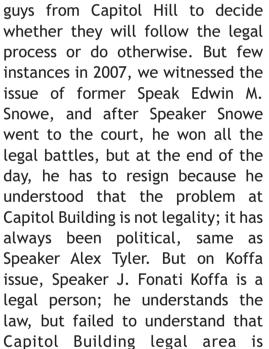
the Supreme Court. The legal aspect

has been done and it's left with the

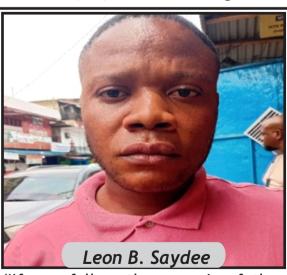
them supporting the negative steps of the government. You and I know that it is not good for Mr. Boakai himself. Six months now, there is crisis in the House of Representatives for the Speakership that cannot be resolved. A problem that yourself caused, and you satisfied with it. The Supreme Court has come out with ruling, but the Unity Party people don't want to agree that J. Fonati Koffa is the Speaker. They still want to pretend like they have extra law in the Constitution. The best way this can be solved is for the government to accept the fact that the Supreme Court has ruled and they are the final saying. Until they can do that, it cannot be resolved by any other means."



esteem for the way he governs himself in the law of the country and I hold Richard Nagbe Koon in highest esteem, as well. The truth is the fight on Capitol Hill cannot be resolved legally. I believe that the problem in the House isn't legal, it is political, and so I think it can only be solved politically."

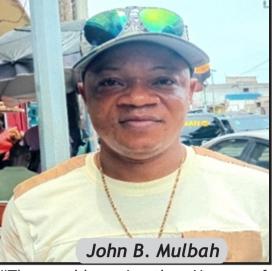


restrictive; so, I hold him in highest



"If you follow the genesis of the entire process the 55th Legislature, you soon get to know that all of the activities are based on politics, not rule of law. For the fact that Speaker J. Fonati Koffa was able to point out few provisions in the Constitution that clearly speaks the fact, I Leon Saydee also spoke of

constitutional provisions that clearly says where the right lies, but what we are seeing is deep and pure politics. So, how can we resolve this problem between J. Fonati Koffa and Richard Nagbe Koon? It is political because the House is built around politics that is the ground of politics. So, this identical issue can only be solved through politics and I think Richard Nagbe Koon is taken the trend of politics backed by the executive. Like the President said, we will not hold this country hostage. We will work with the quorum, but I think it needs to be resolved through politics."

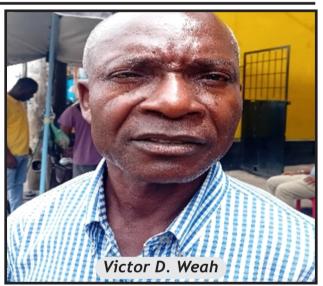


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"The problem in the House of Representatives can be solved by law, because the place is a place of law. They are the ones that make the law; they should follow the law; they make the law; they should be the ones to

live by the law. You cannot make the law and violate the law. When the common man violates the law, how will it be? The Supreme Court court granted Speaker J. Fonati Koffa the right. Now, his colleagues are saying they cannot sit under his gavel, because they have lost trust in him. What we expect him to do when the Supreme Court granted him the right, immediately he supposed to resign. That could have been the best thing for Koffa to do to save his face for tomorrow. As long Koffa does not resign, the problem will not be solved. It will continue because that place is a place of politics."

"The problem in the House can be solved first by law and this law can be exercised by the executive branch of government. When the Supreme Court came down with the ruling that they still recognize J. Fonati Koffa as the constitutional Speaker of the House of Representatives, it is banning on the executive to go with that decision; not for the President of Liberia to pick and say I will work with quorum. The Supreme Court didn't talk about quorum or who you should work with. It is the duty of the President to instruct the Ministry of Justice that everything Richard Nagbe Koon is enjoying as speaker, be taken away from him and given back to J. Fonati Koffa, as the legal Speaker; then you are adhering to the rule of law, and then you want for the country to be



stable. But because the President decided to choose side, which has to do with Richard Nagbe Koon, he brought about quorum, that is a clever way of interpreting the Supreme Court decision by disrespecting the Court. But they are doing what they feel like doing, and this is why the executive through the President is making this issue long. The President is the head of the country; if he wants things to remain like this, it's left with him; he got six years."



"I think the problem in the House can only be solved by law. Since the Supreme Court has ruled in favor of J. Fonati Koffa, I think the guys should abide by the Supreme Court's ruling and

forget about this whole politics

business, because those guys were voted by the Constitution and the law, so why they don't want to go by the law? We agreed that the House is a political ground, but we shouldn't mind that and violent the constitution or ignore the law, because they were voted based on the Constitution and law, so President Boakai should see reason and re-instate Koffa as Speaker and forget about this politics business. It is not helping us, the Liberian people and the country; it is just making things difficult for us, the common people."

choes of 2021 resurface PUL slams EPS boss

The Inter-Ministerial Concession Committee is expected to remove AML from a project it meet today, to take another vote on its decision to award Arcelor Mittal as the operator of Yekepa-Buchanan railway. The decision follows an alleged last-minute intervention by Minister of State and Presidential Affairs Sylvester Grisby.

onrovia, May 6, 2025: that shortly after this initial decision to do so.

Sources say Grisby is communication, HPX's lobby to overturn the Liberia CEO, Brownly Brown, decision to make Arcelor arrived in Monrovia and was Mittal Liberia the operator of escorted by Minister Grigsby the railway, despite the IMCC to President Joseph Boakai's private residence in Bomi This move has stirred up County, where the president tension within Liberia's had gone for rest over the



HPX lobby.

Ministerial Concessions corridor. Committee (IMCC), formally The National Investment

investor confidence. "The IMCC has decided to companies including HPX. stability is critical to framework. uncertainty in the near term. investment, is now However, sources alleged aggressively pushing to

investment and governance weekend. There, Grigsby and circles amid allegations that Brown reportedly lobbied the Minister Grigsby leading the president to cancel the IMCC's decision and reopen On May 1, 2025, Jeff Blibo, discussions around HPX's Chairman of the Inter-desire to control the rail

communicated to Bronwyn Commission (NIC) and the Barnes, President & CEO of IMCC had both stressed that Ivanhoe Atlantic Inc., that keeping AML as the rail the government had resolved operator was based on sound to maintain AML as the economic reasoning. With operator of the rail. In a Liberia already facing severe letter seen by FrontPage fiscal constraints, officials Africa, the IMCC said its argue it would be unwise for decision-taken unanimously the government to finance a during its April 30 new rail operator when AML is meeting—was aimed at offering to maintain the rail, preserving legal stability and allow multi-user access, and charge no usage fees to other

consider ArcelorMittal HPX, through its subsidiary Liberia (AML) as the Rail Ivanhoe Liberia, has not Operator of the existing invested in the rail but Yekepa-Buchanan railway," intends to use it to transport Blibo wrote, citing the iron ore from Guinea to the government's determination Port of Buchanan. Yet the to avoid a potentially lengthy company has continued to funds. That progress now and disruptive legal process push for exclusive stands at risk. that could arise from altering operational control, despite AML's operational rights as AML's legal rights under its defined under its current MDA and its offer to Mineral Development accommodate other users Agreement (MDA). "Ensuring through a regulated

maintaining investor What's raising further confidence and avoiding concern is Grigsby's alleged delays that could affect disclosure of sensitive potential users of the negotiation details to HPX, infrastructure," the letter bypassing formal government added.Blibo emphasized that channels. Inside the AML has already made Executive Mansion, substantial investments in frustrations are mounting maintaining and upgrading particularly among officials the railway and is currently who are angry that HPX, operating it. Disrupting that having failed to deliver on its structure, he warned, could previously announced \$5 create operational billion Liberty Corridor

hasn't invested in.

The Liberty Corridor was

envisioned as a massive regional infrastructure initiative led by HPX and South Africa's Guma Africa Group, including a new railway from Guinea's Nimba region to a port in Didia, Liberia, along with road, power, and telecom upgrades. But over the past year, Guma Africa has quietly withdrawn from the venture, reportedly realizing that HPX was focused solely on gaining access to Liberia's existing rail corridor, rather than building new infrastructure. Sources also reveal that HPX failed to mobilize its share of funding, which was reportedly tied to a U.S. government fund meant to counter Chinese influence in Africa a fund that was later blocked by U.S. Senate Republicans.

Industry actors now fear that Grigsby's actions could derail a vital phase of Liberia's economic recovery. Many warn that undermining the amended AML agreement already in advanced stages could repeat the costly mistakes of 2021, when HPX's lobbying led to the collapse of an \$800 million investment deal under the George Weah administration.

At that time, AML's expansion proposal was stalled amid interference and misinformation, leading to the loss of thousands of jobs, delayed infrastructure upgrades, and millions in missed revenue and social development funding.

Today, AML has returned with an even more inclusive offer: allowing open access to the rail while investing further in infrastructure, committing to 3,000 jobs, \$200 million in annual revenue to the government, and tripling county social development

"This is not about AML versus HPX. It's about who is actually ready to build Liberia now taxpayers," said one IMCC member who requested anonymity. "AML has built the the commitment. And we are at risk of losing it all again."

As the IMCC prepares for a follow-up meeting on Tuesday, observers are watching closely to see whether President Boakai will stand by his administration's earlier resolution or whether Liberia is on track for a repeat of 2021's costly political gamble.

The Press Union of Liberia has kicked against threat by the Director of the Executive Protection Service (EPS) to withdraw protection from public officials, who advocate for political insurrection against the government.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Court's decision.

onrovia, Liberia, May 6, Amid mounting political tension, 2025 - The Press Union of PUL President Julius Kullie Liberia (PUL) strongly Kanubah, speaking at the 32nd criticizes recent threat by the World Press Freedom Day Director of the Executive celebration held at Monrovia Protection Service (EPS) Sam City Hall, described the EPS boss' Gave, to withdraw security statement as a violation of protection from public officials constitutional rights, he accused of advocating for particularly the freedom of "political insurrection" and speech and political expression. actions that threaten the peace "The government must respect the views of political actors," of Liberia.

Director Gaye recently warned Kanubah said. "Freedom of that any VIP under EPS expression is a democratic right protection who engages in calls that must be upheld, not for insurrection, rebellion, or silenced through intimidation or violent protest against the threats." Government of Liberia would He added that it is the duty of have their security detail the government, including the removed. Though he did not EPS, to create a safe and name any specific individuals, inclusive environment where all his comments have drawn citizens, regardless of political considerable public and political affiliation, can freely express their views. attention.

The warning came in the wake of Kanubah also denounced public remarks by former Vice growing trend of attacks on President Jewel Howard-Taylor, journalists in Liberia, vowing political leader of the National that the Union will take legal Patriotic Party (NPP). Madam action against any individual or



Taylor and other political figures group found guilty of abusing or here had warned that the assaulting media professionals. administration of President "Freedom of the press does not Joseph Nyuma Boakai would mean journalists should act face "chaos" if he continues to irresponsibly," he noted. disregard the rule of law. "However, this freedom must be Her statement followed a protected. Any infringement Supreme Court ruling that upon that right will not go favored Speaker J. Fonati Koffa unchallenged."

and without burdening in an amended Bill of Kanubah's remarks have further Information, reaffirming him as ignited debate over the balance the legitimate Speaker of the between national security and 55th Legislature. individual rights, as Liberia

infrastructure. They've made | However, President Boakai continues to navigate postresponded by saying his election political tensions amid government would operate calls for stronger democratic based on "quorum" in the institutions. Editing by Jonathan House, seemingly ignoring the Browne





iberian launches waste to energy project

Green Guard and AVC Launch Liberia's Landmark Waste-to-Energy Project Carbon Capture and Clean Power.

By Edwin N Khakie

TOWNSHIP, LIBERIA Solution Incorporated, in partnership with Philippines-based Alterna

The event was attended by ROZERVILLE high-ranking government officials, local leaders. →—Green Guard Eco executives from Green Guard and AVC, and international environmental representatives. The project

Eco Solution Incorporated. "We are proud to collaborate with Alterna Verde to bring cutting-edge carbon capture and energy recovery technology to West Africa."

Dr. Nervy C. Santiago, representing AVC, echoed this vision. "This partnership reflects our shared commitment to a cleaner, more resilient future. By transforming waste into a resource, we address climate change while driving economic growth."

Delivering the keynote address on behalf of Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung, Mr. Prince Menkalo Gbieu, Chief of Staff at the Office of the Vice President, hailed the project as a national milestone.

"Today marks a crucial step toward a cleaner, sustainable Liberia. This initiative aligns with President Joseph Nyuma Boakai's ARREST Agenda, focusing on sustainable resource management and environmental protection," he said.Mr. Gbieu highlighted the urgent need for effective

CONT'D ON PAGE 11



It's Raining Rewards.

Dial *156#

to transact and win.



SYSTEM COMPONENT: PODS #1 ased Osmotic Degradation System PODS swhere the Warle pel Solid Waste N'SWI or ing from the different tower, will be placed by will program only digest the organic fraction of th SW while horsesing it emethane gas and less that WWW.GREENGUARDECO.COM Verde Cooperation (AVC),

has launched the Liberia Resource Recovery Carbon Capture Waste-to-Energy Project.

The ceremony, held on May 5 in Crozerville Township, Montserrado County, marks Liberia's first major effort to convert waste into

is expected to tackle Liberia's growing waste challenges and supply renewable electricity to the national grid.

"This project is more than a waste management solution—it's a beacon of sustainable development for Liberia," said Mr. Edward W.



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