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DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025	L\$198.1603/US\$1.00	L\$201.0470/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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# Speaker Koffa to resign today!

# Nagbe calls for investigation

**-Into Cletus Noah's death**



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# Continental News

## Burundi: Official launch of campaign season ahead of june 2025 legislative and local elections

The Republic of Burundi officially launched its 2025 election campaign season on Friday, May 9, with a symbolic ceremony in Gitega, the country's political capital. The event marked the formal beginning of the pre-campaign period for the legislative and communal elections scheduled for June 5, and was attended by political party representatives, candidates, and President Évariste Ndayishimiye. Held at the Ingoma Stadium, thousands of candidates dressed in their party colors paraded before the head of state in what

many observers described as a historic democratic milestone. "This is a first in Burundi's democratic history," said Jean De Dieu Mutabazi, president of the RADEBU party, who expressed optimism about the peaceful unfolding of the electoral process. "It's a very symbolic event," said Mutabazi, "showing progress in our democratic culture and reducing political animosity between rivals." President Ndayishimiye urged neutrality from public administrators and encouraged all candidates to campaign peacefully and within the bounds

of the law.

"Let administrative officials remain neutral so that those campaigning can do so in compliance with national laws," he declared.

Despite the celebratory tone, opposition voices raised concerns over alleged political intolerance on the ground. Speaking on behalf of the opposition, Nestor Girukwishaka, president of the CNL (National Congress for Freedom), condemned ongoing intimidation of his party members.

"In some areas, ruling party officials and local administrators don't tolerate the presence of opposition parties," said Girukwishaka. "Our activists are harassed, beaten, and even forced to join the ruling party."

According to the electoral calendar released by CENI (the National Independent Electoral Commission), the official campaign for legislative and communal elections begins on May 13. This year's electoral cycle includes three major votes: legislative and communal elections on June 5, senatorial elections on July 23, and neighborhood and hill chief elections on August 25.



## Uganda elections: Bobi Wine to run for president again

Ugandan opposition leader and pop star Bobi Wine has announced he will run for president again in the upcoming 2026 elections, scheduled for January. The 43-year-old whose real name is Robert Kyagulanyi, will challenge long-serving President Yoweri Museveni, who is expected to seek re-election at 80. Wine previously ran in 2021,

coming second, but rejected the results, alleging widespread fraud, ballot stuffing, and violence against his supporters. Government officials have denied the allegations. In his announcement, Wine emphasized that the election would be a "fighting opportunity" to expose what he calls the regime's corruption and injustices, and to galvanize Ugandans to

stand up for their freedom. He also sharply criticized Western governments for not speaking out against human rights abuses in Uganda, including the torture and illegal detention of his supporters.

If elected, Wine says his top priorities will include restoring political freedoms, cracking down on corruption, and addressing the regime's abuses of power.



Bobi Wine, left, and Barbie Kyagulanyi arrive at the Oscars on Sunday, March 10, 2024, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

## Mali's military government suspends all political activities

Mali's military government has suspended all political activities across the country "until further notice".

The decree signed on Wednesday by transitional president, General Assimi Goita, cited "reasons of public order" and applies to both parties and organisations.

It was issued a few days after a rare pro-democracy rally and ahead of a planned protest on Friday against the junta which has ruled the country since coups in 2020 and 2021.

Hundreds of activists last weekend defied government threats and demonstrated in the capital, Bamako, against a bill recommending the dissolution of all political parties.

"I'm not surprised, I expected this because this is their way of

preventing us from carrying out our government activities, but we will continue to defend democracy in Mali," said one of its leaders, Cheick Oumar Doumbia.

Civil society figures, political parties, and labour leaders have called for "a rapid and credible return to constitutional order through the organisation of transparent, inclusive, and peaceful elections.

The junta originally committed to holding elections in February 2022, but that timeline has been pushed back several times.

This is not the first time the military government has suspended the activities of political parties on the eve of important decisions.

In April 2024, it announced a suspension ahead of an "inter-Malian dialogue" that called for the transition period to be extended from two to five years.



Assimi Goita takes part in a military parade, 22 September 2022

## Somali president focuses on reforms, not re-election for now

Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud says he has not yet decided whether he will run for re-election in 2026. Speaking to Kenya's Nation Media Group, he emphasized that his priority right now is improving national security, boosting the economy, and ensuring Somalia's first direct elections in decades. Since returning to office in 2022, Mohamud points to progress in Mogadishu's security and economic growth. His government plans local elections for June 2025 and national

elections by September, aiming to move away from Somalia's traditional clan-based voting system.

However, opposition figures, including leaders from Puntland and Jubbaland, have raised concerns about the election timeline and potential constitutional breaches. Despite these tensions, Mohamud says he remains focused on national reforms and will decide on a potential third-term bid closer to election time.



President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud



EDITORIAL

National Bar and Supreme Court must ceasefire

A 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 55<sup>th</sup> 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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+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan K. Browne  
www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

COMMENTARY

Trump's Misguided Plan to Weaken the Dollar

by Kenneth Rogoff

CAMBRIDGE – Now that US President Donald Trump's tariff war is in full swing, investors around the world are asking: What's next on his agenda for upending the global economic order? Many are turning their attention to the so-called “Mar-a-Lago Accord” – a plan proposed by Stephen Miran, chair of Trump's Council of Economic Advisers, to coordinate with America's trading partners to weaken the dollar.

At the heart of the plan is the notion that the dollar's status as the world's reserve currency is not a privilege but a costly burden that has played a major role in the deindustrialization of the American economy. The global demand for dollars, the argument goes, drives up its value, making US-made goods more expensive than imports. That, in turn, leads to persistent trade deficits and incentivizes US manufacturers to move production overseas, taking jobs with them.

Is there any truth to this narrative? The answer is both yes and no. It's certainly plausible that foreign investors eager to hold US stocks, bonds, and real estate could generate a steady flow of capital into the United States, fueling domestic consumption and boosting demand for both tradable goods like cars and non-tradables such as real estate and restaurants. Higher demand for non-tradable goods, in particular, tends to push up the dollar's value, making imports more attractive to American consumers, just as Miran suggests.

But this logic also overlooks crucial details. While the dollar's reserve-currency status drives up demand for Treasuries, it does not necessarily increase demand for all US assets. Asian central banks, for example, hold trillions of dollars in Treasury bills, which they use to help stabilize their exchange rates and maintain a financial buffer in the event of a crisis. They generally avoid other types of US assets, such as equities and real estate, since these do not serve the same policy objectives.

This means that if foreign countries simply need to accumulate Treasury bills, they don't have to run trade surpluses to obtain them. The necessary funds can also be raised by selling existing foreign assets such as stocks, real estate, and factories.

That is precisely what happened in the 1960s through the mid-1970s. By then, the dollar had firmly established itself as the global reserve currency, yet the US was almost always running a current-account surplus – not a deficit. Foreign investors were accumulating US Treasuries, while American firms expanded abroad by acquiring foreign production facilities, either through direct purchases or “greenfield” investments, in which they built factories from the ground up.

The postwar era was hardly the only time when the country issuing the world's reserve currency ran a current-account surplus. The British pound was the undisputed global reserve currency from the end of the Napoleonic Wars in the early 1800s until the outbreak of World War I in 1914. Throughout that period, the United Kingdom generally ran external surpluses, bolstered by high returns on investments across its colonial empire.

There is another way to interpret the US current-account deficit that helps explain why the relationship between the exchange rate and trade imbalances is more complicated than Miran's theory suggests. In accounting terms, a country's current-account surplus equals the difference between national savings and investment by both the government and the private sector. Importantly, “investment” here refers to physical assets such as factories, housing, infrastructure, and equipment – not financial instruments.

When viewed through this lens, it is clear that the current-account deficit is influenced not just by the exchange rate but by anything that affects the balance between national saving and investment. In 2024, the US fiscal deficit was 6.4% of GDP, significantly larger than the current-account deficit, which was under 4% of GDP.

While closing the fiscal deficit would not automatically eliminate the current-account deficit – that would depend on how the gap is closed and how the private sector responds – it is a far more straightforward fix than launching a trade war. Reducing the fiscal deficit would, however, involve the difficult political task of convincing Congress to pass more responsible tax and spending bills. And unlike a high-profile trade confrontation, it wouldn't cause foreign leaders to curry favor with Trump; instead, it would shift media attention back to domestic politics and congressional negotiations.

Another key factor behind the current-account deficit is the strength of the American economy, which has been by far the most dynamic among the world's major players in recent years. This has made US businesses particularly attractive to investors. Even manufacturing has grown as a share of GDP. The reason employment has not kept pace is that modern factories are highly automated.

Miran's plan, clever as it might be, is based on a flawed diagnosis. While the dollar's role as the world's leading reserve currency plays a part, it is just one of many factors contributing to America's persistent trade deficits. And if the trade deficit has many causes, the idea that tariffs can be a cure-all is dubious at best.

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# Invitation for Bids [IFB]

## Forestry Development Authority/TSF Project

**IFB Number:** LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/002/2024 & LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/004/2024

**Purchaser:** Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

**Project:** Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in Secondary Wood Processing Industry\_ Phase II

**Contract title:** "Provision of Three (3) Kiln Dryers for each of the Three (3) Share Facility Centers" & “Provision of eleven (11) solar kiln dryers for each of the eleven association”

**Country:** Liberia

**Grant No.:** 5900155018403

**Procurement Method:** Open Competitive Bidding National (OCBN)

**OCBN No:** LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/002/2024 & LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/004/2024

**Issued on:** May 6, 2025

1. The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority (FDA) has received financing from the African Development Bank Group hereinafter called the Bank toward the cost of the Scaling up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry\_ Phase II, and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for the **"Provision of Three (3) Solar Kiln Dryers for each of the Three (3) Share Facility Centers" & “Provision of eleven (11) Solar Kiln Dryers for each of the Eleven (11) Association”**. “For this contract, the Borrower shall process the payments using the Direct Payment disbursement method, as defined in the Bank’s Disbursement Guidelines and procedures for Investment Project Financing.
2. The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for supply of **Solar Kiln Dryer**

Lot No. 1	Description	Quantity
i	Solar Kiln Dryer	7 Units
ii	Solar Kiln Dryer	7 Units

3. Bidding will be conducted through the Open Competitive Bidding National, (OCB-N) method as specified in the Bank’s Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded operations<sup>2</sup> dated October, 2015, and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Framework.
4. The bidding document in English may be collected by interested eligible Bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address below
5. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before **1:00 PM, June 3, 2025**. Electronic Bidding will not be permitted. Late Bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the Bidders’ designated representatives and anyone who chooses to attend at the address below
6. All Bids must be accompanied by a **“Bid-Securing Declaration”**.
7. Attention is drawn to the Procurement Framework requiring the Borrower to disclose information on the successful bidder’s beneficial ownership, as part of the Contract Award Notice, using the Beneficial Ownership Disclosure Form as included in the bidding document.
8. For any further clarification, please contact:  
Attn. Project Coordinator  
Project Implementation Unit  
Forestry Development Authority  
Whein Town, Bernard Farm  
Montserrado County  
Liberia
- Email Address: [emmanuellewis965@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuellewis965@gmail.com)  
0775-841-431/0886-570-320
- Link for Clarification:  
Email Address: [wynnbryant12@gmail.com](mailto:wynnbryant12@gmail.com)  
0776-063-643/0886-551-249

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- Link for Clarification:  
Email Address: [wynnbryant12@gmail.com](mailto:wynnbryant12@gmail.com)  
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MANO RIVER UNION  
UNION DU FLEUVE MANO

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST  
A CONSULTING FIRM TO TRAIN AND EQUIP WOMEN WHO ARE INVOLVED IN CROSS-BORDER TRADE IN THE THREE VALUE CHAINS IN THE TWO PROJECT COMMUNITIES AS A WAY OF STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR INCREASED BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND SUBSEQUENTLY, IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS

COUNTRIES: Sierra Leone and Liberia

Sector: Gender Equality  
Mode of Financing: Grant  
Project ID: P-Z1-ID0-009  
Grant No: 5900155016801  
Issued Date: 7 May 2025

The Mano River Union Secretariat has received a grant from the African Development Fund to implement the project to Build Inclusive Business Ecosystems for Stabilization and Transformation (BI-BEST) in the Mano River Union (MRU) and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for the recruitment of a consultant to train and equip women who are involved in cross-border trade in the three value chains in the two project communities as a way of strengthening capacity for increased business performance and subsequently, improved livelihoods.

The particular services required from the Consulting Firms under the assignment include, but not limited:

- Develop skills of WCBTs through training and mentorship/peer-to-peer support;
- Train WCBTs on cooperative development to strength their networks and associations;
- Improve access to finance through market facilitation with Banks and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs).

The assignment will be undertaken twelve (12) months.



The Mano River Union Secretariat is therefore inviting public and private entities, civil society organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), International Organizations, associations, foundations or any structure with a legal mandate to operate in both Sierra Leone and Liberia, and with required expertise in developing and providing entrepreneurship development support to women entrepreneurs and cross border traders using a sectoral approach to express their interest. The Mano River Union Secretariat requires that interested Consulting Firms shall provide information on their qualifications and experience (cover letter, supporting documents referencing similar services and showing demonstrated experience in similar assignments, etc.) to undertake this Assignment.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s “Procurement Policy and Methodology for Bank Group funded Operations” (BPM), dated 2015, which is available on the Bank’s website at <http://www.afdb.org>. MRU is under no obligation to shortlist any consultant who expresses interest.

Interested Consulting Firms may query or obtain further information from the Procurement Specialist email address: [kensah@mru.int](mailto:kensah@mru.int) during the Office’s working hours between 09:00 to 17:00 hours GMT.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the email address [procurement@mru.int](mailto:procurement@mru.int) by June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 2:30pm Sierra Leone time and mention “CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE WOMEN CROSS-BORDER”

Attention:  
Mano River Union Secretariat  
32 S Spur Loop, Wilberforce, Freetown  
Republic of Sierra Leone  
Tel: +23276964965  
E-mail : [procurement@mru.int](mailto:procurement@mru.int)



Republic of Liberia  
LIBERIA AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Request for Expression of Interest (REOI)  
for Transaction Advisory Services for Airport Development  
through Public-Private Partnership (PPP)

1. INTRODUCTION

The Liberia Aviation Authority (LAA) invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from qualified Transaction Advisors to provide advisory services for the development and expansion of the Roberts International Airport (RIA) through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangement.

2. PROJECT OVERVIEW

The RIA is a key infrastructure asset in Liberia, serving as the primary international airport. The LAA intends to develop and expand the airport to enhance its capacity, efficiency, and passenger experience. The project will involve upgrading airport infrastructure, expanding terminal buildings, and implementing modern airport management systems.

3. SCOPE OF SERVICES

The scope of work is divided into three phases to be executed intermittently, namely:

Phase I: Project Structuring

- Review the available airport master plan and develop a PPP project structure, including risk allocation and revenue models
- Conduct financial modeling and valuation of the project
- Conduct market sounding to gauge interest from potential bidders

Phase II: Develop Transaction Documents

- Prepare and submit Request for Proposals (RFP) and Bid documents to the client, and
- Support the client in managing the bidding process, including responding to bidder queries and conducting pre-bid meetings
- Prepare PPP agreement, Concession agreement, and other project agreements
- Ensure compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and international best practices, and
- Participate in carrying out the due diligence process

Phase III: Negotiation and Financial Closure

- Support the client with negotiating key terms of the PPP agreement with the selected bidder, and
- Ensure successful financial closure of the Project

4. REQUIREMENTS

- Proven experience in advising on PPP transactions in the aviation sector
- Strong understanding of PPP structures, risk allocation, and financial modeling
- Ability to manage complex transactions and negotiate with stakeholders
- Experience in working with governments and private sector entities

5. EOI SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested Transaction Advisors should submit their EOIs, including:

- Company profile and relevant experience
- Description of the proposed approach and methodology
- Team composition and key personnel profiles
- Relevant project experience and case studies

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

EOIs will be evaluated based on:

- Relevant experience and expertise
- Understanding of the project and proposed approach
- Team composition and qualifications
- Relevant project experience and case studies

7. SUBMISSION DEADLINE

EOIs should be submitted by **June 12, 2025** to:

Mr. Jero H. Mends-Cole  
Managing Director  
Roberts International Airport, Harbel, Liberia  
Email: [jero.mendscole@robairport.com](mailto:jero.mendscole@robairport.com)  
Telephone: +231 (0)770 555 009

Electronic submission is acceptable to:  
[jero.mendscole@robairport.com](mailto:jero.mendscole@robairport.com)  
and  
[iblibo@investliberia.gov.lr](mailto:iblibo@investliberia.gov.lr)

8. NEXT STEPS

The Shortlisted Transaction Advisors will be invited to submit detailed proposals, including a financial proposal and a detailed methodology.

Roberts International Airport, Harbel, Liberia  
James Springgs Payne Airfield Monrovia, Liberia  
Telephone: +231 (0)770 555 009 Email: [jero.mendscole@robairport.com](mailto:jero.mendscole@robairport.com)



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

### South-Eastern Alliance Damns Morlu and Jackson

*Liberian political advocate Mulbah Morlu and others have been criticized for calling for nationwide protest against the government.*

Monrovia, Liberia, May 12, 2025 - A Liberian group, South-Eastern Alliance of Liberia (SEAL) condemns recent remarks and actions by the head of STAND, Mulbah Morlu, Attorney Isaac Jackson, and other former officials of the past administration, accusing them of attempting to destabilize Liberia through misinformation and political agitation. SEAL expresses particular concern over call by Mulbah Morlu, also former Chairman of the Ex-ruling Coalition for Democratic Change (CDC) for

Liberians to gather on July 17, 2025 to protest. The group criticizes the call as a veiled attempt to incite unrest and undermine national progress. SEAL points to Morlu's controversial past, referencing recordings in which he made damning allegations against former President George Weah. They questions his credibility and moral standing, noting that: "The last time we checked, Mr. Morlu fabricated a story about meeting former U.S. President Barack Obama during his

*By Stephen G. Fellajuah*  
inauguration—a blatant lie that highlights his long record of dishonesty."

The group also recalls how Morlu previously accused former President Weah of inappropriate behavior toward female staffers before dismissing those claims as "liquor talk," further portraying him as erratic and manipulative.

Turning to Attorney Isaac Jackson, SEAL describes him as a political opportunist with a record of betrayal. They accused him of disrespecting the late Cllr. Charles Walker Brumskine in pursuit of favor from former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. "Mr. Jackson has a long history of badmouthing his benefactors to secure jobs," SEAL stated. "No serious national discourse should give him an inch of credibility. He is a bad influence on this generation and a disservice to the values of public leadership."

SEAL applauds the Boakai-Koung administration for making steady progress in governance and national development, specifically in education, healthcare, and infrastructure.

"We will not remain silent while those who once suppressed and marginalized the Liberian people attempt to rewrite history and



Mulbah Morlu

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 7

### Boakai is impatient with delay

*-Says Finance Minister Ngafuan* *By Lincoln G. Peters*  
Cabinet ministers and Liberia's development partners are being urged to roll up their sleeves to deliver development to the people.

Monrovia, Liberia, May 12, 2025 - Finance and Development Planning Minister, Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan, says President Joseph N. Boakai is impatient with delay. And so, we are his Lieutenants; we have been with delay, while urging given the marching orders. International Development Partners and government officials to roll-up their sleeve to fast track implementation of infrastructure and developmental projects across the country.

Speaking in an interview over the weekend on progress made by the government and providing update on the recently concluded Spring Meeting held in Washington DC, Minister Ngafuan said overall progress of the government is good but they are much more concern of moving faster with development.

According to him, they are unlocking all of impairments to implementation of donors' projects across the country, assuring Liberians that they are instituting policy actions



Minister Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan

Ministries and Agencies. Some of the problems of delay come from the donors themselves. So, we coordinate donors engagement to where it's a problem from the donors, we are telling them precisely that they must move faster. And so, this whole issue about moving faster is not only for government alone. It's also for the partners. They know that and I have been clear with them", he explained.

He assured Liberians of faster delivery based on what they are doing therefore, Liberia's infrastructure development, energy, health and educational plans will move with speed, adding that the government has identified all of the bottlenecks and they are making counterpart funding available for road construction.

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### QNET explores Liberia, unveils innovative products

*QNET-Liberia unveils lifestyle and wellness products to the Liberian market.*

*By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh*  
Monrovia, Liberia, May 12, 2025 - QNET, a global lifestyle and wellness brand has unveiled a range of innovative products here during its EXPO at the Executive Pavilion in Monrovia.

The Expo was aimed at addressing misconceptions about the QNET brand and its operations across the country. The global company, partnering with English Football Club, Manchester City, has been largely criticized here through distributors in money extortion and travels scams.

But addressing an unveiling ceremony of QNET Products Amezcua, Chi Pendant 4, E-Expo, Cheriff Abdoulaye, Deputy Regional General Manager for sub-Saharan Africa, acknowledged misuse of Chi Pendant 4, which boosts the

misusing the QNET name to commit fraud or promising fake jobs and travel opportunities.

He said to combat these acts, the company has launched "QNET Against Scams" campaign across several African markets and intends to extend it to Liberia soon.

"QNET is a classic Brand, We are not traveling agency, and do not provide jobs, our operations is selling unique products through directly to enhance your health, well-being, and lifestyle", he added.

For his part, Bernie Gaksch, QNET's Global Product Trainer, unveiled several standout

products, including QNET's Amezcua, Chi Pendant 4, E-Guard, Bio Disc, and Bio Light.

Mr. Gaksch, provided the public a clear explanation of the Amezcua



the QNET brand, which he said deeply troubles the company. "QNET is not an employment

agency; we are not a traveling firm, nor we encourage illegal immigration; never, and this idea, of some unscrupulous persons using our brand to carry out fraudulent acts is against our institution, and we must fight to erase this misconception, Abdoulaye said.

He was quick to kick against rampant misrepresentation and scam activities falsely linked to the company.

"QNET does not engage in Ponzi schemes or illegal gatherings, what we do is activity to QNET's compliance networking, and sale of innovative products to human.

Our business empowers individuals to pursue their dreams while promoting wellness. Millions have benefited from our platform in lifestyle, and education through a direct-selling model powered by Mr. Abdoulaye lamented that the company is deeply concern about reports of individuals

human body against radiation, enhance human focus and reduce stress.

He emphasized that these products, including the E-Guard, significantly act against stress, tiredness and shield harmful effects of technology, especially the new 5G internet.

At the same time, Mr. Gaksch, highlighted the importance of QNET products, asserting that its impacts are crucial for boosting human productivity.

He too, frowned against negative branding of the company's image, urging the public to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to QNET's compliance WhatsApp hotline +233 256 630 005.

Founded 26 years ago, QNET operates in more than 25 countries, offering life-enhancing products for health, wellness, lifestyle, and education through a direct-selling model powered by e-commerce.

*Editing by Jonathan Browne*



## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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### South-Eastern Alliance Damns Morlu and Jackson

regain influence through misinformation and unrest,” it says, and notes “They imposed hardship, reduced salaries, and promoted partisanship over competence. These are not champions of the people—they are the architects of past suffering.” In a statement issued over the weekend, SEAL urges all well-meaning Liberians to reject the

planned protest and instead, support the current government's efforts to promote peace, economic stability, and national development. “Liberia is on the path to recovery,” the group affirms. “President Boakai remains committed to rebuilding the nation with transparency, justice, and opportunity for all.” *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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### Boakai is impatient with delay

Providing update on the Spring meeting, and other bilateral meetings with international developmental institutions, especially the World Bank, Minister Ngafuan said he is seeing progress for Liberia that he said, indicates that today will be better than yesterday, which will open doors for better infrastructure, energy and water and sanitation.

"We will make great progress. In June or July this year, we will be dedicating the new Redemption Hospital in Upper Caldwell. Also, beginning September, the Ministry of Education through one of the World Bank projects, will start construction for more than one hundred elementary schools across the country, to improve foundational learning. Implementations will happen from all fronts to make Liberia better. I am upbeat, the country is making progress" Minister Ngafuan disclosed.

He said partners usually prioritize the Resettlement Action Plan, and more often than that, the World Bank and other partners don't fund such, which makes it the government responsibility to provide financial settlement for those citizens.

The Finance boss continued that due to some of the many streams attached to some donor projects and government's inability to meet up with its

counterpart funding obligations, caused some projects to delay for up to eight years.

He warned that in negotiating a project, care should be taken regarding conditions to agree upon, because some negotiators may not understand full implications because it may have wider implications for those who are not in the room.

"So, going forward, what we are doing now, we are bringing everyone and very careful that all project that we are discussing with partners, we are clear on the conditions because the effectiveness condition, disbursement condition must be things that we all know are fair and proper and we must implement. We don't want project to stall."

He noted that reasons why projects delay is because sometimes governments, not only the Liberian government, encounter financial challenges that lead to inability to finance critical financial components, noting “That is why the African Development Bank has changed that modality and now placed it in the overall financing of the Bank, to move the project faster. Sometimes, some of the government counterpart funds are in kind, not cash. And so, if that is not done, project delays.” *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

### Liberia's Cybersecurity faces weak legal framework

*- Says Cyber Specialist Victor K. Jarlwood, Jr*

*Liberia faces vulnerabilities in cybersecurity, local experts warns here.*

*By Stephen G. Fellajuah*

Monrovia, Liberia, May 12, Information Technology Cyber 2025 - In the wake of Specialist at the Ministry of Posts Liberia's groundbreaking and Telecommunications, and is success at the GISEC GLOBAL Liberia's Cybersecurity Focal Point 2025 Cybersecurity Competition, to the Economic Community of Victor K. Jarlwood, Jr., a leading West African States (ECOWAS). He



cybersecurity expert and national emphasized the urgent need for representative, has called attention reform and collaboration.

to the nation's digital vulnerabilities. “West Africa's cybersecurity space Despite recent triumph, Jarlwood is vulnerable and under threat due to warns that a weak legal framework, several factors, especially limited technical expertise, and poor insufficient security provisions, public awareness continue to expose limited technical expertise, and a Liberia and the wider West African weak legal framework,” Jarlwood region to escalating cybersecurity said. “To address these threats, governments must prioritize Jarlwood, who serves as an cybersecurity skills development.

strengthen legal structures, raise awareness, and collaborate with international partners.”

Speaking during an interview following his return from the UAE, Jarlwood expressed disappointment over Liberia's lack of robust cyber legislation, particularly in area of social media fraud. He called for immediate legal reform to protect Liberia's digital domain.

Liberia made history this year by securing a place among the top 30 global teams to participate in GISEC GLOBAL 2025, the world's largest cybersecurity, ransomware training, and Capture the Flag (CTF) competition. The event drew participation from over 160 countries and shattered 11+ Guinness World Records.

Under the leadership of Jarlwood, known in the competition as “Cyberdon”, Team Liberia earned a remarkable 10th place in the individual category. The achievement marks a significant milestone for the country's budding cybersecurity ecosystem.

“It wasn't easy competing against giants in the cybersecurity world, but we stood our ground,” said Jarlwood. “This event not only united the global cyber community but also put Liberia on the map. We are proud to be part of this history.”

This historic achievement has placed Liberia in the global spotlight and serves as a powerful call to action, to invest in cyber education, infrastructure, and innovation, ensuring the country's resilience in the face of rising digital threats.

*Editing by Jonathan Browne*

### Liberia: SOS Children's Villages wrongfully dismissed Augustine Allieu

*-National Labor Court finds*

Monrovia, Liberia, May 12, 2025: The National Labor Court in a recent judgement ruled against SOS Children Villages Liberia for wrongful dismissal and unfair labor practices meted out against its former National Director, Augustine A. Allieu.

The Court ruled the cost of the proceedings against SOS and

DNA test showed that he was not the father of the minor's child. Another DNA test done on the child of the minor found Wayne McIntosh, a former staff member at the SOS Buchanan office, to be the father of the minor's child. Wayne McIntosh was subsequently arrested and charged with statutory rape, kept in prison without trial for over a year and is now at liberty with no interest from either SOS or the Ministry of Justice



ordered it to pay Mr. Allieu his lost wages.

The case landed on the docket of the National Labor Court via a Petition for judicial review filed by SOS after the Division of Labor Standards of the Ministry of Labor found in July 2024 that SOS had wrongfully dismissed Mr. Allieu.

It can be recalled that the Ministry's ruling adjudged SOS liable and ordered it to unconditionally reinstate Mr. Allieu and to pay his lost wages in addition to all other benefits contained in his employment contract.

The National Labor Court, in its ruling, upheld the Ministry's finding that SOS Liberia had failed to implement a fair internal investigation as required by law before its final decision to dismiss Mr. Allieu.

In early 2022, Allieu found himself facing rape accusation from a minor child in the care of SOS Liberia. The female adolescent, through the SOS interim leadership, accused him of sexual involvement with her that resulted in her pregnancy.

A four-month police investigation established that the rape allegation was false. The investigation found that Mr. Allieu was not even in Liberia when the alleged rape occurred and a subsequent

in pursuing the rape charge against him.

In 2022, Augustine Allieu had accused elements within the SOS Regional Office in Dakar, Senegal, of a regime change plot for SOS Liberia against him and a plan to francophonize SOS WCNA region as he was the last English-speaking national director, which he claimed was done through audit manipulation, framing him and through fake internal investigation with cooked-up results and use of a minor to plant false rape accusation on him.

Augustine Allieu is a Sierra Leonean national, expatriate and career development professional in the international development sector in the sub-region, having served in leadership posts at several international NGOs in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Senegal. Before taking the helm at SOS Children's Villages Liberia in July 2017, he served as Head of Programme Strategy at Plan International, West and Central Africa Region. Before that, he served as Country Director at Plan International Sierra Leone and Country Director at Plan International Liberia in succession. Before that, he served as Head of Programs at the Catholic Relief Services Liberia Program.



Français

Le Dr Peter Matthew George radié pour falsification de diplômes

Le Dr Peter Matthew George, ancien Directeur médical du Centre médical Esther & Jereline à Ganta, a été révoqué de ses fonctions de Président du Conseil médical et dentaire du Libéria (LMDC). Cette décision s'accompagne de la



révocation définitive de sa licence médicale, lui interdisant à vie d'exercer la médecine ou toute activité connexe sur le territoire libérien.

Cette mesure drastique fait suite à de graves soupçons de falsification de ses qualifications médicales. Le LMDC a officialisé cette décision dans une communication datée du 21 avril 2025.

« Le Comité de certification a informé mon bureau qu'il n'a pu vérifier votre statut de médecin sur

au Libéria. En conséquence, lors de sa session du vendredi 18 avril 2025, le Comité a recommandé la révocation immédiate de votre licence », peut-on lire dans une lettre signée par la Dre Benetta Collins-Andrews, Présidente du LMDC.

Dans cette correspondance, intitulée « Révocation de votre licence d'exercice de la médecine au Libéria », le Conseil précise que le Dr George avait été invité, dès le 18 mars 2025, à soumettre ses documents de formation à la réévaluation de la Commission de certification. Faute de preuves tangibles et crédibles sur ses diplômes, le Conseil a pris la décision de le radier.

Le document souligne notamment :

Le numéro de licence 654, précédemment attribué au Dr George, est annulé et supprimé du registre officiel.

Il est strictement interdit au Dr George de pratiquer la médecine au Libéria sous peine de poursuites judiciaires.

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Scandale sexuel secoue le lycée Nathan E. Gibson après la mort suspecte d'une élève de 17 ans

L'administration du lycée Nathan E. Gibson, situé à Monrovia, a réagi aux graves accusations liées à la mort de l'élève Musu Tarpleh, 17 ans, sur fond de supposée relation amoureuse avec un enseignant de l'établissement. L'affaire, largement relayée sur les réseaux sociaux et dans les médias locaux, suscite une vive indignation au sein de l'opinion publique.

Selon Mme Sayma Konneh, mère de la défunte, sa fille était tombée malade début avril et a succombé le 26 avril 2025 à l'hôpital militaire du 14e bataillon, après avoir été admise à l'hôpital SOS où un diagnostic de lésion hépatique, possiblement causée par l'ingestion d'une substance non identifiée, avait été établi.

Mme Konneh affirme avoir découvert dans le téléphone de sa fille des échanges compromettants avec M. Stephen Jackson, enseignant en informatique, laissant présager une relation inappropriée. Dans l'un des messages, la jeune fille évoquait des douleurs abdominales. Jackson lui aurait demandé si elle était enceinte et ce qu'ils allaient faire. Musu aurait alors

répondu : « Ce sera retiré. »

« J'ai montré les messages au directeur et à quelques enseignants. Lorsque Stephen les a lus, il est sorti précipitamment de l'établissement et a disparu », a relaté Mme Konneh, soupçonnant que sa fille ait été victime d'un avortement raté, possiblement encouragé par l'enseignant.

En réponse à ces allégations, M. Momo B. Kamara, superviseur du lycée, a qualifié les informations relayées dans les médias de « trompeuses et exagérées », tout en condamnant fermement toute forme d'exploitation sexuelle, en particulier le viol sur mineur. Il a rappelé que l'affaire faisait toujours l'objet d'une enquête officielle et qu'aucune conclusion définitive ne pouvait encore être tirée.

Il a également précisé que M.

Stephen Jackson n'était pas un employé direct du lycée, mais travaillait pour une entreprise sous-traitante nommée Interband, responsable de la gestion du laboratoire informatique de l'école.

Néanmoins, M. Kamara a confirmé que l'établissement avait contribué aux frais d'obsèques de Musu Tarpleh dans le comté de Bomi et coopérait pleinement avec les autorités. Une réunion a d'ailleurs été organisée avec la famille de la défunte, la direction d'Interband, et la police du commissariat de Zone 5 à Paynesville.

L'affaire a été officiellement transférée à la police de Zone 5 pour une enquête approfondie.

Selon M. Kamara, tant le lycée



Éditorial

Les objectifs climatiques de l'Europe nécessitent un réseau électrique vert

ONDRES – L'Europe arrive à un moment charnière dans la lutte contre le changement climatique. Les phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes devenant de plus en plus fréquents à mesure que les températures continuent d'augmenter, la nécessité d'agir est indéniable. L'année dernière a été la [plus chaude](#) jamais enregistrée, et la première où le réchauffement climatique a dépassé (temporairement) le seuil de 1,5° Celsius établi par l'accord de Paris sur le climat.

En réponse, l'Union européenne a fixé des objectifs ambitieux en matière d'énergies renouvelables, afin de se sevrer des combustibles fossiles. Comme l'électrification est nécessaire pour remplacer le charbon, le pétrole et le gaz, elle constitue un pilier essentiel de la transition énergétique. Si des progrès considérables ont été accomplis dans l'augmentation de la part des énergies renouvelables dans le bouquet énergétique de l'UE, qui représentera [près de la moitié](#) de la production totale d'électricité en 2024, la demande d'électricité augmente également rapidement.

L'adoption des véhicules électriques et l'électrification des systèmes de chauffage et de refroidissement dans les bâtiments entraînent une augmentation de la demande d'électricité. En outre, les [centres de données](#) en Europe consomment actuellement environ 3 % de l'approvisionnement en électricité, mais ce chiffre devrait presque doubler d'ici à 2030, en raison de l'augmentation de la demande en matière de traitement et de stockage des données. Rien qu'en Irlande, les centres de données [consommeront 21 %](#) de l'électricité totale mesurée dans le pays en 2023, dépassant ainsi les ménages urbains (18 %). Cette augmentation de la consommation a exercé une pression énorme sur le réseau irlandais, laissant présager des défis énergétiques similaires dans toute l'Europe.

Pour atteindre les objectifs ambitieux de l'UE en matière d'énergie propre, il faut moderniser le réseau électrique vieillissant du continent, qui est mal équipé pour faire face à la croissance rapide de la demande. Le réseau électrique de l'Union européenne est le plus ancien du monde, avec une moyenne de [45 à 50 ans](#). La congestion du réseau – lorsqu'une surcharge empêche l'électricité d'atteindre le consommateur – entraîne déjà un gaspillage de l'énergie renouvelable, et des milliers de gigawatts de projets renouvelables restent [bloqués dans des files d'attente de connexion](#). En l'absence d'améliorations significatives, les ambitions de l'Europe en matière de climat resteront hors de portée.

Bien que l'UE ait mis en œuvre un [plan d'action pour les réseaux électriques](#), il ne s'agit que d'une première étape. L'Union investit actuellement [33 milliards d'euros](#) par an dans les réseaux de distribution d'électricité, mais les experts estiment que la modernisation et l'extension du réseau nécessiteront au moins [584 milliards d'euros](#) d'ici à 2030. L'Europe doit donc doubler son investissement annuel pour le porter à [67 milliards d'euros](#) dès cette année. Des fonds supplémentaires sont indispensables pour garantir que l'énergie renouvelable puisse être acheminée là où elle est le plus nécessaire et pour éviter les goulets d'étranglement qui freinent les projets d'électrification.

Heureusement, l'Europe peut s'inspirer d'autres pays. En décembre, le Royaume-Uni a dévoilé un [plan d'action pour une énergie propre](#) qui vise à atteindre 100 % d'énergie propre d'ici à 2030, en débloquent 40 milliards de livres sterling (53 milliards de dollars) d'investissements annuels. Dans le cadre de cet effort, la société britannique National Grid [s'est engagée](#) à consacrer [35 milliards de livres](#) au transport de l'électricité, dont 15 milliards pour augmenter la capacité du réseau. De même, l'année dernière, les États-Unis ont lancé l'[initiative fédérale-étatique de déploiement d'un réseau moderne](#), qui se concentre sur les technologies de transmission avancées afin d'accroître la capacité du réseau.

Comme le montrent ces initiatives, le problème est d'ordre politique et non technologique. En Europe, les processus d'autorisation et de planification des réseaux sont extrêmement lents. Le déploiement du réseau de transport peut prendre jusqu'à dix ans, même si la construction elle-même ne prend qu'un an ou deux. Et comme des [estimations](#) récentes indiquent que l'Europe devra doubler sa capacité d'interconnexion actuelle au cours des 10 à 15 prochaines années pour atteindre ses objectifs en matière de climat et d'énergie, l'accélération du processus d'autorisation est devenue une question de sécurité énergétique. Pour y remédier, les décideurs politiques devraient rationaliser les processus d'autorisation et adopter une approche coordonnée de la planification du réseau dans l'ensemble de l'UE. Il est essentiel de fixer des objectifs législatifs afin de donner de la visibilité aux investisseurs et d'éviter les goulets d'étranglement dans la chaîne d'approvisionnement.

Un autre domaine clé à améliorer est l'optimisation et l'allocation du réseau. Les décideurs politiques de l'UE devraient donner la priorité aux demandes de connexion au réseau émanant des projets les plus mûrs, et proposer des orientations et des délais clairs aux gestionnaires de réseau. Le fait d'exiger des engagements financiers pour réserver la capacité de réseau allouée permettrait d'éviter la spéculation et de garantir un déploiement en temps voulu. Suivant l'exemple du Royaume-Uni, la Commission européenne devrait remplacer le modèle obsolète d'attribution du réseau "premier arrivé, premier servi" par une attribution équilibrée de la capacité.

Au-delà des changements politiques et de l'augmentation du financement, l'Europe doit adopter l'innovation. Les solutions traditionnelles, comme l'évaluation dynamique des lignes (technologies d'optimisation de l'utilisation) et la construction de nouvelles lignes de transport, ne suffisent plus. L'avenir réside dans les technologies de réseaux "intelligents", comme les applications d'intelligence artificielle, qui peuvent aider à résoudre les problèmes de congestion, et dans le stockage d'énergie de longue durée (batteries) qui peut pallier l'intermittence des énergies renouvelables. L'IA pourrait également améliorer l'infrastructure de réseau existante, ce qui permettrait dans certains cas d'éviter des travaux de construction fastidieux. Mais pour libérer le potentiel de cette technologie, il faudra investir massivement dans la recherche et le développement, et offrir des incitations aux jeunes pousses du secteur.

Sans une modernisation majeure de son réseau, l'Europe risque de gaspiller son potentiel en matière d'énergies renouvelables et de compromettre ses objectifs climatiques. Le temps des demi-mesures est révolu. Le [pacte industriel propre](#) de l'UE et son [plan d'action pour une énergie abordable](#) ont tous deux [mis en évidence](#) la nécessité d'investir massivement dans le réseau. Pour transformer son infrastructure énergétique, l'Europe doit doubler son financement, rationaliser ses processus d'autorisation et adopter l'innovation.



français

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Le Dr Peter Matthew George radié

La décision a été validée par les principales autorités du LMDC : Dr Stephen Kennedy, Président du Comité de certification Dre Benetta Collins-Andrews, Présidente du LMDC M. Augustus G. Quiah, Secrétaire général du LMDC

Ce scandale jette une lumière crue sur les lacunes du système de vérification des diplômes dans le secteur de la santé au Libéria. Il met en évidence les risques que présentent les titres frauduleux pour la sécurité des patients et la crédibilité des institutions médicales.

Face à cette situation, le LMDC a annoncé le lancement immédiat d'un audit général des dossiers de tous les médecins et dentistes enregistrés. L'objectif est de mettre à jour les informations et d'assurer leur conformité avec les niveaux de qualification déclarés. Tous les praticiens sont donc sommés de soumettre leurs diplômes à jour entre le lundi 5 mai et le lundi 30 juin 2025. À compter du lundi 7 juillet 2025, ils seront convoqués individuellement par le Comité de certification pour justifier les documents présentés.

Les documents minimum requis pour cette vérification sont : Le diplôme de médecine de premier cycle L'attestation de stage hospitalier Cette démarche s'inscrit dans le cadre des prérogatives légales du Conseil, telles que définies dans la Loi de 2010, chapitre B, section 61.4, stipulant que le Conseil a pour mission d'enregistrer et de délivrer des licences à tous les professionnels de santé qualifiés au Libéria, diplômés d'institutions reconnues.

Dans le cas spécifique du Dr George, bien qu'il ait été invité à fournir ses diplômes initiaux, il n'a jamais présenté de diplôme de médecine valide. Il a plutôt soumis une lettre dite de « vérification d'attribution de diplôme » émanant de l'Université de Hertfordshire au Royaume-Uni. Suite à cette présentation, une rencontre d'évaluation fut reprogrammée pour le 18 avril 2025.

Cependant, le Dr George a décliné l'invitation à comparaître devant le comité, invoquant des raisons communiquées au Secrétaire général Augustus G. Quiah. Le comité a malgré tout examiné les documents transmis. Leur enquête a révélé que l'Université de Hertfordshire n'offre actuellement aucun diplôme en médecine. Le Conseil a précisé que ladite université envisage d'ouvrir une faculté de médecine en 2026, avec un programme de type MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery), conformément au système britannique.

En outre, les documents présentés par le Dr George prétendent qu'il aurait obtenu un diplôme de docteur en médecine (MD) ainsi qu'un diplôme de spécialisation en seulement quatre ans — un délai jugé totalement irréaliste selon les normes nationales et internationales, qui exigent un minimum de 10 à 12 ans d'études pour atteindre ce niveau.

Le LMDC a annexé à sa communication une notice officielle de l'Université de Hertfordshire confirmant que la faculté de médecine est toujours en projet, ainsi que la lettre d'attribution de diplôme remise par le Dr George, comportant de nombreuses incohérences.

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Scandale sexuel secoue le lycée Nathan E. Gibson

que la société Interband sont déterminés à collaborer avec les forces de l'ordre pour que toute la lumière soit faite sur cette tragédie.

Pour sa part, M. David S. Dahn, directeur général du lycée Nathan E. Gibson, a exprimé sa profonde tristesse et a réaffirmé l'engagement de l'école en faveur de la protection et du bien-être de ses élèves.

« Depuis sa fondation en 1983, notre école a toujours œuvré pour l'éducation des jeunes Libériens. Nous n'avons jamais été confrontés à une situation de cette nature », a-t-il déclaré.

M. Dahn a également précisé que la jeune Musu n'avait pas fréquenté les cours depuis un certain temps avant son décès, et qu'elle avait été traitée dans plusieurs centres médicaux.

« Nous remercions les autorités de nous donner l'occasion d'apporter des clarifications, et nous continuerons de coopérer pleinement à l'enquête afin que la vérité soit révélée », a-t-il conclu.

Monrovia : quatre enfants périssent dans l'incendie d'une maison à New Matadi

La communauté de New Matadi, dans la capitale Monrovia, est sous le choc après la mort tragique de quatre enfants dans un incendie survenu aux premières heures du jeudi. Selon les premiers témoignages recueillis par The NEW DAWN, le sinistre aurait été provoqué par une spirale anti-moustique laissée sans surveillance.

Les victimes, identifiées comme Emmanuel Flomo (8 ans), Marcus Momolu (12 ans), Elizabeth Momolu (6 ans) et Lusu Kamara (2 ans), ont été piégées par les flammes aux environs de 1h21 du matin. Malgré les efforts désespérés des habitants pour maîtriser l'incendie, les enfants ont péri, leurs corps étant retrouvés calcinés, méconnaissables.

Le colonel G. Warsuwah Barvoul, directeur du Service national des sapeurs-pompiers du Libéria, a pointé du doigt l'absence d'accès routier dans le quartier comme principal facteur ayant retardé l'intervention des secours. « L'équipe d'intervention est arrivée rapidement, mais l'accès à la maison était bloqué par des constructions anarchiques », a-t-il déclaré. « Ce retard malheureux a coûté la vie à de jeunes innocents. »

Le colonel Barvoul a appelé les citoyens à ne pas ériger de bâtiments dans les ruelles et voies d'accès, soulignant que de telles pratiques entravent les services d'urgence et peuvent entraîner des pertes humaines évitables.

Un rapport préliminaire confirme que l'origine probable de l'incendie est une spirale anti-moustique restée active alors que les occupants dormaient. Ce drame relance les débats sur la nécessité de renforcer la réglementation de l'urbanisme à Monrovia et d'intensifier les campagnes de sensibilisation sur les dangers des incendies domestiques, ainsi que sur l'importance de garantir des voies d'accès pour les secours.

La tragédie de New Matadi laisse une communauté endeuillée et pose une fois de plus la question cruciale de la sécurité dans les quartiers à forte densité urbaine.



Le Libéria signe un accord pour la création d'une ville aéroportuaire moderne

L'Autorité aéroportuaire du Libéria (LAA), en partenariat avec l'Autorité des Zones Économiques Spéciales du Libéria (LSEZ), a signé un protocole de coopération pour l'établissement de la première Zone Économique Spéciale Aéroportuaire (ASEZ) du pays, à l'Aéroport international Roberts (RIA). Cet accord marque une étape stratégique dans la politique nationale de développement axée sur les infrastructures. La cérémonie de signature s'est tenue le jeudi 8 mai 2025 au sein même de l'aéroport, situé dans le comté de Margibi, en présence des hauts responsables des deux institutions. Elle symbolise



l'engagement ferme du gouvernement libérien à faire du secteur aérien un levier essentiel de croissance économique et de diversification.

L'Initiative ASEZ vise à transformer des terrains aéroportuaires désignés en pôles d'activités industrielles et commerciales modernes, favorisant la logistique, la fabrication légère, le développement d'infrastructures et les services. Ces zones sont appelées à stimuler les investissements directs étrangers, à générer des emplois durables et à renforcer la croissance économique du Libéria ainsi que de la sous-région ouest-africaine.

« Cet accord jette les bases d'une véritable ville aéroportuaire dynamique », a déclaré l'honorable Jero Mends-Cole, Directeur général de l'Autorité aéroportuaire du Libéria. « En classant les terrains de l'aéroport comme zones économiques spéciales, nous créons un environnement propice à l'investissement, à la diversification économique, et à l'intégration du Libéria dans les marchés régionaux et mondiaux. »

Pour sa part, l'honorable Prince A. Wreh, Président de l'Autorité des Zones Économiques Spéciales, a souligné que la situation géographique du Libéria représente un atout majeur : « Le Libéria constitue une porte d'entrée stratégique vers l'Afrique de l'Ouest. Cette initiative mise sur cette position ainsi que sur notre infrastructure aéroportuaire pour bâtir un espace favorisant le commerce et l'activité économique durable dans toute la région. »

Le lancement de cette zone économique spéciale intervient en parallèle avec le projet de modernisation de l'Aéroport international Roberts, piloté par la LAA. Ce programme prévoit notamment :

- La modernisation des terminaux passagers,
- L'amélioration des pistes et voies de circulation,
- La mise à niveau des systèmes de sécurité et de lutte contre l'incendie,
- Le renforcement de l'approvisionnement en électricité,
- Et l'introduction de technologies de pointe dans le secteur aéronautique.

Ces investissements visent à accroître l'efficacité opérationnelle de l'aéroport, à renforcer sa capacité d'accueil des passagers et du fret, et à rendre le Libéria plus attractif pour les investisseurs internationaux.

L'Autorité aéroportuaire du Libéria réaffirme sa volonté de jouer un rôle clé dans la transformation économique du pays en développant des infrastructures aéroportuaires modernes au service du commerce, de l'intégration régionale et de la prospérité nationale.



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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## Speaker Koffa to resign today!

On December 8, 2024, Speaker Koffa issued a statement warning all spending entities not to honor a request from members of the majority bloc to appear for a budget hearing, but that warning was ignored, hence the impasse dragged on.

On December 10, 2024, in an opinion addressed to the Minister of State for Presidential Affairs, the Minister of Justice asserted that the Supreme Court ruling and final judgment on December 6, 2024, concluded that the Majority Bloc's sittings, actions, and decisions are lawful.

On December 12, 2024, Speaker Koffa filed a Bill of Information before the Supreme Court asking the court to publicly recall the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Liberia, N. Oswald Tweh, for misinterpreting the high court's ruling.

Meanwhile, December 18, 2024, the Rotunda of the Capitol Building is engulfed with fire. The Rotunda is official seat of the Liberian Legislature. It was being used by members of the majority bloc from the House of Representative before the fire incident.

January 6, 2025, some allies of embattled House Speaker J Koffa attend a legislative session conducted by the House majority bloc.

On January 30, 2025, the House of

Representatives voted to forcibly remove embattled Speaker Koffa at its next sitting on Tuesday, February 4th.

On March 3, 2025, Embattle House Speaker Koffa filed another Bill of Information while mandating and ordering the majority bloc of "Regime Speaker" Richard N. Koon to respect the Court's ruling of December 6, 2024, and act accordingly.

On April 23, 2025, the Supreme Court granted embattled House Speaker Koffa's Bill of Information while mandating and ordering the majority bloc of "Regime Speaker" Richard N. Koon to respect the Court's ruling and act accordingly.

However, the April 23, 2025, ruling has not been able to resolve the impasse. The situation was worsened by President Boakai's declaration to work with the quorum, which in this case, the Majority Bloc.

The President's statement received overwhelming condemnation, leaving members of the Liberian National Bar Association divided. *Written by Othello B. Garblah.*

## Nagbe calls for investigation

*The death of Cletus Noah, a special aide of former finance minister, Samuel Tweah raises concern here, with call for Police investigation.*

*By Stephen G. Fellajuah*

Monrovia, Liberia, of Mr. Cletus Noah, who May 12, 2025 - The reportedly passed away on 4 Chief of Office Staff May 2025," Nagbe states in his of former President George M. communication.

Weah, Lenn Eugene Nagbe, "His death, which is deeply writes the Inspector General of distressing, has now become a Police here, Col. Gregory source of a personal attack on my Coleman, requesting character by the brother of the preliminary investigation into deceased", he adds.

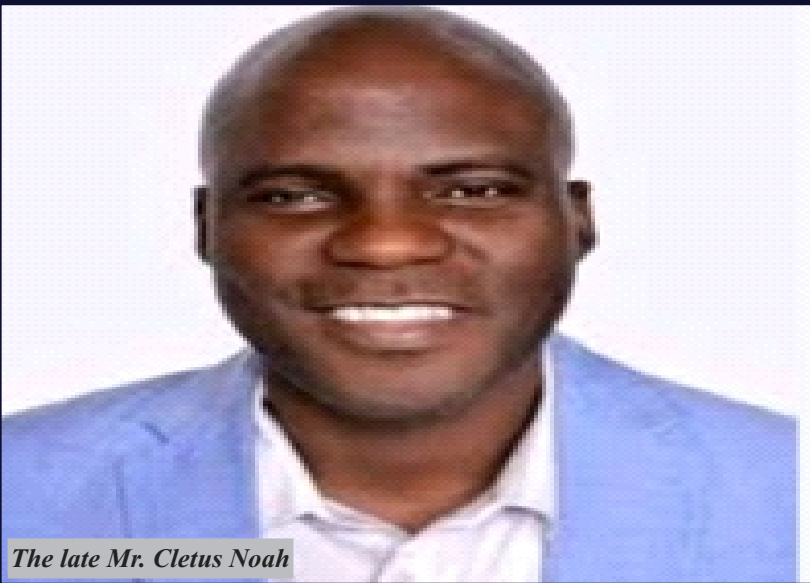
the sudden death of Mr. Cletus Nagbe explains that on May 7, he Noah, a former Chief of Office received a WhatsApp message Staff of ex-Finance Minister, from Mr. Tozo, brother of the Samuel D. Tweah. deceased, containing a series of

Ex-minister Tweah is on trial for "outrageous accusations." alleged corruption along with According to him, Tozo alleged others from the past that he (Nagbe), along with administration, but he has former Finance Minister Tweah denied any wrongdoing during and unnamed "henchmen," are his administration. allegedly involved in Cletus

In a letter dated May 8, 2025, Noah's death.

Nagbe expresses deep concern He also complains that Tozo over allegations linking him to allegedly issued a personal Noah's death, and asks that the threat, telling him to "wait for the police establish whether foul burial," and warning that he was play was involved. "coming for him."

"I write to formally request a The letter notes that screenshots preliminary investigation to and a transcript of the WhatsApp establish the existence of foul exchange were attached as play, if any, into the recent death evidence.



The late Mr. Cletus Noah

"These allegations are both serious and damaging, not only to my reputation but also present a threat to my personal safety and security," Nagbe emphasizes.

He further requests the Liberia National Police to contact Mr. Tozo as part of an investigation to ascertain source and veracity of the claims.

"To ensure that the truth is established and to dispel any misinformation or suspicion, I formally request that the Liberia National Police conduct a preliminary investigation into the death of Mr. Cletus Noah, to determine whether or not, there was, in fact, foul play, let alone if I am implicated," he adds.

Nagbe, also a former Commissioner General of the Liberia Maritime Authority, assures the Police of full cooperation and availability for any further clarification.

The sudden passing of Cletus Noah, who served closely with former Minister Tweah, has sparked widespread tributes from political figures, colleagues, and friends across Liberia. He reportedly died on Saturday evening, May 4, at St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital in Monrovia.

The unexpected nature of his death has sent shockwaves across the political spectrum, drawing emotional reactions from members of both the opposition and the ruling establishment. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

## Boakai unveils Liberia-Barbados Heritage Monument

*In a historic event marking the 160th Anniversary of Crozierville, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai has unveiled a Liberia-Barbados Heritage Presidential Monument, commemorating the shared ancestry and diplomatic ties between Liberia and Barbados.*

*By: Kruah Thompson*

CROZIEVILLE, LIBERIA, May 12, 2025: The monument was revealed during a ceremony held Saturday in the township of Crozierville in honor of Barbadian President Dame Sandra Prunella Mason's recent state visit to Liberia.

The heritage monument showcases the images of three former Liberian leaders of Barbadian descent including President Arthur Barclay (1904–1912), President Edwin Barclay, and President Charles Gyude Bryant (2003–2006). These figures are recognized for their pivotal roles in Liberia's history and their ancestral connections to Barbados.

said. "The greatest asset of Liberia is not its trees or minerals, but its people who came from everywhere and contributed to making this country what it is today."

President Mason, in her address, expressed deep gratitude for the tribute and emphasized the ancestral bond between the two nations.

"This monument honors not just the founding of Crozierville, but the resilience of those who left their homeland in search of dignity and a new beginning," she said. "Our connection is not just historical but ancestral, and it is our duty to preserve this bond through continued cooperation and cultural exchange."

As a symbol of unity, a commemorative



As part of the celebration, President cloth bearing the flags of both Liberia and Boakai also unveiled a newly named street Barbados was presented to President sign in Crozierville, now known as Mason.

"Barbados Circle," symbolizing the In an exclusive interview, Ambassador township's historical roots tied to Lawrencecoe Witherspoon, a direct Barbadian settlers. descendant of the Crozierville settlers,

President Boakai and President Mason shared his journey of tracing his lineage were warmly received at the ceremony by and publishing a book in 2020 titled "The Foreign Minister Sara Beysolow Nyanti, Ports Find a New Home in Liberia." The along with county officials and community book sparked renewed interest in leaders. Barbadian-Liberian relations and helped

In accordance with tradition, local leaders facilitate President Mason's historic visit. presented a live white chicken and kola Witherspoon recounted that in 2023, a nuts as a symbol of peace and welcome. group of Liberians travelled to Barbados

The two presidents toured the heritage for what was called the "Sankofa Pilgrimage," derived from the Ghanaian center together, where President Boakai word meaning "to go back and fetch it" a officially unveiled the trio of monuments symbolic return to one's roots.

and a larger commemorative marker, He said it was quite an event when the which narrates the journey of Barbadian Barbadian government hosted them for settlers who migrated to Liberia over 160 years ago. eight days. At the end of the visit, both

Later, President Boakai attended a service sides expressed interest in establishing formal diplomatic relations. Under the at the historic Crozierville Church, joining Weah administration, Barbados initially residents in a symbolic reconnection with their Barbadian heritage. proposed the idea of formalizing ties.

During the official program, Township He added that despite efforts dating back 159 years, when President Daniel Warner Chairperson Dr. Ophelia I. Weeks worked with the Governor of Barbados to highlighted the rich history of Crozierville bring Barbadian descendants back to and honored several outstanding community members, including youth Liberia, it wasn't until President Boakai's advocates Mathew Kehkula and Rander inauguration that progress was made.

Deeks, long-serving commissioner He revealed that through the efforts of the Maedeaco Siakah, and dedicated educators Minister of Foreign Affairs, who later Fenne Parthmore and Gladys Ports. visited the Barbadian Embassy in Ghana,

The celebration began on Friday with a an agreement was reached that has brought the welcoming ceremony at the Executive the relationship to where it stands today. Mansion and continued with a lunch at Meanwhile, Crozierville was named after two brothers from the American Monrovia City Hall and a visit to Providence Island, culminating in \$10,000 on top of what the Society had

Saturday's festivities in Crozierville. already raised to hire a ship to transport Barbadian settlers to Liberia.

In his remarks, President Boakai praised their heritage and acknowledged the Upon arrival, the land was granted to them significance of the Barbadian connection by President Warner and each family received 25 acres, while everyone was

"This celebration is not just about allotted 20 acres. In recognition of the Crozierville but about the journey of a critical financial support from the Crozier people. It tells the story of Liberia as a brothers, the settlers collectively decided country built by individuals from across to name the new settlement Crozierville. - Edited By Othello B. Garblah.



# Speaker Koffa to resign today!

*Embattled House Speaker Cllr. J. Fonati Koffa is expected to announce his resignation today, weeks after the Supreme Court reaffirmed his speakership.*

Monrovia, May 12, 2025: Sources within the corridor of the Rule of Law caucus told the New Dawn over the weekend that embattled speaker Koffa's planned resignation follows a series of back-channel negotiations involving Catholic Archbishop Gabriel Blamo Snosio Jubwe and Sister Mary

The crisis at the House of Representatives began when Embattled House Speaker Koffa made a call for an audit of the 54th Legislature in which he served as Deputy Speaker, while his now Deputy Thomas Fallah served as Chairman on Ways and Means.

By the weekend of October 13, 2024, rumours spread that

constitutionally required 49 lawmakers to remove the Speaker.

On November 7, 2024, embattled House Speaker Koffa declared that he will not resign in the face of a callous disregard for the legal process by his colleagues. On the same day, Justice Gbeisay announced the lifting of the stay order.

On November 21, 2024, members of the Majority Bloc replaced Speaker Koffa with Regime Speaker Richard N. Koon on white ballot as new Speaker of the House.

Koon is Montserrado County District#11 Representative, who lost the race for the speakership to Cllr. Koffa during the inception of the 55th Legislature in January.

On the same November 21, 2024, Speaker Koffa filed a writ of mandamus before the Supreme Court, while remaining defiant that he was still the legitimate Speaker.

On November 22, the court added another twist to the House impasse, the Supreme Court ordered all parties involved in the leadership struggle to return to STATUS QUO, meaning they should return to their status as of October 15, 2024, before the rebellion, leaving members of the Majority Bloc and their new speaker frustrated.

All parties including the Minister of Justice were asked to file their returns on November 26, 2024.

On December 6, 2024, came the landmark verdict.

The Supreme Court, in its landmark ruling on Friday, December 6, said, “Any sittings or actions by members of the Legislature not in conformity with the intent of Articles 33 and 49 of the Constitution are ultra vires and void. “Ultra vires,” meaning it was beyond their power and authority to do so. Hence, members of the House of Representatives are to conduct themselves accordingly.”

Article 33 of the Liberian Constitution requires a quorum to hold sessions, while Article 49 refers to the presiding officers, including the election and removal from office of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and other officers.

Article 33 states: “Simple majority of each House shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lower number may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members...”

Article 49 states: “The House of Representatives shall elect once every six years a Speaker who shall be the presiding officer of

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# Ivanhoe and HPX abandon “\$5 billion

US dollars in private investment. HPX has contributed absolutely nothing to this infrastructure but wants full access and control.

This demand is not only unfair. It is deeply irresponsible and expensive for Liberia.

The Liberty Corridor was initially pitched as an independent infrastructure route that would allow HPX to transport iron ore from its Guinean mine to the Liberian coast without relying on existing systems. That plan would have created jobs, generated tax revenue, and demonstrated HPX's capacity to deliver long-term development. But nothing has materialized. Two years later, the grand project exists only in news archives and abandoned promises.

In the absence of real progress, HPX is now attempting to gain control of a rail corridor that belongs to another investor. They are not just asking for access, which is already guaranteed under the terms of AML's amended Mineral Development Agreement. They are demanding that AML be stripped of the operator role, despite AML having designed, financed, and maintained the infrastructure.

The Hidden Cost of an Independent Operator

HPX argues that Liberia should appoint an independent operator to manage the railway. But what they are not saying is that this would impose new financial and institutional burdens on a country already managing a constrained national budget.

An independent operator would require:

Funding from the national treasury or external donors

A new regulatory framework and monitoring agency

Rail equipment, traffic management systems, and emergency protocols

Risk of disputes over safety, scheduling, and operational standards

Delays in onboarding users and revenue generation

Liberia would be forced to spend money it does not have, only to replace a functioning and fully funded operator with an untested and unnecessary structure. This is not a neutral solution. It is a high-cost experiment that Liberia cannot afford.

Where is Guma Group?

Guma Group was publicly identified as HPX's strategic partner in

developing the Liberty Corridor. However, there has been no update from Guma on the status of the partnership or whether it still holds. The group's silence raises serious questions. Was the Liberty Corridor ever a viable project? Has Guma withdrawn from the plan? If so, why has there been no official explanation?

The lack of answers undermines the credibility of HPX's broader infrastructure agenda. It suggests that HPX may never have been committed to building new assets and is instead focused only on extracting short-term advantage from infrastructure it did not create.

By entertaining HPX's demands, Liberia risks sacrificing real, long-term gains for empty lobbying pressure. AML's Phase II expansion project is valued at 1.2 billion US dollars. It promises over 2,000 direct jobs, expanded local supply chains, vocational training programs, and a massive boost in tax revenue and community development. All of this depends on AML being allowed to continue operating the rail it built.

Removing AML as rail operator would not only delay or cancel this investment. It would also:

Undermine Liberia's reputation as a reliable partner for foreign investment

Send a negative signal to current and future investors

Reward entities that have made no meaningful contribution to national development

Liberia must make a clear choice. Will it stand with companies that build, hire, invest, and commit to the country's future? Or will it surrender its infrastructure and sovereignty to firms that deliver press releases but no progress?

HPX and Ivanhoe have walked away from their own \$5 billion promise. They have chosen to disrupt what others have built instead of fulfilling what they once pledged to create.

The Government of Liberia must not let this happen. The country cannot afford another illusion disguised as an investment. It must protect what has already been built and demand real commitment from those who claim to serve Liberia's development goals.

Laurene, among several prominent citizens here.

Our source said President Boakai contacted Archbishop Jubwe and Sis. Laurene followed a report that the Rule of Law Caucus had considered former President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf as the lead negotiator.

To be included in Speaker Koffa's letter of resignation is a demand that Deputy House Speaker Thomas Fallah take over as acting Speaker pending an election to elect a speaker through legitimate means.

Although this part of Speaker Koffa's resignation demand did not go down well with some members of the Majority Bloc, it was accepted as part of plans to bring the protracted dispute to an end.

According to our source, no monetary settlement for Speaker Koffa was discussed during the parties' meeting, which took place at President Joseph N. Boakai's residence on Friday, except for the salaries and benefits of members of his caucus that had been withheld for five months.

However, the discussion was said to have been going well until a hot exchange erupted between President Boakai and Speaker Koffa, forcing Speaker Koffa to leave the scene after he was advised by negotiators to take a break.

Meanwhile, his resignation is expected to end the prolonged impasse at the House of Representatives, which has, to a large extent, incapacitated the government's function.

How it all started

members of the House of Representatives were gathering signatures to remove Speaker Koffa, who was in the United States, joining President Boakai on a State visit. The pair later travelled to Rome together to meet the late Pope Francis at the Vatican.

On October 17, report emerged that about 47 members of the House had received an alleged sum of US15k each in advance bribe payment against US25k promised in bribe money to remove Speaker Koffa as part of the plot.

This led to heated exchanges among lawmakers, creating pandemonium on the Capitol grounds, with some lawmakers from opposing sides nearly engaging in fistfights.

Some members upon allegedly receiving their share of the bribe money, refused to sign the petition.

On October 25, 2024, Justice in Chambers, Associate Justice Yamie Quiqui Gbeisay, Sr issued a stay order on further proceedings to remove Speaker Koffa, after the latter filed a writ of prohibition.

But his invitation for a conference hearing was initially rebuffed by the Majority Bloc, raising concerns for their respect for the rule of law. They had argued that the matter was political rather than legal.

Meanwhile, on October 31, 2024, the campaign to unseat Speaker Koffa gained traction when Deputy Speaker Thomas Fallah abandoned his boss and crossed over to Majority Bloc, upping the majority bloc from 43 to 44, but short of the



## ***-To fight over railway***

Government of Liberia, and Guma Africa Group announced plans to develop the Liberty Corridor, a proposed infrastructure project estimated to cost between \$3 billion and \$5 billion. The corridor aims to connect the Nimba District of Guinea to a new deep-water port in Didia, Liberia, via a new heavy-duty railroad. Additional components include upgrades to existing road networks, the expansion of renewable power systems, and the implementation of high-speed

to support economic development in the West African region. It was expected to stimulate activities in mining, agriculture, manufacturing, health, and education, thereby improving the quality of life for millions in the region

Today, that entire vision has collapsed into silence. No feasibility study. No rail construction has started. No port site has been cleared. There has been no environmental assessment, no government permits, and no community engagement. Most notably, Guma Group, once introduced as HPX's key development partner, has vanished from the public discussion. There is no evidence that any part of the Liberty Corridor is moving forward.

Instead, HPX and Ivanhoe have now shifted their entire focus to a political and commercial fight against ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML). Their demand is simple but deeply troubling. They want the Government of Liberia to remove AML as the operator of the Yekepa to Buchanan railway. This is the same rail line AML has rebuilt and modernized through more than 800 million

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