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MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025	L\$198.0531/US\$1.00	L\$200.9006/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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French Version Inside

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Former First Lady Nancy B. Doe is dead

Dillion wants Cllr Kruah imprisoned



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Continental News

Ramaphosa aims to salvage relationship with Trump in White House visit

U.S. President Donald Trump will host South Africa's leader at the White House on Wednesday for a meeting that might be tense after Trump accused the country's government of allowing a "genocide" to take place against minority white farmers.

South Africa has strongly rejected the allegation and President Cyril Ramaphosa pushed for the meeting with Trump in an attempt to salvage his country's relationship with the United States, which is at its lowest point since the end of the apartheid system of racial segregation in 1994.

Trump has launched a series of accusations at South Africa's Black-led government, including that it is seizing land from white farmers, enforcing anti-white policies and pursuing an anti-American foreign policy.

Ramaphosa said he hopes to correct what he calls damaging mischaracterizations during the meeting, which is Trump's first with an African leader at the White House

since he returned to office.

Some in South Africa worry their leader might get "Zelenskyy'd" — a reference to the public bashing Trump and Vice President JD Vance handed out to the Ukrainian president in their infamous Oval Office meeting in February.

In advance of the meeting, a White House official said Trump's topics of discussion with Ramaphosa were likely to include the need to condemn politicians who "promote genocidal rhetoric" and to classify farm attacks as a priority crime. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal planning, said Trump also was likely to raise South African race-based barriers to trade and the need to "stop scaring off investors."

Here's what to know ahead of the Trump-Ramaphosa meeting.

Will Trump stand by the genocide allegation?

Trump's criticism of South Africa began in early February in a post on Truth Social when he accused South

Africa's government of seizing land from white Afrikaner farmers and a "massive Human Rights VIOLATION" against members of the white minority.

Trump's allegation that Afrikaners were being mistreated was at the center of an executive order he issued days later that cut all U.S. assistance to South Africa.

He went further this month, alleging there was a "genocide" against white farmers and the Trump administration has brought a small group of white South Africans to the U.S. as refugees in what it says is the start of a larger relocation program.

The U.S. has been asked if it will stand by the genocide allegation. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said in an interview with CBS that it would and that the administration felt there was evidence, citing instances of white farmers being murdered and claiming some were being "forcibly removed" from their properties.

Some white farmers have been killed in violent home invasions. But the South African government says the causes behind the relatively small number of homicides are misunderstood by the Trump administration; they are part of the country's severe problems with crime and not racially motivated, it says. Black farmers have also been killed.

The South African government has said the allegations against it are misinformation.

South African Agriculture Minister John Steenhuisen, who is white and a member of a different political party from Ramaphosa, said in an interview with The Associated Press that no land was being seized from farmers and claims of genocide were false.



South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa speaks to journalists during the eighth EU-South Africa summit in Cape Town, South Africa, March 13, 2025

South Africa: Cyril Ramaphosa arrives at White House for meeting with Trump

U.S. President Donald Trump is hosting Cyril Ramaphosa amid tension after accusing South Africa of allowing a "genocide" against minority white farmers.

South Africa has strongly rejected Trump's allegations. Afrikaner farmers in the country say there's no evidence of this — that white and Black farmers alike have been murdered.

Ramaphosa pushed for Wednesday's Oval Office meeting to try to set the record straight and salvage his country's relationship with the United States.

It's at their lowest point since the nation enforced its apartheid system of racial segregation, which ended in 1994. Trump has cut all U.S. assistance to South Africa and welcomed several dozen white South African farmers to the U.S. as

refugees.

Elon Musk will also attend Trump meeting with South African leader. The US president's powerful adviser and billionaire, who was born in South Africa, is expected to be in the room when Trump sits down

with Ramaphosa.

The plan was disclosed by a White House official who was not authorized to speak publicly.

Musk has harshly criticized his native country's government as "racist" against white people.



President Donald Trump meets South African President Cyril Ramaphosa in the Oval Office of the White House, Wednesday, May 21, 2025, in Washington. (AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

Burkina Faso's military leaders turn to 'Africa's Che Guevara' to rally struggling country

The military rulers of Burkina Faso have turned to a man once known as "Africa's Che Guevara" as a way to rally a country struggling to defeat extremists and turning away from former Western allies.

Hundreds of young people gathered over the weekend in the capital, Ouagadougou, for the opening of a mausoleum for legendary leader Thomas Sankara.

"I'm the driver of the revolution!" one young man exclaimed with delight, sitting behind the wheel of the jeep that Sankara used during his presidency decades ago.

A charismatic Marxist leader who seized global attention by defiantly

winning architect Francis Kéré, has been the project of the current military leader Capt. Ibrahim Traore.

Since taking power during a coup in 2022, Traore has presented himself as the new Sankara. He has named one of the main streets after the revolutionary leader, elevated him to the rank of Hero of the Nation and revived revolutionary slogans such as "Fatherland or death, we will win!" in most of his speeches.

The mission of the mausoleum is "to keep the flame of the revolution alive and to remind the world of Capt. Thomas Sankara's fight to break the chains of slavery and imperialist domination," Burkina Faso Prime Minister Jean Emmanuel Ouédraogo said as he read Traore's statement.



People attend the inauguration of the mausoleum for Burkina Faso's legendary leader Thomas Sankara in Ouagadougou, Saturday, May 17, 2025

declaring his country could rely on itself, Sankara came to power in 1983 at the age of 33 after he and former ally Blaise Compaore led a leftist coup that overthrew a moderate military faction. But in 1987, Compaore turned on his former friend in a coup that killed Sankara in the capital, and later became president himself.

An anti-imperialist legacy

Nearly four decades after his death, Sankara is being celebrated in Burkina Faso, a nation of 23 million people once known for its bustling arts scene and vibrant intellectual life, including Sankara's anti-imperialist and pan-African legacy.

"When I stepped inside the mausoleum, I felt the revolution," said Timoté, a 22-year-old who said he came because of what he heard about Sankara at home and at school.

Sankara's mausoleum, designed by Pritzker Architecture Prize-

An unstable Burkina Faso

Despite promising to fight the security crisis that pushed them to stage a coup, Burkina Faso's military leaders have struggled to deal with the worsening crisis. According to conservative estimates, more than 60% of the country is now outside of government control, more than 2 million people have lost their homes and almost 6.5 million need humanitarian aid to survive.

Human rights groups say the military leadership has installed a system of de facto censorship, crushing critics, while many have been killed by jihadi groups or government forces.

As people flocked to Ouagadougou to celebrate Sankara, life elsewhere in the country reflects a different reality.

"We can go out for a bit in the city centre, but with caution," said one student from Dori, the capital of the northern region, echoing concerns about restrictions on free speech and movement.

The student spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of being arrested.

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EDITORIAL

Government’s inconsistency over rail operatorship is troubling

The Government of Liberia’s decision to reverse the Inter-Ministerial Concessions Committee’s (IMCC) communication reaffirming ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) as the user-operator of the Yekepa-Buchanan railway is not only troubling but also raises serious questions about the country’s commitment to honoring contracts and protecting legitimate investment.

The IMCC’s original decision was grounded in logic, legality, and Liberia’s long-term development interests. Over seven years of negotiations between the Government of Liberia and AML led to the formulation of Rail System Operating Principles (RSOP), a comprehensive framework embedded in the Third Amendment of AML’s Mineral Development Agreement (MDA).

This framework provides multi-user access to the rail, regulated by the Government, while maintaining AML’s role as user-operator under a no-profit, no-loss model. It also ensures oversight through a Joint Management Committee, grants the Government audit and regulatory authority, including power to revoke AML’s role for non-performance.

The structure aligns squarely with the intent of Executive Order No. 136, which seeks to establish a multi-user rail system in the country. Crucially, the Executive Order itself recognizes the sanctity of existing commitments, like AML’s MDA, and does not seek to override them.

The Yekepa-Buchanan rail line is not just infrastructure; it is the backbone of Liberia’s iron ore industry in which ArcelorMittal Liberia has invested over \$800 million into rehabilitating and expanding the rail corridor.

The company’s commitment to Liberia spans nearly two decades and has resulted in employment for over 7,000 Liberians, coupled with substantial community development initiatives, and steady contributions to government revenue.

But we think to now walk back to a decision that recognized AML’s historic and contractual role as user-operator in favor of an unproven foreign company, Ivanhoe Atlantic, is a grave mistake that sends the wrong signal to both existing and potential investors. It gives Ivanhoe an unfair upper hand and portrays Liberia as a country where agreements can be cast aside to satisfy political expediency or foreign pressure.

Even neighboring Guinea, in its agreement with SMFG, recognizes that access through Liberia is temporary and uncertain. Yet Liberia seems willing to subordinate its national interest and investor credibility to accommodate a neighboring country’s mining agenda.

We consider this reversal as more than a policy misstep, as it also undermines the rule of law and erodes investors’ confidence. The Constitution of Liberia mandates that the state honors contracts, and the AML MDA remains a legally binding agreement. If the Government of Liberia genuinely believes it can no longer accept AML as the rail operator, then the only lawful and honorable path is to amend the agreement through mutual consent, rather than unilateral revocation.

ArcelorMittal’s role as a user-operator does not preclude other companies from using the rail. In fact, the RSOP ensures fair, cost-based access for all, with strong government oversight. This is the very definition of a multi-user model.

Instead of penalizing AML, we believe strongly that Liberia should be celebrating and strengthening its partnership with a company that has demonstrated long-term commitment to the country’s growth. Prioritizing a foreign newcomer over a proven investor will not only jeopardize current operations, but could freeze future investment altogether.

We emphasize that if this country is to build a prosperous and respected investment climate, we must start by honoring our own agreements. The government should reconsider its reversal and stand by the IMCC’s informed and nationally beneficial decision to maintain AML’s user-operatorship under the legal, tested, and transparent framework of the Third Amendment and the RSOP. Liberia must choose principle over politics, for the future of our economy and its credibility as a nation, depends on it.

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COMMENTARY

By Sergei Guriev

Absorbing the US Brain Drain

LONDON – In times of political turbulence, leading research universities often become both targets of populist rhetoric and beacons of hope. For voters dissatisfied with “elites” and the status quo, higher education bears responsibility for spawning the political class that they blame for all society’s ills. And yet, in the face of so many global crises – environmental, geopolitical, economic, social, technological, and health-related – the world desperately needs new solutions, independent research, and trained future leaders.

In the United States, President Donald Trump’s administration and a substantial share of the electorate identify universities with a malign domestic and global “system,” and as a major battleground in the country’s long-running culture wars. The administration has cut universities’ federal research funding, threatened to revoke their tax-exempt status, and demanded institutional reforms that limit their autonomy and academic freedom. Some US universities have decided to pause or cancel research programs and slow the recruitment of faculty.

This is a tragedy, and not just for the US. Frontier research and education is a global public good. New insights and innovations relating to AI, climate change, health, inequality, and geopolitics benefit all of humankind, wherever they are generated. With US universities facing unprecedented political pressure, the rest of the world must step up its efforts to support pathbreaking research, education, and innovation.

Doing so will require coordinated action among universities, which should roll out new research projects and recruit faculty who want to relocate from the US to pursue their work in a more welcoming and productive environment. It will also require large new contributions of public- and private-sector resources.

There are already encouraging signs that this is happening. Canada’s University Health Network Foundation recently launched an [initiative](#) to raise \$30 million to recruit 100 top early-career scientists from around the world. The British government is preparing a £50 million (\$67 million) [scheme](#) to attract international research talent to the United Kingdom. The French government has announced a “[Choose France for Science](#)” platform that would fund 50% of initiatives to attract international talent to French universities and research institutions. And on May 5, European Commission President [Ursula von der Leyen](#) delivered a [passionate speech](#) touting a new initiative, “Choose Europe for Science,” which will include a €500 million (\$562 million) package (for 2025-27) to make Europe a “[magnet for researchers](#).”

But as impressive as these announcements are, public-sector efforts will not be enough. All the public initiatives announced so far represent less than what a single major US university risks losing in federal research

funding this year. Worse, most governments face very tight fiscal constraints and cannot afford to plug the emerging global research funding gap. Private donors will have to step in.

While private support for US universities could help them weather a loss of federal funding, financial resources alone will not address the government’s attack on academic freedom. Undue political pressure has already heightened the risk of an exodus of faculty from the US. A March *Nature* [survey](#) of US-based scientists found that 75% of respondents were looking for jobs abroad, particularly in Europe and Canada. An [analysis](#) of *Nature’s* jobs-board data in April confirmed the beginning of a brain drain from the US.

Trump’s assault on academic freedom also worries students. For international applicants looking at the US, the question is no longer just about an institution’s ranking or reputation. Even more important is whether they will be safe, welcomed, and included. Students from the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and parts of Asia – especially those whose nationality may bring extra scrutiny – are increasingly cautious about pursuing higher education in today’s America.


As the dean of the London Business School, my own recent conversations with potential applicants (and their parents) suggest that students are becoming more reluctant about attending top US institutions as a matter not of protest, but of prudence. MBA students who previously would have viewed US schools as the gold standard are now considering more fundamental questions: Where will I feel welcome? Where can I be confident that my visa will be honored for the duration of my studies? Where can I build an international network that isn’t vulnerable to political headwinds?

For European universities and business schools, this shift creates both opportunities and responsibilities. Top schools outside the US must ensure that they will be equal to the moment. That means investing more in world-class faculty, building bridges with industry and government, and reaffirming their fundamental values of academic excellence, inclusion, and internationalism.


It also means engaging donors who want to make a difference. UK and European universities and business schools with global ambitions often lack the billion-dollar endowments of their US peers. For philanthropists committed to open societies, inclusive education, and world-changing research, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to invest in institutions that are ready to lead, but need the resources to match their mission.

The gap between ambition and capacity has never been wider. But bridging it would be a game changer. The next generation of leaders is watching – and deciding where to go.

Sergei Guriev is Dean and Professor of Economics at the London Business School.



Republic of Liberia
National Fisheries & Aquaculture Authority



Fisheries
Transparency
Initiative

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Liberia joins the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)

MONROVIA, 21st of May 2025. The Republic of Liberia has taken a significant step towards enhancing fisheries governance by joining the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI). This commitment demonstrates the country’s political will to improve transparency and participation for the benefit of a more sustainable management of its marine fisheries.

The commitment was formalised by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Liberia’s National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) and the FiTI. This agreement establishes a collaboration framework to coordinate activities related to enhancing the transparency of fisheries management in Liberia through the implementation of the FiTI Standard.

The FiTI Standard is the only internationally recognised framework that defines what information on marine fisheries management should be published online by national authorities. Its objective is to contribute to the sustainability of marine fisheries by increasing the availability, accessibility, credibility and usability of national fisheries management information.

Liberia is endowed with rich demersal and pelagic fishery resources which support food and nutrition security, employment and livelihoods for thousands of people, and government revenues. However, the sector is facing several challenges. For example, despite its huge natural resources, including some of the richest fishing grounds in the world along its 579 km coastline, fish consumption in Liberia is among the lowest in West Africa. A policy brief published by the University of Liberia and Conservation International in 2023 recommended, inter alia, that Liberia must make efforts to strengthen transparency in fisheries management by increasing access to data and information.

The FiTI has commended the Republic of Liberia’s commitment to join the FiTI. According to Mr Sven Biermann, FiTI’s Executive Director*“We are delighted to see that under NaFAA’s new leadership Liberia is committed to take an active role in improving the governance of its fisheries sector. Transparency and participation are not only the bedrocks of good fisheries governance; it also deepens the understanding of the important nature of the fisheries sectors, as well as the challenges that exist. We look forward to support Liberia’s stakeholders in making its fisheries management more transparent and inclusive and promoting informed public debates on fisheries policies.”*

Honourable J. Cyrus Saygbe, Sr, NaFAFA’s Acting -Director General emphasised the strategic importance of this collaboration with the FiTI, stating *“As Acting Director General of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA), we are proud to affirm Liberia’s commitment to greater transparency and accountability in the fisheries sector through our engagement with the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI). By joining FiTI, Liberia is taking a significant step toward ensuring that information about our fisheries governance, including policies, laws, management practices, and access agreements, is publicly available and accessible to all stakeholders. This commitment enhances trust, promotes sustainable resource management, attracts responsible investment, and empowers coastal communities by involving them more meaningfully in the stewardship of our marine resources. Through FiTI, Liberia aims to set a strong example of open and inclusive governance in West Africa’s fisheries sector”*.

The FiTI is welcoming Liberia among the growing list of countries that globally improve transparency in marine fisheries to ensure the sustainability of this vital natural resource.

The National Fisheries & Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) of Liberia was created by an Act of National Legislation on October 9, 2017. It functions as a fully-fledged autonomous body pursuant to the Public Authorities Law of the Republic of Liberia. NaFAA’s overall fisheries sector goal is sustainably managed and economically viable fisheries that generate prosperity for the present and generations yet unborn. <https://nafaa.gov.lr>

The Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI) is a global multi-stakeholder partnership that strengthens transparency and collaboration in marine fisheries management. The FiTI supports coastal countries in implementing the FiTI Standard, thereby contributing to the sustainability of marine fisheries by increasing the accessibility, credibility and usability of national fisheries management information. <https://fiti.global>

OP-ED

By: Abraham Tumbey, UNDP
Liberia Programme Coordinator

Liberia's Biodiversity: A Future to Invest

International Day of Biodiversity, May 22, 2025. Monrovia, Liberia; May 21, 2025: Liberia, endowed with rich natural resources, is on a path to sustainable development. The National Development Plan, the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (2024-2029), emphasizes environmental sustainability as a key pillar, promoting responsible natural resource management, biodiversity protection, and resilience to climate change.

Liberia boasts over 2,900 species of vascular plants, approximately 225 timber species, and around 100 species unique to Liberia. The country is also home to around 150 species of mammals, over 600 bird species, approximately 75 species of reptiles, and over 1,000 described insect species. The IUCN lists 2,438 animal species on the Red List, with 29 endemic to Liberia.

Protecting Liberia's biodiversity is a mammoth task requiring significant financial commitment. As a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Liberia has committed to the 30x30 initiative, which aims to protect 30% of the world's land and sea areas by 2030.

This initiative is a key component of global conservation efforts and addresses the interconnected challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Liberia's forests and biodiversity are critical assets that can be leveraged to mobilize development financing. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for 2017-2025 underscores the importance of intrinsic and extrinsic values of biological resources.

It serves as a national blueprint for managing biodiversity and highlights the need for a cost-benefit analysis based on long-term gains for the country.

Effective biodiversity conservation requires strong partnerships and collaboration between the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, the Forestry Development Authority, the Liberia Land Authority, the Environmental Protection Agency, research and academic institutions, civil society, communities, and other stakeholders. These duty bearers must work together to create a budget line for implementing biodiversity projects and engage with development partners to close the biodiversity financing gap.

UNDP's Initiatives

On May 1, 2025, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched the Biofin project in Liberia. This project aims to mobilize biodiversity financing and is a significant milestone for the country. Over the past years, the government of Liberia has worked with the World Bank, UNDP, other UN agencies, the European Union, the Swedish Embassy, and other international donors to develop and implement the NBSAP. UNDP has been a steadfast partner to the government of Liberia in the areas of forest and biodiversity conservation.

Notable projects include the Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) and the Leh Go Green (Let's Go Green) projects, funded by the Embassy of Sweden and the European Union Delegation, respectively. These initiatives are crucial in promoting sustainable forest management, enhancing community livelihoods, and conserving biodiversity. Creating economic incentives to promote income and livelihood for forest-dependent communities is essential for securing their commitment to lead community-based biodiversity conservation. By providing alternative sources of income and improving living standards, communities like Fornor, Lukasu, Tiehnpo, and Barwu can become active stewards of their natural environment, ensuring the long-term sustainability of conservation efforts.

Call to Action

In line with the UNDP's concept of "Leave No One Behind" (LNOB), it is crucial to integrate gender-responsive biodiversity conservation and finance solutions. Enhancing the economic empowerment of women, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable populations through targeted initiatives can significantly contribute to biodiversity conservation. By ensuring that these groups have access to resources and opportunities, Liberia can foster inclusive and sustainable development.

The preservation of Liberia's biodiversity is a national concern and a global imperative. We call upon development partners to support biodiversity financing in Liberia for the benefit of the global community.

UNDP stands ready to continue supporting the government and collaborating with partners to promote biodiversity and conservation in Liberia. Together, we can ensure a thriving future for Liberia's rich natural heritage. Liberia must prioritize strengthening policies and governance related to biodiversity financing. Civil society organizations should advocate for biodiversity financing budgets, and the Environmental Protection Agency must continue to develop and implement environmental policies and programs. Establishing a Conservation Trust Fund and partnering with initiatives like the UN's REDD+ can help offset the impacts of activities like mining and close the \$460 million biodiversity funding gap.

As we observe this year's International Day of Biodiversity under the theme "Harmony with nature and sustainable development", it is important to note that preserving Liberia's biodiversity is not just an environmental issue but one vital for the country's health and survival. By leveraging its natural resources and fostering strong partnerships, Liberia can mobilize the necessary financing to support its long-term development goals and ensure a thriving future for its unique biodiversity.

Collaborative efforts and support for the Biofin project in Liberia are essential to ensure a thriving future for Liberia's biodiversity. Together, we can build a sustainable and prosperous future for all.

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Invitation for Bids [IFB]

Forestry Development Authority/TSF Project

IFB Number:

LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/002/2024 &

Purchaser:

LIB/FDA/PIU/SMEs/TSF/OCB-N/004/2024
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 ² 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
0775-841-431/0886-570-320

Link for Clarification:
Email Address: wynnbryant12@gmail.com
0776-063-643/0886-551-249

Two Liberians, Sam Jabbeh and William Adolphus Lassanah present licenses to the Managing Director of the National Port Authority



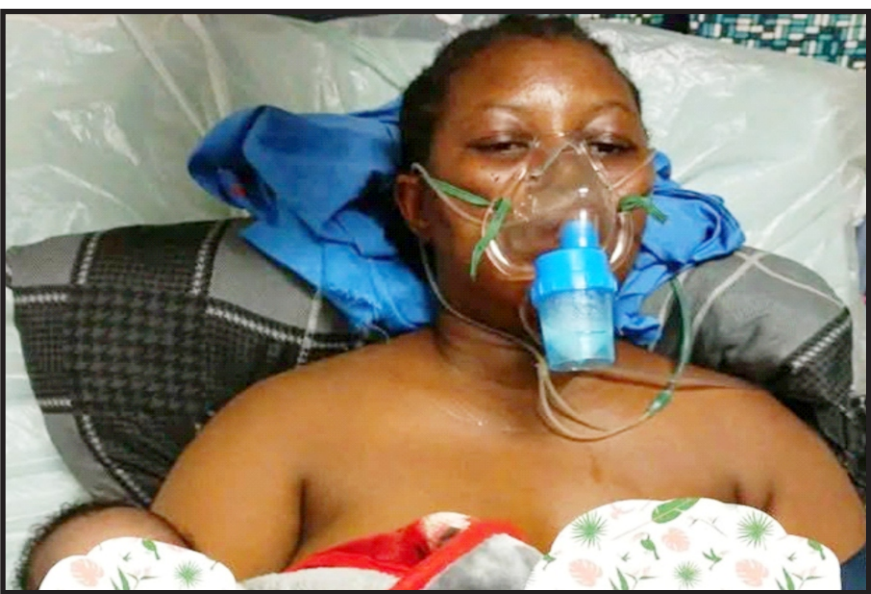
Hon. Sekou A. M. Dukuly after acquiring trainings in tug boat and Marine Pilot as Captains from the Regional Maritime University in Accra, Ghana. As Liberia's first captians



Français

Jamesetta Kugmeh s'éteint au JFK : Elle avait exigé une autopsie avant sa mort

Jamesetta J. Kugmeh, infirmière diplômée âgée de 28 ans, est décédée au John F. Kennedy Medical Center, à Monrovia, quelques jours après son retour du Ghana. Selon sa famille, elle avait expressément demandé qu'une autopsie soit réalisée sur son corps en cas de décès, suspectant une faute médicale



grave survenue lors d'un accouchement à l'hôpital ELWA à Paynesville. « Elle allait mieux au Ghana. Sa récupération était progressive, alors nous avons

décidé de la ramener au pays. Mais après son retour, elle a recommencé à se plaindre. Nous l'avons conduite à l'hôpital, et c'est là qu'elle est décédée ce matin », a déclaré Amos, un proche de la défunte, au journal The New Dawn le mardi 20 mai. Les circonstances entourant le décès de Jamesetta sont tragiques et soulèvent de nombreuses questions. Infirmière et future mère, elle avait

des lésions hépatiques, des brûlures au troisième degré, l'effondrement de l'urètre et l'ablation de son utérus.

Avant sa mort, elle aurait laissé un message poignant à sa famille dans un groupe de discussion familial, les suppliant de demander une autopsie.

« Je pense que quelque chose ne va pas avec mes rapports médicaux du Ghana et du Liberia. J'ai demandé à ce que mon corps soit réexaminé, en présence de la famille », aurait-elle écrit.

« S'il vous plaît, ne laissez pas ceux qui m'ont fait ça s'en tirer. Il y a une raison pour laquelle mes reins ont lâché. Je n'avais jamais eu de problème auparavant », a-t-elle ajouté, en larmes, sur son lit de mort.

Le militant Martin K.N. Kollie, qui avait lancé une campagne de levée de fonds en sa faveur le 15 mars 2025, a exprimé son choc et sa tristesse face à son décès. Il a expliqué n'avoir pas été informé de son retour au Liberia, contrairement à ce qui

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 9

Bravant la Tempête : Trois Sénateurs Proposent l'Institution de Fêtes Musulmanes au Liberia

Un projet de loi visant à instaurer des jours fériés islamiques au Liberia suscite déjà des débats passionnés, alors même que la présidente pro tempore du Sénat, Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence, ne s'est pas encore officiellement prononcée sur le sujet.

Le document législatif intitulé « Loi visant à instituer certaines fêtes religieuses dans la République du Liberia » a été introduit par les sénateurs Joseph Jallah (Lofa), Edwin M. Snowe (Bomi) et Amara Konneh (Gbarpolu), tous issus de comtés à forte majorité musulmane. Ces derniers soutiennent que l'adoption de ce texte favoriserait l'inclusion religieuse et renforcerait l'unité nationale.

La correspondance, lue en session plénière du Sénat ce mardi 20 mai 2025, invite les instances parlementaires à examiner le projet de loi et à le soumettre à la commission compétente pour évaluation et actions législatives ultérieures.

Un appel à la reconnaissance du pluralisme religieux

Dans leur communication, les sénateurs précisent que le

projet de loi a pour but de reconnaître certaines fêtes religieuses, notamment l'Aïd el-Fitr, comme jours fériés officiels. Ils estiment qu'une telle reconnaissance refléterait la diversité confessionnelle du Liberia et encouragerait un climat de respect mutuel entre les citoyens de confessions différentes.

« Nous vous soumettons respectueusement ce projet de loi, accompagné d'une note explicative soulignant son objectif ainsi que son impact anticipé sur la cohésion nationale. Nous sollicitons que ce document soit transmis à la commission compétente pour examen », indique la lettre adressée

au Sénat.

Les auteurs du texte se disent également disposés à fournir toute clarification supplémentaire ou à comparaître devant tout organe législatif approprié si nécessaire.

Modalités de mise en œuvre prévues par la loi

Selon la Section 4 du projet de loi, la date exacte de l'Aïd el-Fitr serait déterminée chaque année en consultation avec le Conseil national musulman du Liberia, ou par proclamation officielle du ministre des Affaires étrangères. Les ministères concernés seraient tenus



Éditorial

L'inconstance du gouvernement libérien sur la gestion du chemin de fer soulève de vives inquiétudes

La décision du gouvernement du Libéria de revenir sur la communication du Comité interministériel des concessions (IMCC), qui réaffirmait ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML) comme opérateur-utilisateur du chemin de fer Yekepa-Buchanan, est non seulement préoccupante, mais soulève également de sérieuses interrogations quant à l'engagement du pays à respecter ses contrats et à protéger les investissements légitimes.

La décision initiale de l'IMCC reposait sur des principes de logique, de légalité et sur les intérêts à long terme du développement du Libéria. Après plus de sept années de négociations entre le gouvernement libérien et AML, un cadre solide - les Principes d'exploitation du système ferroviaire (RSOP) - a été intégré dans la Troisième modification de l'Accord de développement minier (MDA) d'AML.

Ce cadre établit un système ferroviaire à accès partagé, régulé par l'État, tout en maintenant AML dans son rôle d'opérateur-utilisateur selon un modèle sans profit ni perte. Il prévoit également la création d'un comité de gestion conjoint, un droit de regard étatique à travers des audits, ainsi que le pouvoir de révoquer AML en cas de manquement à ses obligations.

Cette structure est parfaitement conforme à l'esprit du Décret exécutif n°136, qui vise à instaurer un système ferroviaire à usage multiple au Libéria. Ce même décret reconnaît explicitement la validité des engagements préexistants, tel que le MDA d'AML, sans chercher à les annuler.

La ligne ferroviaire Yekepa-Buchanan dépasse le simple rôle d'infrastructure : elle constitue l'épine dorsale de l'industrie du minerai de fer du Libéria. ArcelorMittal Liberia y a investi plus de 800 millions de dollars pour sa réhabilitation et son expansion. L'entreprise est présente dans le pays depuis près de vingt ans, emploie plus de 7 000 Libériens, participe activement au développement communautaire, et contribue régulièrement aux recettes publiques.

Revenir aujourd'hui sur la décision qui reconnaissait le rôle historique et contractuel d'AML, au profit d'une entreprise étrangère encore peu éprouvée, Ivahoe Atlantic, serait une grave erreur. Ce choix envoie un mauvais signal aux investisseurs actuels et potentiels. Il accorde un avantage indu à Ivahoe et donne l'image d'un Libéria prêt à renier ses engagements pour satisfaire des intérêts politiques ou des pressions extérieures.

Même la Guinée voisine, dans son accord avec SMFG, reconnaît que l'accès à travers le Libéria demeure temporaire et incertain. Pourtant, le Libéria semble disposé à sacrifier ses propres intérêts et sa crédibilité pour soutenir l'agenda minier d'un autre pays.

Ce revirement n'est pas qu'une simple erreur de politique publique. Il ébranle l'état de droit et sape la confiance des investisseurs. Or, la Constitution du Libéria oblige l'État à honorer ses contrats, et le MDA signé avec AML reste juridiquement contraignant. Si le gouvernement estime ne plus pouvoir accepter AML comme opérateur ferroviaire, la seule voie légitime et honorable serait de renégocier l'accord de manière consensuelle - non de l'annuler unilatéralement.

Le rôle d'AML comme opérateur-utilisateur n'empêche en rien l'accès d'autres entreprises à la voie ferrée. Les RSOP garantissent justement un accès équitable, basé sur les coûts, sous supervision étatique rigoureuse - la définition même d'un modèle multi-utilisateur.

Au lieu de pénaliser AML, le Libéria devrait valoriser et renforcer son partenariat avec une entreprise qui a démontré un engagement durable envers la croissance du pays. Privilégier un acteur étranger sans antécédents solides au détriment d'un investisseur éprouvé risque de compromettre les opérations actuelles et de dissuader tout investissement futur.

Si le Libéria souhaite construire un climat d'investissement prospère et respecté, il doit commencer par honorer ses propres engagements. Le gouvernement doit reconsidérer sa décision et soutenir la position avisée et bénéfique de l'IMCC en maintenant AML comme opérateur-utilisateur dans le cadre légal, éprouvé et transparent de la Troisième modification de l'accord et des RSOP.

Le Libéria doit choisir le principe avant la politique, car l'avenir de son économie et la crédibilité de la nation en dépendent.

Français

Starts from page 8 Jamesetta Kugmeh s'éteint au JFK : Elle

avait été conseillé. Le 16 mai, il annonçait encore sur les réseaux sociaux que Jamesetta se rétablissait, avant d'apprendre sa mort quatre jours plus tard.

En février dernier, Jamesetta avait publiquement accusé le personnel médical de l'hôpital ELWA d'erreurs médicales lors de sa césarienne, ayant conduit à des complications majeures. Elle avait alors interpellé la Liberia Medical and Dental Council (LMDC), le Liberia Board of Nursing and Midwifery, ainsi que le ministère de la Santé, afin qu'une enquête rigoureuse soit menée.

Dans une interview accordée au JFK Hospital, Jamesetta avait raconté en larmes que le 24 février 2025, elle s'était rendue à l'hôpital ELWA pour un simple contrôle prénatal (ANC), comme elle le faisait régulièrement depuis le début de sa grossesse. Les médecins lui auraient alors annoncé qu'elle était à 42 semaines et cinq jours, et qu'elle devait être admise sans délai, malgré ses protestations.

Elle a précisé que le bébé se portait bien et que

tous les signes vitaux étaient normaux, mais qu'elle avait été opérée dans la soirée du même jour. Elle affirmait que l'intervention avait été réalisée par un médecin inconnu, le Dr Yasu, au lieu du médecin prévu, le Dr Susay, et qu'elle ne s'en était rendue compte qu'en lisant plus tard la fiche de santé de l'enfant.

Après l'opération, elle aurait souffert d'hémorragies abondantes, conduisant à une deuxième intervention chirurgicale pour une hystérectomie totale. Son état s'est ensuite détérioré jusqu'à sa mort.

Face à cette situation tragique, la famille réclame des comptes. Une autopsie indépendante pourrait permettre de faire la lumière sur les causes exactes de la mort de Jamesetta Kugmeh et, éventuellement, de déterminer les responsabilités.

Les autorités sanitaires sont, à ce jour, appelées à réagir face aux accusations et aux appels à la justice portés par la famille, les proches et les défenseurs des droits des patients.

Starts from page 8 Bravant la Tempête : Trois Sénateurs Proposent

d'annoncer la fête au moins cinq jours avant sa célébration.

La Section 5 stipule que tous les organismes publics, écoles et entreprises privées observeraient une journée de repos à l'occasion des fêtes religieuses reconnues. Toutefois, les services essentiels et d'urgence resteraient opérationnels conformément aux exigences légales.

Dans un souci de respect des convictions personnelles, la Section 6 précise que « rien dans cette loi ne saurait être interprété comme une obligation de participer à une pratique religieuse contraire à sa foi ou à sa conscience ».

Enfin, les Sections 7 et 8 prévoient respectivement l'abrogation de toute disposition légale incompatible avec cette loi, et son entrée en vigueur immédiate dès sa publication au Journal Officiel.

Conclusion

Ce projet de loi relance un débat de longue date sur la reconnaissance officielle des fêtes musulmanes au Liberia. Il reste à voir quelle orientation prendra le Sénat cette fois-ci. Pour ses promoteurs, il s'agit d'un pas vers l'équité religieuse dans une nation historiquement pluraliste.

Le Gouvernement Rassure la Population : Il Affirme Être Prêt à Contenir l'Épidémie de Variole du Singe

Les autorités sanitaires libériennes ont confirmé, ce dimanche, trois nouveaux cas de variole du singe, ravivant les inquiétudes d'une propagation accrue du virus. En réponse, le gouvernement libérien a déclaré être pleinement préparé à maîtriser et contenir cette épidémie.

La variole du singe est une maladie virale rare, jadis confinée aux régions d'Afrique centrale et de l'Ouest, mais don't des foyers ont récemment été signalés à l'échelle mondiale. Le virus se transmet par contact étroit avec des animaux ou des personnes infectées et provoque des symptômes semblables à ceux de la variole, notamment de la fièvre, une éruption cutanée et un gonflement

des ganglions lymphatiques. Bien que généralement moins sévère que la variole, elle peut entraîner des complications graves, notamment chez les populations vulnérables.

À ce jour, le Liberia a confirmé quatre cas actifs de variole du singe, mais aucun décès n'a été enregistré.

Lors du point de presse hebdomadaire du ministère de l'Information, des Affaires culturelles et du Tourisme, tenu ce mardi 20 mai 2025, le ministre de l'Information, Jerolimick Mathew Piah, a indiqué que la question a été largement abordée lors du conseil des ministres présidé par le président de la République, le 19 mai 2025 au Palais présidentiel.

Selon lui, cette réunion, qui a duré

plusieurs heures, a permis d'évaluer les grands défis nationaux, don't la récente flambée du virus. À cette occasion, l'Institut national de santé publique du Liberia (NPHIL) a été invité à faire le point sur la situation sanitaire.

Le NPHIL a assuré le gouvernement qu'il disposait des moyens nécessaires pour contenir la situation et a appelé la population au calme. « Les autorités sanitaires nous demandent simplement de reprendre certaines mesures préventives déjà connues, notamment celles adoptées durant la pandémie de COVID-19 », a expliqué le ministre Piah.

Il a précisé : « Cela signifie qu'il faut éviter de serrer la main, de faire des accolades fréquentes, ou d'avoir des contacts rapprochés avec des personnes en sueur. » Le ministre a insisté sur la nécessité de respecter rigoureusement ces gestes barrières, tout en soulignant que la situation reste sous contrôle. « Jusqu'à présent, les responsables sanitaires nous ont assuré qu'ils sont pleinement capables de gérer cette épidémie. Il n'y a pas lieu de paniquer », a-t-il conclu.

Le gouvernement appelle ainsi à la vigilance, à la coopération citoyenne et à la confiance envers les structures sanitaires nationales, tout en réaffirmant son engagement à protéger la santé publique.

Bong County : Une mère de six enfants tuée lors d'une fête communautaire

Ce qui devait être un moment de réjouissance s'est transformé en tragédie dans la localité de Haindi Town, après qu'une femme, identifiée comme Dorris Kollie Moannah, a été retrouvée morte dans des circonstances suspectes à l'issue d'une fête communautaire, tenue durant le week-end.

Âgée d'une quarantaine d'années et mère de six enfants, Dorris Moannah aurait quitté son domicile conjugal seule pour assister à l'événement festif. Selon des proches, elle n'était pas accompagnée de son mari ni de ses enfants — et ne devait jamais revenir.

Son corps sans vie a été découvert aux premières heures du matin, non loin du lieu des festivités. Très vite, les soupçons se sont tournés vers son ancien compagnon, Lawrence King, désigné comme principal suspect par plusieurs habitants de la communauté. Ce dernier est actuellement en fuite et activement recherché par la police.

Le drame a provoqué une onde de choc à Haindi Town, suscitant colère et indignation. En réaction, certains membres de la famille de la victime auraient incendié des biens soupçonnés d'appartenir au fugitif.

« Nous réclamons justice pour notre sœur, notre mère », a déclaré un



proche endeuillé lors d'un rassemblement près de la scène du crime. « C'était une femme aimante et attentionnée. Elle ne méritait pas de mourir ainsi. Son meurtrier doit être arrêté. »

La police de Bong County a ouvert une enquête pour homicide et lance un appel à la population afin d'obtenir toute information susceptible de mener à l'arrestation du suspect.

« C'est une affaire criminelle que nous prenons très au sérieux », a affirmé le commandant de la Division des enquêtes criminelles (CID) du détachement de la police de Bong County. « Toute personne disposant d'informations sur la localisation de Lawrence King est priée de se rapprocher du poste de police le plus proche. La coopération de la communauté est essentielle. »

Bien que le mobile exact reste à déterminer, les enquêteurs n'écartent pas la piste d'un différend personnel entre la victime et le suspect. Les autorités locales appellent au calme pendant que les investigations se poursuivent.

Amis et proches décrivent Dorris Moannah comme une mère dévouée et une femme pleine de compassion, don't la disparition brutale a plongé sa famille et l'ensemble de la communauté dans un profond chagrin.

Le corps de la victime a été transféré pour autopsie. La police promet de fournir de plus amples informations à mesure que l'enquête avance. Toute personne disposant d'informations sur Lawrence King est priée de contacter sans délai le détachement de police du comté de Bong.



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Arcelor Mittal invest 58k in biodiversity and conservation program

ArcelorMittal Liberia is proud to continue its commitment to sustainable development by investing over \$58,000 in the latest phase of our Biodiversity and Conservation Program - benefiting nine fenceline communities and over 60 local stakeholders in the Yarmein belt, Nimba



County. This initiative, implemented in partnership with Humanity Care Liberia, supports sustainable agriculture through vegetable farming, piggery, poultry, and swamp rice production - empowering local farmers while reducing pressure on Liberia's forestland. Speaking at the launch event in Baapa, community leaders and

AML representatives emphasized the program's dual purpose: supporting livelihoods and preserving biodiversity.

"This program is not about AML profiting—it is about empowering farmers," said Samuel Peter, AML's Superintendent for Biodiversity and Conservation.

The project will fund tools, seeds, and food support for farmers, with 100% of the harvests and income staying in the hands of local participants. Special thanks to our community relations team and to local leaders like Marie Torlo of the Yekepa Vegetable Gardeners for showing what's possible when partnership meets purpose.

#ArcelorMittalLiberia
#Sustainability
#CommunityImpact
#InvestinginPeople.

Forgotten by the Nation

-Salala crumbles while leaders watch in silence. By Edwin N. Khakie

Once a beacon of resilience during Liberia's civil conflict, Salala District now faces alarming levels of infrastructure decay and apparent government neglect.

Salala District lower, Bong County, May 22, 2025 — Residents report that vital public institutions—including schools, healthcare centers, police facilities, and the judiciary—are in a state of collapse, prompting growing outrage and demands for immediate government action.

The Martha Tubman Senior High School in Salala City, a flagship educational institution in the region, is deteriorating rapidly. Classrooms suffer from leaking roofs, broken windows, and a lack of basic learning materials. Teachers and students alike are forced to operate in unsafe and demoralizing conditions that severely undermine the quality of education.

The Salala Community Clinic, which serves thousands, is similarly struggling. With insufficient medical supplies, a shortage of trained staff, and a crumbling facility, the clinic is unable to manage even minor health emergencies. Many patients are referred to distant centers due to the clinic's inability to provide adequate care.

The situation extends to the justice and security sectors. The Liberia National Police Station and Salala Magisterial Court are both

described by residents as "unfit for use." The police station reportedly lacks basic equipment and security infrastructure, while the court faces serious logistical and structural challenges that impede justice delivery.

"Our district has been abandoned," said James Kollie, a youth leader in Salala. "How can a country expect progress when its own citizens are left behind without access to education, healthcare, or justice?" One resident, speaking on condition of anonymity, delivered a sharp rebuke of their elected representative: "Our lawmaker, Moima Briggs Mensah, doesn't care about us. She only looks out for herself and her family. But 2029 is coming."

Salala holds historical importance, having hosted several internally displaced persons (IDP) camps during the civil war. For many residents, the current neglect is a betrayal of the district's contributions and sacrifices during

Liberia's most difficult times.

The people of Salala are now calling on national leaders—including Hon. Prince Kermue Moya, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai Sr., Vice President Jeremiah Kpan Koung, Representative Moima Briggs Mensah, and Finance Minister Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan—to urgently prioritize the district's needs and deliver tangible results.

"This is not about politics—it's a humanitarian crisis," said Rebecca Mulbah, a mother of four. "We are not asking for luxury. We are asking for clean classrooms, working clinics, and functioning courts. Our children deserve better."

As frustrations mount and voices grow louder, all eyes are on the government to respond. For the people of Salala, hope is fading—but the demand for dignity remains resolute. - Edited by Othello B. Garblah.



West Africa's Disaster Management Experts convene in Accra

Heads of Disaster Management and Civil Protection Agencies from ECOWAS Member States are gathered in Accra, Ghana for the 16th Consultative Meeting of the Regional Committee for Disaster Management in West Africa (GECEAO).

Accra, Ghana | May 20–22, 2025 – The three-day meeting, organized by the ECOWAS Directorate of Humanitarian and Social Affairs (DHSA), aims to review the regional Recovery Roadmap and Roster, strengthen disaster coordination, and enhance resilience-building across the region.

Opening the event on behalf of the Director of Humanitarian Affairs, Dr. Sintiki Tarfa-Ugbe, Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim, Head of the Disaster Risk Management Unit, underscored the impact of disasters on West African communities over the past 25 years, noting losses exceeding a billion dollars. He highlighted the growing frequency and intensity of disasters driven by environmental degradation, rapid

experiences, expertise, and resources, we can build a more resilient region, he added.

He also shared Nigeria's ongoing efforts to train disaster management professionals through partnerships with six federal universities, offering certificate to postgraduate programs in disaster and development studies, aimed at building regional expertise.

He further emphasized NEMA's commitment to working with disaster management agencies of ECOWAS member states to enhance the collective capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters. We have done it in the past, and we ready to build on our past achievements, he said.

Chairman of GECEAO and



urbanization, and climate change. "Member States must prioritize humanitarian assistance and invest in resilience-building programs in collaboration with partners to mitigate these challenges," said Dr. Ibrahim.

ECOWAS' 2025 Humanitarian Response Initiative targets reaching over 600,000 individuals through programs addressing food security, displacement, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), healthcare, and early recovery support. The initiative also emphasizes regional preparedness, emergency response coordination, and the adoption of new technologies to ensure timely, dignified aid delivery.

Speaking on behalf of Hajiya Zubaida Umar, Director General, Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Alhaji Idris Mohammed emphasized the urgent need for cooperation and collaboration for effective management of disasters across the region, stating that "West Africa is increasingly vulnerable to floods, droughts, epidemics, and conflicts—events that threaten lives and reverse development gains. Now is the time to strengthen partnerships and build a resilient and united sub-region." By sharing

Director General of Ghana's National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO), Major (Rtd.) Dr. Joseph Bikanyi Kuyon, commended Ghana's recent legislative reforms empowering NADMO and announced the development of a national Disaster Risk Financing Strategy. He stressed the need for capacity building and called on participants to use their expertise to inform policy and drive impactful resource allocation.

"Our collaboration must translate regional hydro-meteorological warnings into tangible preparedness and mitigation actions," Major Kuyon said. "Let us integrate disaster risk reduction into our national development plans for 2025–2026 and work toward GECEAO's vision of harmonized disaster management in West Africa."

The consultative meeting serves as a platform for strategic dialogue, knowledge exchange, and regional solidarity, as ECOWAS Member States work together to confront rising disaster risks and protect vulnerable communities across the region.

Former First Lady Nancy B. Doe is dead

Mrs. Nancy B. Doe, widow of slain Liberian President Samuel Kanyon Doe, has died in Monrovia.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Monrovia, Liberia, May 22, 2025 - Liberia is mourning the death of former First Lady, Nancy B. Doe, widow of slain President Samuel K. Doe. She passed away at her residence in Sinkor, Monrovia, on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, following a prolonged illness,



according to family sources. The late Madam Nancy B. Doe served as Liberia's First Lady from 1980 to 1990, during the presidency of her husband, Samuel K. Doe, who rose to power through a military coup. During her tenure, she was known for her charitable initiatives and advocacy for rights and welfare of women and children. After the assassination of President Doe in September 1990, Mrs. Doe and her children went into exile.

Nevertheless, she remained outspoken on matters concerning her late husband, including demand for rightful government benefits and call for proper authorization for his burial. While an official family statement is still pending, tributes have already begun pouring in from across Liberia, honoring her role in the nation's history and recognizing her resilience in the face of personal and national tragedy. President Samuel Doe, who seized power in a 1980 military coup, was

captured and killed in September 1990 by INPFL rebels loyal to late Senator Prince Yormie Johnson of Nimba County, a pivotal moment in Liberia's brutal civil conflict. News of her death comes a time the Government of Liberia thru President Joseph N. Boakai initiated a process to honor and give her late husband and former President William R. Tolbert befitting state burials to bring closure to an ugly chapter in Liberia's political history. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Dillion wants Cllr Kruah imprisoned

Labour Minister Cllr. Cooper Kruah has found himself in the news again, this time for his refusal to disclose the type of jobs for which he has issued eith thousand work permits to foreigners as Liberians roam the streets jobless.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, May 22, 2025: Montserrado County Senator and Chair on Foreign Affairs at the Liberian Senate, Abraham Darius Dillon wants Labor Minister Cllr. Cooper W. Kruah sentence to prison for obstructing the function and working of the Liberian Senate. He is also seeking his sentence for failing to provide categorized job descriptions for the Eight thousand work permits granted to non-Liberian. Making his point on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, during the senate hearings with Labor Minister Cllr. Kruah regarding eight thousand non-Liberian work permits, Senator Dillon said it's very saddened that the Minister have failed to clearly update the Senate with job category regarding the foreigners to whom work permits have been provided.

The news come at the time the Labour Ministry and the Liberian Immigration Services have subletter the issuance of work permits to an Indian Company. However, according to Dillon, whenever the Liberian Senate ratify concessions, it's their hope that such initiative will create jobs for Liberians. He said it is within this context the Liberian Legislature passed the Decent Work Act authorizing the Ministry of Labor to issue regulations to protect Liberian jobs in keeping with the Liberalization policy and the issuance of work permit. However, Sen. Dillon observed that failure on the part of the Minister to clearly state the exact jobs for which his ministry has dished out eighty thousand work permits to foreign nationals is equated to an obstruction of legislative function. "What the Minister is currently doing

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Gov't pays US\$1.4M to ship AFL's

globally. Speaking on behalf of the President and Commander-in-Chief of the AFL, Joseph Boakai, Minister Larmin assured AFL personnel that the government remains committed to providing the necessary tools and support for them to effectively carry out their duties. Also addressing the audience, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Jadoe, Assistant Chief of Staff, hailed the personnel of the newly activated battalion and Signal Company as pioneers.

He emphasized that the activation of these two units represents a new phase in the AFL's operational doctrine. With integrated armored capabilities, the First Armored Reconnaissance Battalion is expected to conduct both ground and aerial surveillance, gather critical intelligence, and respond swiftly to emerging threats. The activation ceremony was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of National Defense and high-ranking officers of the Armed Forces of Liberia. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

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here, he is reaching at the point where he is risking Contempt charges in keeping with Article 44 of the Constitution because he wants to impede and obstruct our function by his deliberate refusal to comply with plenary mandate,” Sen. Dillon argued, adding “There is no system that only carry individual names, age and nationality, when the main thing the person is applying for is not stated as to which job he is going to do. Something is wrong. The system must tell us if the work permit issue by the Minister was given to driver, or casher instead of it just being blank." Sen. Dillon further argued that Liberians will not support and trained their children in universities and technical ad vocational schools for their jobs to be given to foreigners only because the Ministry wants to raise domestic revenue by issuing work Permit for over a thousand United States dollar. "Some of the work that they are giving out to non-Liberians are work that Liberians are qualified and ready to do. And they are paying those people over two to three thousand United States dollar a month. Now, my order to the Minister, for four months, he has been dogging this issue. Eight thousand

work permit to non-Liberians for jobs that the Minister can't provide the category and description about is troubling. The Minister is risking Contempt, and we are appealing that he be held in contempt until he can provide the list of jobs provided to foreigners" he stressed. On Tuesday, May 20, 2025, the Ministry of Labor represented by Minister Kruah appeared before the Senate Committee to provide updates and explanation regarding the issuance of eight thousand work permit granted to non-Liberians or foreigners across the country. However, during the Minister appearance, he confirmed to the Liberian Senate that eight thousand permits were issued to non-Liberians but failed to tell the Senators or provided a list of the job description and category to which those permits were issued, something which anger Senator Dillon. Dillon has been a major advocate behind the Minister appearance, as he wrote the Senate months ago seeking the endorsement of Plenary to cite the Minister of Labor to address the issuance of "Employment Permit" otherwise known as “Work Permit” to non-Liberians. *-Edited by Othello B. Garblah.*



Sen. Darius Dillon

