

Advertise Here!

Subscribe to our website
get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

WE NOW DELIVER DAILY COPIES

The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

AT YOUR DOORSTEPS
0886484201 / 0777007529

WE WILL DELIVER YOUR DAILY COPY
from **MONDAY TO FRIDAY**
Don't worry, you can pay for your subscription at the end of the month.
Hurry and book now!

CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES
LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025	L\$198.0362/US\$1.00	L\$200.8888/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.

The New Dawn

French Version Inside

TRULY INDEPENDENT

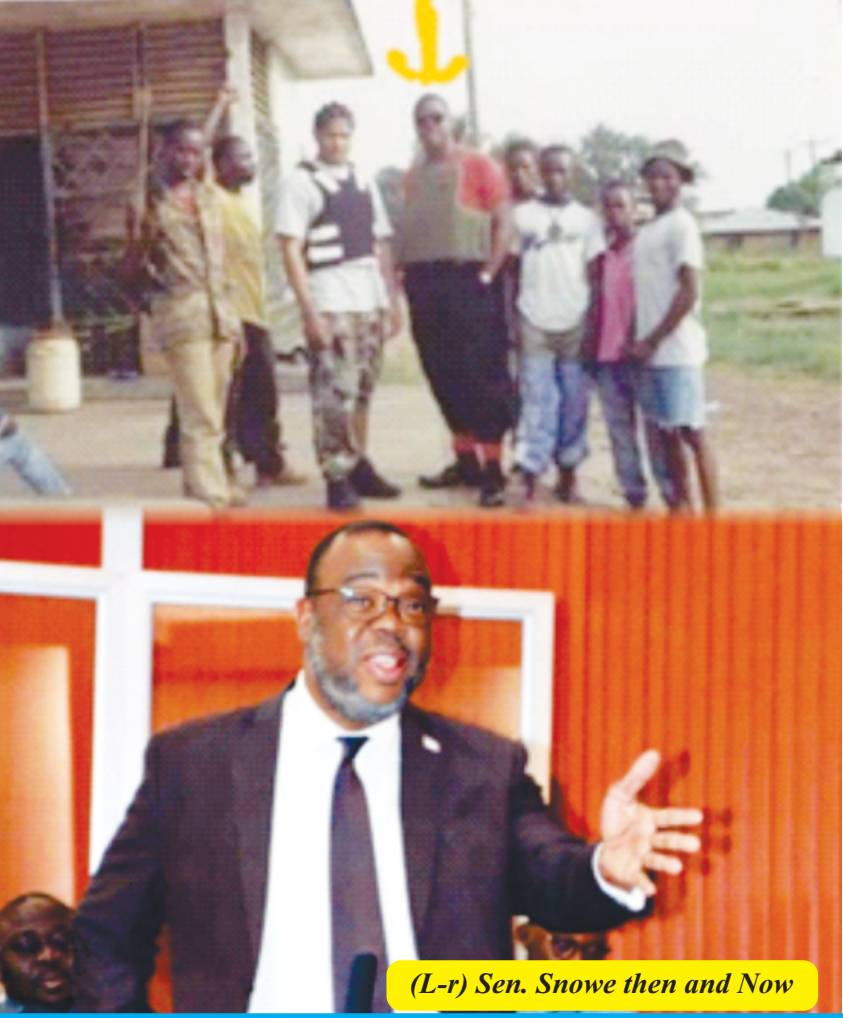
The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

ANDROID APP ON Google Play

QPR CODE: 797005

Down Load New Dawn Android App

VOL. 15 NO. 084 MONDAY, MAY 26, 2025 PRICE LD\$50.00



(L-r) Sen. Snowe then and Now

Gov't accuses Sen. Snowe of subversive plans

Liberianizing the Marine Sector



Support Your Family Beyond Borders with MoMo.

Dial *156*1# to MoMo it in LRD or USD

MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN | BnB

Ivory Coast Ghana Uganda Mali
Guinea Sierra Leone Senegal Rwanda

and counting...

Continental News

Mali's Diarra Sidiki wins 2025 Tour du Togo

The thirtieth edition of the Tour Cycliste International du Togo came to a close this Saturday, May 24, 2025, marked by a flawless performance by the highly efficient Malian team. After nine stages and 1300 kilometers of competition, Mali's Diarra Sidiki took the champion's yellow jersey, capping a remarkable collective performance by the Malian team. The final stage, contested on Saturday between Djagblé on the outskirts of the city and the bustling streets of Lomé, was won by Burkina Faso's Ilboudo Soumaïla, ahead of France's Julien Amadori, who came second, and Mali's Diallo Djandouba, in third place. This spectacular finish revealed

the intensity of the final day of racing. However, the overall classification remains indisputable: Mali dominated the competition, taking the first two places. Diarra Sidiki, a methodical and consistent leader, won ahead of his teammate Diamoutene Tiemoko, while Saturnin Yameogo (Burkina Faso) completed the podium. "The start of the round was very difficult for us. One of the difficulties was the injury to our captain. Despite that, I was able to get the yellow jersey. The end was happy for us. The tour was a success for the Malian team," shared Sidiki with emotion at the finish. A national circuit with a regional scope From north to south, east to west,

Togo vibrated to the rhythm of the peloton for almost two weeks. From Kabou to Lomé, via the mountains of Kozah and the valleys of Est-Mono, the nine stages made up a popular sporting fresco, drawing crowds to the roadsides and mobilizing the energies of the towns they passed through. In a peloton marked by punctures, dust and heat, Diarra Sidiki's victory was seen as a triumph of perseverance and team spirit. A sentiment shared by the officials. "He's a good champion. And within their team, there's a lot of potential. When they say so-and-so is going to win, someone else comes out. It's a bit like the Burkina team. There's a lot of potential in the different teams. It's good, it augurs well for the future," says Kevin Tanoé, commissioner of the International Cycling Union (UCI) and president of the jury. A sporting and human adventure Far beyond the competition, this year's edition was recognized for its human and international dimension. Cyclists from France, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin, Mali and Togo jointly wrote a new page in the history of West African cycling. Among them was Julien Amadori, French cyclist and Tour du Togo veteran, who returned to the race ten years after his first participation.



South Africa police minister says Trump's genocide claim 'twisted'

South Africa police minister on Friday said U.S. President Donald Trump 'twisted' facts to push baseless genocide claims during an Oval Office meeting with South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa. Trump claimed that a clip he played during the meeting showed white crosses on the side of a road, were a memorial for white farmers who were killed. Police Minister Senzo Mchunu said the crosses did not mark graves or burial sites, but were a temporary memorial put up in 2020 to protest farm killings across South Africa. He said they were put up during a funeral procession for a white couple who were killed in a robbery on their

farm. Mchunu said the false claim by Trump was part of his "genocide story"—referring to the U.S. president's baseless allegations that there is a widespread campaign in South Africa to kill white farmers and take their land that he has said

amounts to a genocide. "We have respect for the people of the United States and we have respect for the president of the United States, President Donald Trump, but we have no respect for his genocide story whatsoever," said Mchunu.



Trump claimed that a clip he played during the meeting showed white crosses on the side of a road, were a memorial for white farmers who were killed

Congo's public prosecutor calls for lifting of justice minister's immunity

The Democratic Republic of Congo's Appeal Court on Wednesday called for Justice Minister Constant Mutamba's to be lifted. It is seeking to prosecute him for alleged misappropriation of public funds and wants the National Assembly to allow it to open a judicial investigation into Mutamba. He is accused of embezzling \$19 million of the \$39 million earmarked for the construction of a new prison in the city of Kisangani. The private agreement for the build was reportedly awarded without the usual procedures for public contracts. After being appointed last year, Mutamba said he would overhaul what he described as a "sick system" promising transparency in his fight against

crime and corruption. After hearing prosecutor Firmin Mvonde, the president of the National Assembly said it would not stand in the way of the judiciary doing its job. The Assembly immediately set up a special committee to hear both Mvonde and Mutamba's sides of the story. The African Association for the Defence of Human Rights is however urging caution. It says Mutamba should be prosecuted if he embezzled or attempted to embezzle funds. But it warned that he should be supported if the allegations were "made against him by politicians or judicial operators". Tensions between Mutamba and the public prosecutor's office have reportedly been simmering for months.



Congo's Minister of Justice Constant Mutamba

Tidjane Thiam Confirmed as PDCI President by Ivorian Court

On May 22, 2025, an Ivorian court dismissed a legal challenge against Tidjane Thiam's leadership of the Democratic Party of Côte d'Ivoire (PDCI), allowing him to remain at the helm of the opposition party despite recent controversies over his nationality. The complaint, filed by Valérie Yapo, a member of the party's political bureau, argued that Thiam was ineligible to serve as president because he allegedly lost his Ivorian nationality when he acquired French citizenship in 1987 — a move she claimed violates the party's statutes. However, the court ruled the case inadmissible, effectively upholding Thiam's leadership.

The decision follows weeks of political tension. In April 2025, Thiam was removed from the national electoral roll due to his dual nationality, jeopardizing his ability to run in the October presidential election. In protest, he temporarily resigned as PDCI president on May 12, citing "judicial harassment." Just two days later, he was overwhelmingly re-elected by party members with over 99% of the vote during an extraordinary congress. While the court's ruling secures Thiam's role within the PDCI, his political future remains uncertain as the party continues to challenge the decision that disqualified him from the voter registry — a necessary step for his presidential bid.



President Tidjane Thiam's

EDITORIAL

Govt. should fully investigate the subversion allegation

The Government of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai and Senator Edwin Melvin Snowe of Bomi County are trading salvo over alleged subversion of the state. The Boakai Administration accuses Senator Snowe, who heads the security committee of the ECOWAS Parliament, of vowing to use his connections in the regional body to ensure that President Boakai fails, but Snowe denies.

A government statement issued in Monrovia over the weekend, says Mr. Snowe declared that he would “do everything possible including using his connections in ECOWAS to make the Boakai-led government to fail, even if it means discouraging foreign direct investment to Liberia and making the country ungovernable and unstable until he, Snowe, becomes President of Liberia.”

This is serious! It needs full investigation to establish veracity of the allegation or else, it could cast a negative image not only on Senator Snowe, but the ECOOWAS Parliament and perhaps the Government of Liberia itself, because news of instability of any level has a potential to drive away investors and much needed dollars.

Besides, it borders on question of trust with the regional Parliamentary body which Liberia is a member, and where Snowe serves as a senior official, representing the entire region.

Senator Snowe unequivocally and categorically rejects and condemns the allegations as entirely baseless, malicious, and politically motivated. “This irresponsible and reckless statement”, he reacts, “amounts to nothing less than an implicit accusation of treason, one of the gravest charges under our Constitution that I do not take lightly.”

The exchanges between the Administration and the Senator that are being published in the media is creating panic in the public and unnecessary tension in the country.

The government was not categorical in stating clearly where Snowe allegedly made the statement, while the onus is on the Bomi County Senator, who recently declared his intention to vie for the Presidency come 2029, on the ticket of the National Patriotic Party, to exonerate himself from the allegations.

This is why we are calling for thorough investigation of the allegation to get to the bottom for the sake of the state, because subversion of the state is a serious offense that is in fact, non-bailable in court.

Rather than just making the allegations, we believe strongly that it will be in the best interest of the government to launch a full investigation, as Senator Snowe is calling for, involving ECOWAS, the African Union (AU), the United Nations (UN), and the European Union (EU) to lay this issue to rest.

A government that walks in harmony with its members achieves much in terms of political and social cohesion for sustainable development and economic growth, instead of being at one another's throats for political power that cannot be exercised in chaos.

Published by the Searchlight Communications Inc.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266 Opposite National Investment Commission,
Monrovia-Liberia. Tel: +231-06484201, +231-77007529, +231-055422200 /
+231-775407211 Managing Editor: Othello B. Garblah; Editor-In-Chief: Jonathan K. Browne
www.thenewdawnliberia.com; Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

WWW thenewdawnliberia.com
Advertise with us!
Subscribe to our website
Get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

PUBLISHED BY THE SEARCHLIGHT COMMUNICATIONS INC.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266
Opposite the National Investment Commission
Monrovia - Liberia
Tel: 0864484201 / 0772007529 Website: www.thenewdawnliberia.com
0864978282 / 0775407211 Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

We Offer The Following Printing Services:
- Newspapers, Magazines
- Flyers, Posters, Calendars
- Brochures, Letterhead
- Receipts, Invoices
- Souvenirs, Gifts
- Designs, etc...

PLEASE! KEEP THE DOOR CLOSE

WE DO PHOTOCOPY

2 Colors Heidelberg Machines

PRESS

COMMENTARY

By Marcos Vinicius Chiliatto
and Michael Krake

No Development Strategy Can Ignore the Climate

WASHINGTON, DC – After decades of industrialization powered by fossil fuels, the costs of climate change are becoming ever more apparent in both the Global South and the Global North. In Germany, flooding in 2021 left [190 people dead](#), displaced 40,000, and caused [\\$40 billion](#) in damage. And in Brazil, the 2024 Rio Grande do Sul flood claimed [183 lives](#) and displaced more than 600,000 people, and Amazon wildfires destroyed an area the size of New Jersey and wreaked havoc on the regional economy, destroying livestock and agriculture, and causing tourism to plummet.

Even as US President Donald Trump has loudly proclaimed America's withdrawal from the Paris climate agreement (again), a silent revolution is taking place just about everywhere else. Most countries know that they cannot ignore climate change in pursuing their economic development agendas. They understand that climate policies boost investment in important industries such as energy and manufacturing, support the development of new technologies that enhance productive capacities, and improve job quality. They also understand that climate and development financing are not at odds with one another or moving on separate tracks; rather, they are closely aligned with goals of driving productivity growth and social development.

This is certainly true for most countries served by the World Bank and its regional peers. These countries are demanding financing and expertise for “climate-smart” investments. They want to develop renewable energy sources as part of a broader strategy to improve energy access, cut emissions, and reduce dependencies. And they are strengthening the resilience of their infrastructure to more frequent floods, droughts, and storms, ultimately saving far more than they would spend on disaster recovery.

In response to these demands, the World Bank Group [announced](#), in 2024, that it will raise its climate-finance target to 45% of its total loan portfolio. At the United Nations Climate Conference in Baku (COP29) last November, multilateral development banks collectively [committed](#) to providing \$120 billion in annual climate financing for low- and middle-income countries by 2030.

To be sure, humankind has made real progress in slowing climate change over the past few decades. But now more than ever, partnerships between development banks and their clients are crucial to restore destroyed natural resources, and to develop new industries, standards, designs, and technologies to cope with a changing climate. For example, the International Finance Corporation, the private-sector arm of the World Bank Group, was instrumental in [designing](#) climate-friendly “green” building standards. Now, buildings constructed according to these standards are cheaper to operate. Not only do they have lower energy and maintenance costs; they are more resilient to damage and tend to outperform in terms of property value. As the host of the next climate summit,

COP30, the Brazilian government is implementing important structural reforms that recognize climate-change adaptation, mitigation, and biodiversity protection as essential drivers of productivity and growth. And in March, the World Bank, in close collaboration with the Inter-American Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, [announced](#) a \$1 billion loan to support these efforts.

Among other things, this project will establish Eco Invest Brazil, an initiative to offer currency hedging (protection against exchange-rate volatility) for green investments, thus creating the structural conditions for more private investment in the country's green transformation. Moreover, the project provides cash transfers to vulnerable families engaged in forest protection, thus combining climate action and social inclusion. Uruguay is another good example of a country that is aligning its economic and development policies with climate goals. The country's first sustainability-linked bond, issued in 2022, attracted [188 investors](#) from around the world, far exceeding supply. In recognition of this success, the World Bank Group's Board of Directors approved an innovative [\\$350 million loan](#) that linked financing conditions to ambitious environmental targets, lending further momentum to the country's pursuit of a more sustainable economy built on robust, resilient growth.

Meanwhile, the Philippines, one of the countries most vulnerable to natural disasters, has set the gold standard in disaster-risk financing with World Bank support. Facing frequent earthquakes and severe climate-related weather events, the Philippines has suffered billions in annual losses. So, to protect public finances and strengthen resilience, it developed a sophisticated risk-management strategy that includes innovative tools like Cat (catastrophe) bonds and parametric insurance (which pays according to the scale of the event, not the size of the loss). As extreme weather becomes more frequent, such preparedness is essential – not only for national stability but also to reduce reliance on international aid.

Despite polarizing political rhetoric, there is no going back. Developing countries will continue to grapple with persistent poverty and inequality, and the effects of climate change will only intensify. Since these challenges overlap and reinforce each other, they require integrated solutions.

That is why most countries are no longer treating climate action as a separate agenda. They are embedding adaptation and mitigation within their development strategies and aligning economic growth, job creation, and social inclusion with environmental sustainability. This shift is well underway. It is driven not by ideology, but by necessity and pragmatic governance.

Marcos Vinicius Chiliatto is World Bank Group Executive Director for Brazil, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti, Panama, the Philippines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. Michael Krake is World Bank Group Executive Director for Germany.

FEATURE

ARTICLE

The Educational and Cultural Disconnect in Liberia: Bridging the Gap through Language:

*BY: Austin S Fallah-
A True Son of the Planet Earth Soil:*

Liberia is a diverse nation, boasting over sixteen distinct tribes, each with its unique culture, language, and traditions. Although traditionally, this diverse tapestry of identities has historically been a strength, it has also resulted in considerable disunity and disconnect among its citizens. One telling observation is that Liberians often know extensively about foreign nations' cultures, languages, and practices. They study foreign languages in schools, interact with international media, and engage with global communities. Yet, there seems to be a significant oversight regarding teaching their culture and languages in the educational system. This essay explores the implications of this neglect, the repercussions on societal dynamics, and the benefits of reinstating a native language as a compulsory part of the educational curriculum.

Understanding Liberia's Educational Priorities:
In my 10th grade class at Cathedral Catholic High School in Liberia, then under the instructorship in Social Studies of Ms. Famatta Sambolai (Ms.Sambo), now Dr.Famatta S.L.Hubbard (Still our Ms.Sambo), we read through a book "Liberian History Upto 1847"; authored by Dr.Joseph Saye Guann(Now late) and through that book and readings, I came to realize that we Liberians are often more exposed to foreign cultures than our own, leading to a concerning lack of camaraderie among the Indigenous peoples of Liberia. Several factors, including colonial influence, globalization, and inadequate policies regarding cultural education, can explain this.

As a nation, Liberia's educational system has prioritized the study of foreign languages and cultures to better integrate students into a globalized world. While this exposure can be advantageous, it also poses a risk of cultural erosion, a phenomenon where foreign practices overshadow local traditions. The decision to emphasize foreign languages and cultures can be traced back to Liberia's historical context, where the impact of colonial and neocolonial forces left indelible marks on the nation's identity. As a result, the historical narrative taught in schools often centers on external influences rather than on the rich indigenous heritages that comprise modern Liberia. Neglecting the importance of teaching local languages and traditions can contribute to a society that fails to recognize its identity and values, leading to disunity and social fragmentation.

The Consequences of Neglecting Indigenous Languages and Cultures:
This neglect can have dire consequences, particularly when considering the correlation between cultural understanding and societal issues such as corruption and hate. The pervasive corruption in Liberia could partly stem from a lack of understanding and respect for the communal values inherent in traditional cultures. When individuals are more attuned to external cultures, they may disregard the principles of honesty, integrity, and community-centric values often embedded in their indigenous traditions. Furthermore, the absence of a unifying language can exacerbate divisions among different tribes and

communities. Linguistic fragmentation can lead to misunderstandings and a lack of social cohesion. For example, social trust diminishes in areas where individuals cannot communicate effectively, and mistrust can fester, breeding animosity. This fragmentation can contribute to a cycle of hate as communities retreat into their separate cultural enclaves, unwilling or unable to engage in dialogue. Teaching indigenous languages alongside foreign ones could promote a sense of belonging and unity. It lays the groundwork for a collective identity among Liberians, fostering relationships built on mutual respect and understanding. Therefore, local languages should not only be taught in schools but also serve as a means of navigating everyday life, creating environments conducive to dialogue and reconciliation.

Identifying Where Liberia Went Wrong:
As historical books have taught us, the roots of the current educational disconnection can be traced back to Liberia's inception. Established as a colony for the return of freed Africans as enslaved Americans in the early 19th century, the nation was built upon a unique yet complicated interplay of identities. We learned from history that the settlers (our brothers and sisters who were returned to their motherland) and indigenous peoples often clashed; the settlers, influenced by American values and cultural practices, frequently upheld foreign ideals over local traditions. This historical context has perpetuated a legacy where the dominant culture overshadows indigenous narratives, leading to the systemic neglect of local languages and cultures in the modern educational landscape. The failure to promote indigenous languages in schools has entrenched a sense of inferiority towards local culture, culminating in the current reality where numerous Liberians aspire to speak foreign languages fluently while disregarding their mother tongues. This lack of appreciation for their roots led to alienation and discontent, which have manifested in political turbulence, economic disparities, and societal discord.

The Cultural Benefits of Teaching Indigenous Languages:
The question now arises: What are the cultural benefits of prioritizing the teaching of one indigenous language—one dialect—as a national language(Vai, Kpelleh, Belleh, Lorma, Kissi, Gola, Gbandi, Bassa, Krahn, Gio, Mandingo, Mano, Sarpo, Kru, Grebo, Mende) at institutions like the University of Liberia? First and foremost, teaching an indigenous language fosters national pride and unity. Students who learn their native language become more acquainted with their cultural heritage, forming a solid foundation based on shared values. Such initiatives can cultivate understanding and camaraderie among diverse ethnic groups, serving as a bridge to mutual appreciation and respect. Moreover, integrating mandatory indigenous language(s) into the academic curriculum aligns with global trends where countries prioritize the preservation of local languages as a response to globalization. For instance, nations like Ghana and Kenya have adopted official languages rooted in indigenous cultures, enhancing national identity and cohesion.

By doing the same, Liberia can harness its cultural richness to create social bonds, invigorate national pride, and stabilize a society still grappling with historical legacies of conflict and division. Additionally, teaching an indigenous language can also lead to potential economic benefits. Cultural tourism can flourish in an increasingly interconnected world when local languages and traditions are marketed as attractions. Tourists often seek authentic experiences that allow them to engage closely with the cultural fabric of a nation.

By promoting a shared language, Liberia can cultivate an industry that showcases its culture and generates economic opportunities for its citizens.

Legislative Action: The Need for a Unified Language as a National Requirement:
In light of the arguments presented, it is evident that the national legislature must take definitive steps to address this cultural disconnect by enacting a law that establishes one language—one dialect—as a compulsory national language. This language would serve both as a medium of instruction in schools and as a national form of communication. Such legislative action would not merely be about language, but it represents a broader commitment to restoring cultural pride and promoting unity among the various ethnic groups within Liberia. It would empower each citizen to engage meaningfully in the governance and democratic processes of their nation, fostering a politically conscious society that values participation from all corners of Liberian culture. While critics may argue that consolidating language could suppress Liberia's diverse linguistic tapestry, it is essential to note that this initiative is not about eradicating the other languages but rather about forging a national identity that embraces its diversity while promoting a shared communication medium. Several nations worldwide have demonstrated that a common language can coexist with regional dialects, enriching national identity while maintaining cultural plurality.

A Collective Path Forward:
Neglecting Liberia's indigenous languages and cultures presents both a challenge and an opportunity for the nation. Liberia can promote social cohesion, economic development, and cultural preservation by embracing the diversity of its languages and instilling a sense of shared identity through education. Acting now means recognizing the value of one language as a unifying force amongst diverse peoples, a language that binds rather than divides. As Liberia moves forward in its journey towards a national renaissance, educators, lawmakers, and national leaders must advocate for teaching indigenous language(s) in the educational curriculum. The potential benefits of nurturing a collective identity through language education are profound. It can combat social discord, herald unity, and foster a society that embraces its cultural heritage while engaging meaningfully with the world. The time is ripe for Liberia to reclaim its narrative, celebrate its uniqueness, and build a future anchored in respect for its rich cultural legacy, in which all Liberians stand unified and proud.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

ArcelorMittal Fence Line Communities Discuss 2025 Project Funding

ArcelorMittal Liberia (AML), in collaboration with the Government of Liberia, has officially launched the 2025 cycle of its Community Development Fund (CDF), reinforcing its commitment to community empowerment and sustainable development across its operational counties.

Buchanan, Grand Bassa stakeholders, including County, May 26, 2025 representatives of AML, local – The formal launch government officials, district event took place on Friday, lawmakers, civil society May 23, 2025, at the K-Plaza actors, and community leaders



Hotel in Buchanan, Grand from the fenceline areas in Bassa County. It brought Nimba, Bong, and Grand together more than 50 key Bassa counties.

The CDF was established in August 2020 as part of AML's Mineral Development Agreement (MDA) with the Government of Liberia. It is financed through 20 percent of the \$3 million AML contributes annually to the County Social Development Fund (CSDF). The fund's distribution follows the operational footprint of the company: Nimba receives 50 percent, Grand Bassa 33.3 percent, and Bong County 16.7 percent.

The Fund is governed by a set of Management Guidelines jointly developed and endorsed by the Government of Liberia and AML. These guidelines ensure transparency and accountability in project selection.

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10

Bong County: Lawmaker proposes University Status for Technical College.

Gbarnga, Bong County – government and international May 25, 2025: In a move aimed at advancing higher education in Bong County, Representative Robert Flomo Womba of District #4 has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives seeking to elevate the Bong County Technical College (BCTC) to full university status.

Speaking to the media in Gbarnga over the weekend following the bill's submission on Friday, Rep. Womba described the proposed legislation as a transformative step toward expanding educational opportunities in the county and across Liberia. "This bill is not just about changing a name; it's about broadening access to quality education and equipping young people in Bong and beyond with the tools they need to compete globally," Womba said. "Upgrading BCTC to a university will enable it to offer advanced degree programs, attract highly qualified faculty, and secure increased academic and financial support from both the Bong County University. This

Established in 2010 and located in Gbarnga, BCTC currently offers associate and bachelor's degree programs in disciplines such as agriculture, engineering, education, and business. However, Rep. Womba stressed that the institution's current technical college status constrains its growth potential, faculty recruitment, and ability to introduce postgraduate programs that are vital to national development.

"BCTC has outgrown its current framework. The students, faculty, and broader community deserve an institution that reflects their ambition," he noted. "Transitioning to university status will allow us to introduce master's programs, enhance research, and retain academic talent in the region."

If enacted into law, the bill would mandate the Ministry of Education and the National Commission on Higher Education to oversee BCTC's transition into Bong County University. This

By Edwin N. Khakie

transition would involve expanding academic offerings, increasing the institution's budget, upgrading infrastructure, and establishing governance structures appropriate for a fully accredited public university.

The proposal has received widespread support from local stakeholders, including traditional leaders, youth organizations, and civil society groups, all of whom have long advocated for greater access to higher education in Bong County. Students at BCTC have also welcomed the initiative, expressing optimism about the opportunities a university status would bring.

"Being able to graduate from a university right here in Bong will make a huge difference," said Martha Kollie, a third-year education major. "It means we can dream bigger without having to leave our home county."

The bill has been forwarded to the House Committee on Education for review and will later be debated on the House floor. Upon approval, it will proceed to the Senate for concurrence before being presented to the President for final endorsement.

Rep. Womba remains confident that the proposal will receive bipartisan support.

"This is not a political issue. Education is the backbone of national development," he stated. "I believe every lawmaker who cares about the future of our youth will stand behind this cause."

As the bill makes its way through the legislative process, residents of Bong County remain hopeful that the long-awaited dream of a university in their county will soon be realized.

Bong County: Ministry of Education receives World Bank-Funded Secondary School Project

The International Consolidated Contractors (ICC) company, on Saturday, May 24, 2025, officially handed over a newly constructed senior secondary school in Gbarnga, Bong County, to the Ministry of Education.

By: Edwin N. Khakie

Gbarnga, Bong County, May 26, 2025 –The \$1.5 million project, funded by the World Bank, forms part of broader efforts to improve educational infrastructure across the country.

The handover ceremony was held on the school grounds and witnessed the presence of key stakeholders, including representatives from ICC, the Ministry of Education, the World

remarked, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in strengthening the educational foundation of Liberia.

Despite the symbolic handover, the Ministry of Education declined to officially accept the keys to the building during the ceremony. Ministry officials cited the need for the structure to be repainted using government-approved colors and for minor finishing issues to be



Bank, and local community leaders. The new facility boasts state-of-the-art features such as fully equipped classrooms, modern science and computer laboratories, administrative offices, and upgraded sanitation systems.

Speaking during the occasion, ICC CEO Aabih Serhal expressed his company's satisfaction in delivering the project. "We are honored to contribute to Liberia's education sector and empower the next generation through infrastructure," Serhal stated. "This project reflects our commitment to supporting long-term national development goals."

Representing the Ministry of Education, Deputy Minister for Administration Att. Nyekheh Y. Forkpah underscored the significance of the facility. "This school is not just a building; it represents opportunity and progress for the youth of Gbarnga and the surrounding areas," Forkpah

addressed before formal acceptance. The Ministry announced that the official dedication and opening of the school is scheduled for July 2025. Once operational, the institution will initially function as a senior secondary school for two years, after which it will transition into a Vocational and Technical Training Institute, further broadening its impact on youth empowerment in the region. The school is expected to accommodate several hundred students and will play a pivotal role in increasing access to quality secondary education in Bong County. Community leaders praised the initiative, expressing optimism about the school's potential to transform educational opportunities in the region.

The formal dedication ceremony in July will also include the official naming of the institution.



Rep. Flomo

www

Advertise Here!

Subscribe to our website

get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

Official programs marking the presentation of Captain Sam Jabbah and Captain William Adolphus Lassanah as Liberia's First Certified Marine Pilot and Tug Master held at the National Port Authority(NPA) and the Liberia Maritime Authority(LiMA) on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 and Thursday, May 22, 2025 respectively in pictures



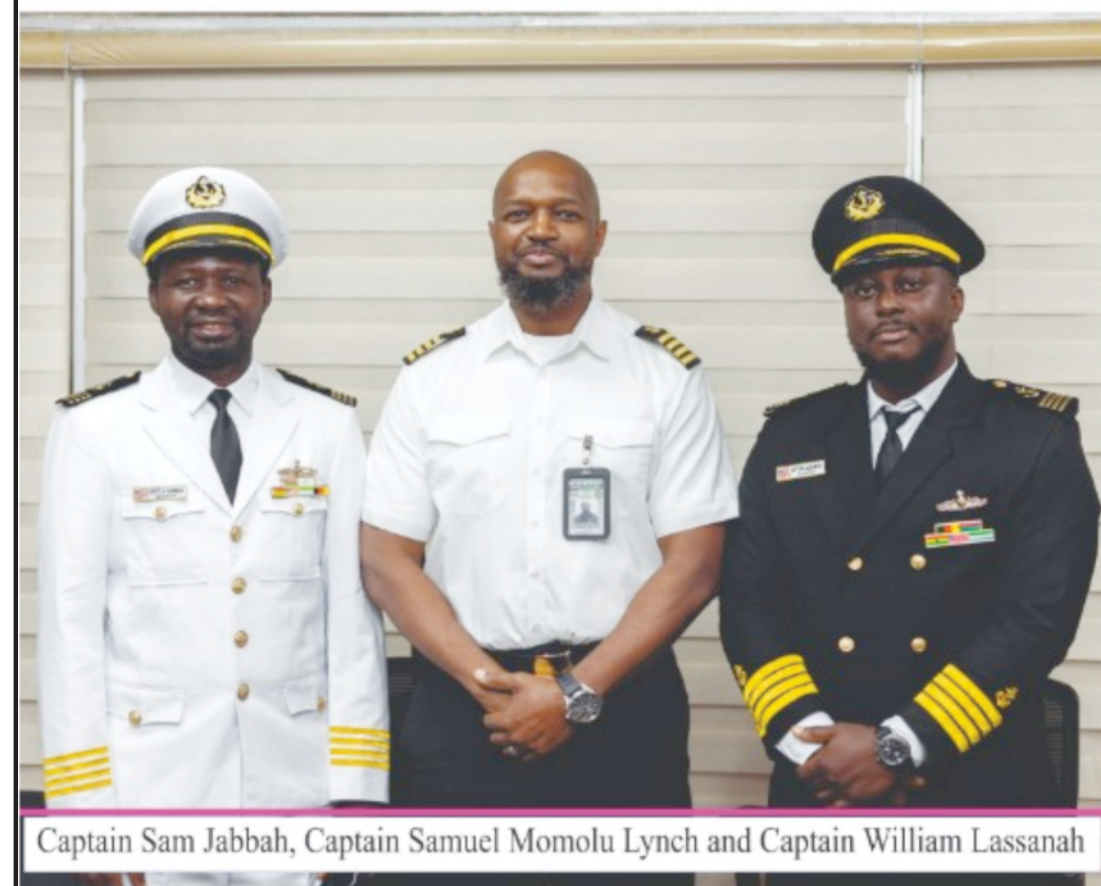
Presentation of Capt. Sam and Capt. William at NPA



Captain William, MD Sekou Dukuly and Mr. Cedric Guiraud



Neto and Mr. John Harvey, deputy commissioner for vessel registration and safety, LiMA



Captain Sam Jabbah, Captain Samuel Momolu Lynch and Captain William Lassanah



Mr. Jan Buijze and Captain Sam Jabbah



NPA MD Sekou Dukuly, DMDO Emmanuel Horton Sr., DMDA James Richard Bernard



Mr. Jan Buijze and Captain William Lassanah



Mr. Etienne Saint Jean, Head of Operations, APMT, Mr. Emeka Ogbaje, CFO and Deputy MD, APMT and Captain Ahmad Hamdy, Country Manager, Svitzer



Etienne Saint Jean, Capt Hamdy, Capt. Jabbah, Capt. Lassanah, Cedric Guiraud, Captain Haytham, Natasha Akakpo



In picture: LiMA officials

Français

Un Libérien entre dans l'histoire au Royaume-Uni. Il est Élu maire dans le Hertsmere

Hertsmere (Royaume-Uni), le 23 mai 2025 – Le Conseiller municipal et Ambassadeur Alpha Bird Collins, d'origine libérienne, vient d'inscrire son nom dans l'histoire politique locale du Royaume-Uni en devenant, pour la première fois, maire à la fois de la ville d'Elstree and Borehamwood et du

a rejoint le groupe indépendant *Hertsmere First*, composé de trois conseillers municipaux sans affiliation partisane. Le 14 mai 2025, le conseil du district de Hertsmere a procédé à l'élection du nouveau maire. Le conseiller Marc Amron, membre du groupe *Hertsmere First*, a proposé la candidature de M. Collins. Fait remarquable, la

en raison de la popularité croissante de M. Collins, ce dernier a été élu à l'unanimité, sans opposition.

Il s'agit d'une première dans l'histoire du district de Hertsmere : un conseiller indépendant en poste devient simultanément maire de la ville et du district. Le maire Collins détient désormais deux chaînes de fonctions symbolisant ses mandats. En tant que maire d'Elstree and Borehamwood, il représente une population de 47 000 habitants. Son mandat au niveau du district de Hertsmere, quant à lui, couvre plus de 200 000 personnes.

Cependant, selon le protocole en vigueur, M. Collins devra céder ses fonctions de maire de la ville afin de se consacrer pleinement à ses nouvelles responsabilités à l'échelle du district, qui couvre un territoire plus vaste et complexe.

Interrogé par notre rédaction sur cette réussite inédite, le maire Collins a déclaré avec émotion :

« Dieu l'a fait pour moi ! J'ai préparé le terrain, semé les graines, fourni les efforts, et j'ai attendu l'intervention divine. Aujourd'hui, je récolte les fruits de ce travail, pour moi-même et pour notre grande nation, le Liberia. »

Cette double élection marque un tournant et une source d'inspiration pour la diaspora africaine en Europe.



district de Hertsmere.

Initialement élu sous l'étiquette du Parti travailliste (Labour), le maire Collins a récemment quitté cette formation politique pour des raisons non rendues publiques. Il

proposition a été appuyée par la cheffe de l'opposition conservatrice, la conseillère Lynette Sullivan.

Aucun candidat alternatif n'ayant été présenté par la coalition Labour – Libéraux-Démocrates, probablement

Le Liberia accueille ses deux premiers pilotes maritimes formés localement

Le Liberia célèbre une étape historique dans son développement maritime avec l'intégration officielle de deux capitaines libériens, Sam Jabbah et William Lassanah, en tant que tout premiers pilotes maritimes et capitaines de remorqueur formés localement. Les deux officiers ont été remis à l'Autorité Portuaire Nationale (NPA) lors d'une cérémonie officielle en présence des responsables de l'APM Terminals Liberia et de Svitzer.

Les deux capitaines ont présenté leurs licences professionnelles au directeur général de la NPA, M. Sekou A. M. Dukuly, après avoir suivi avec succès des formations de haut niveau à l'Université Maritime Régionale d'Accra, au Ghana. Lors de la remise, Jan Buijze, directeur général d'APM Terminals Liberia, a exprimé la fierté de l'entreprise face aux accomplissements des deux Libériens, saluant leur détermination et la qualité de leur parcours, qui selon lui, font honneur à la nation. Sam Jabbah a bénéficié d'une formation internationale

approfondie, notamment à l'Académie maritime sud-africaine au Cap, au Maritime Professional Training à Fort Lauderdale (États-Unis), au Falck Safety Services à Houston (Texas), ainsi qu'à l'École canarienne de navigation et de sécurité maritime à Tenerife, en Espagne. De son côté, William Lassanah a suivi une formation avancée à Bahreïn, couronnée par l'obtention d'une licence de "Master near coastal line", représentant une qualification de haut niveau dans le domaine maritime.

Cedric Guiraud, directeur général de Svitzer, a quant à lui souligné que cette étape est capitale pour la politique de libéranisation des services maritimes. Selon lui,

former des Libériens à ces fonctions stratégiques est essentiel au renforcement des capacités nationales dans un secteur clé.

En recevant officiellement les deux capitaines, M. Sekou Dukuly, directeur général de la NPA, a salué leur « effort remarquable pour placer le Liberia sur la carte maritime internationale ». Il a déclaré que cette réussite marque « le début d'un nouveau chapitre dans la transformation du secteur maritime libérien ».

M. Dukuly a rappelé que l'expansion des échanges commerciaux du Liberia nécessite un renforcement paral

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 10



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 Le Liberia accueille ses deux 25 cas actifs de Mpox confirmés au Liberia

lèle des compétences locales. Il a notamment mis en avant le rôle stratégique du Port autonome de Monrovia, principal hub logistique du pays, essentiel tant pour l'importation de biens vitaux que pour l'exportation des ressources nationales. Il a insisté sur la nécessité d'un développement continu des ressources humaines pour répondre aux normes internationales et maintenir la compétitivité du port à l'échelle mondiale. Enfin, le directeur de la NPA a affirmé que le

président Joseph Nyuma Boakai accorde une grande importance à la montée en compétence des acteurs du secteur, estimant que l'acquisition du savoir et l'intégration des technologies sont cruciales pour positionner durablement le Liberia sur l'échiquier maritime mondial.

« Le parcours de Sam Jabbah et William Lassanah ouvre la voie à toute une génération de jeunes Libériens désireux de s'engager dans les métiers de la mer », a conclu M. Dukuly.

Le Liberia intensifie sa campagne pour un siège au Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU

Le Liberia a renforcé sa campagne diplomatique à l'échelle mondiale en vue d'obtenir un siège non permanent au Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies (CSNU). À l'approche du scrutin prévu pour juin, lors de la 79e session de l'Assemblée générale des Nations unies à New York, le pays mobilise d'importantes personnalités pour rallier davantage de soutiens.

Parmi les figures de proue de cette offensive diplomatique figurent l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, envoyée spéciale dans le cadre de cette mission, ainsi que d'autres anciens ministres des Affaires étrangères, mobilisés à travers le monde.

Lors d'un point de presse tenu le jeudi 22 mai 2025 au ministère de l'Information, des Affaires culturelles et du Tourisme, le vice-ministre des Affaires juridiques au ministère des Affaires étrangères, Cllr. Jeddi M. Armah, a fait le point sur l'état d'avancement de la campagne libérienne.

Selon lui, si le Liberia est élu, il entamera son mandat de deux ans en janvier 2026 en tant que membre non permanent du Conseil de sécurité. Il a précisé que cette ambition s'inscrit dans un vaste plan de repositionnement du Liberia sur la scène internationale, à travers une diplomatie active et bien structurée.

M. Armah a indiqué que cette campagne est dirigée par la ministre des Affaires étrangères, Sara Beysolow Nyanti, en étroite collaboration avec l'ambassadeur du Liberia auprès des Nations unies, M. Lewis G. Brown. Celui-ci bénéficie du soutien stratégique d'une équipe composée de quatre anciens

ministres des Affaires étrangères, qui travaillent en coordination avec la présidence pour porter les messages clés de la candidature libérienne.

Dans le cadre de cette mobilisation, l'ancienne présidente Ellen Johnson Sirleaf s'est rendue récemment au Soudan pour transmettre un message spécial de soutien. L'ancien chef de la diplomatie, Dr. Toga Gayewea McIntosh, se trouve actuellement en Guinée pour rencontrer le président du Gabon, accompagné de l'assistant ministre Sorrie Kabbah Jones.

Par ailleurs, l'ex-ministre Gbehzohngar Findley conduit des missions en Croatie et aux Comores, porteur de lettres officielles du président libérien. Le Dr Abraham Jan, quant à lui, est à Bruxelles pour participer au Sommet de l'Union africaine, où il sollicite des soutiens bilatéraux en faveur de la candidature du Liberia.

« Nous avons mené une campagne coordonnée avec professionnalisme. Notre niveau de confiance est élevé, et nous croyons fermement en notre victoire », a déclaré M.

Armah, soulignant qu'aucun pays ne s'est officiellement opposé à la candidature du Liberia, ce qui renforce encore leur optimisme.

Il a rappelé que le Liberia, fondateur de l'Organisation de l'unité africaine (OUA) et de l'Union africaine (UA), ambitionne aujourd'hui de réaffirmer sa place dans les instances internationales, en capitalisant sur son riche héritage diplomatique.

« Cette victoire ne sera pas seulement celle du Liberia, mais aussi celle de l'Afrique et de tous les pays engagés pour la paix et la coopération internationale », a-t-il ajouté.

L'élection des membres non permanents du Conseil de sécurité aura lieu en juin 2025, à une date encore à confirmer. Cinq sièges sont à pourvoir : deux pour le Groupe africain, un pour le Groupe Asie-Pacifique, un pour l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes, et un pour le Groupe des États d'Europe orientale. Les membres élus entameront leur mandat le 1er janvier 2026.

Le Liberia est candidat pour l'un des deux sièges réservés à l'Afrique et bénéficie du soutien actif de la CEDEAO et d'autres partenaires régionaux.



Le National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHIL) a annoncé ce jeudi la présence de 25 cas actifs de Mpox (anciennement appelée variole du singe) sur le territoire libérien.

S'exprimant lors du point de presse hebdomadaire du ministère de l'Information, des Affaires culturelles et du Tourisme, le directeur général du NPHIL, le Dr Chris Nyan, a indiqué qu'entre janvier 2024 et le 22 mai 2025, 102 cas confirmés en laboratoire ont été recensés dans le pays.

Parmi eux, 77 patients sont rétablis, tandis que les 25 autres sont actuellement pris en charge et suivis par les services de santé publique.

Le Dr Nyan a rappelé qu'à un moment donné, le Liberia comptait entre



65 et 68 cas actifs, tous traités avec succès. À la fin de l'année 2024, aucun cas n'était enregistré, et la situation semblait maîtrisée.

Cependant, à la suite des fêtes de Noël, de nouvelles infections ont été signalées dès janvier 2025, sous forme de cas sporadiques. Une légère recrudescence a été observée en avril, mais grâce à une préparation adéquate, les autorités sanitaires ont pu réagir rapidement et mener plusieurs campagnes de sensibilisation.

« Grâce à cette sensibilisation, les citoyens ont commencé à se présenter d'eux-mêmes dans nos centres, certains amenant leurs enfants pour des examens médicaux », a rapporté le Dr Nyan. « Ils nous montraient les éruptions cutanées de leurs enfants, se demandant s'il s'agissait des symptômes évoqués à la radio. »

Début mai, 12 cas suspects ont été soumis à des tests. Trois cas se sont révélés positifs, auxquels s'est ajouté un quatrième peu après. Une surveillance accrue a ensuite permis d'identifier plus de dix nouveaux cas confirmés, portant le total de cas actifs à 25.

Le Dr Nyan a précisé que la présente flambée épidémique de Mpox a été déclarée urgence de santé publique nationale et régionale en 2024 par l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé (OMS) et le Centre africain de contrôle et de prévention des maladies (Africa CDC).

Il a également rappelé que le Liberia avait déjà fait face à des cas de Mpox entre 2020 et 2021, et que ce virus, identifié pour la première fois en 1970, a été signalé dès 1858 en République démocratique du Congo. Depuis, il s'est propagé dans plusieurs pays d'Afrique, notamment en Afrique de l'Ouest et en Afrique centrale.

« Lorsque j'ai pris la tête du NPHIL, c'était quelques jours seulement après la déclaration de l'épidémie par l'OMS et Africa CDC. Le premier cas de 2024 avait été détecté à Sanniquellie, dans le comté de Nimba », a-t-il précisé.

Depuis lors, l'institut a mené une vaste campagne d'information à travers les médias et en langues locales, en veillant à ne pas susciter de panique. La stratégie de réponse consiste, selon lui, à anticiper l'évolution de la maladie plutôt qu'à y réagir passivement.

Le NPHIL procède actuellement à des analyses différentielles pour distinguer la Mpox d'autres virus similaires, tels que la varicelle ou la vaccine. Une fois qu'un cas est confirmé en laboratoire, il est automatiquement intégré aux statistiques officielles.

« Nous évaluons la gravité de chaque cas. Les formes bénignes sont traitées à domicile, tandis que les cas graves sont orientés vers des centres d'isolement spécialisés », a déclaré le Dr Nyan. Parmi ces structures, il a cité le centre rénové de Sky Base à Monrovia, ainsi que d'autres à Ganta et dans plusieurs régions du pays.

Dans le cadre des efforts de coopération transfrontalière, une mission du NPHIL s'est récemment rendue à la frontière avec la Sierra Leone afin de renforcer la collaboration régionale. Le Dr Nyan a précisé que le Liberia est actuellement confronté à la forme Mpox de type 1, tandis que la Sierra Leone combat une forme de type 2.

En conclusion, il a exhorté la population à rester calme, à adopter des mesures d'hygiène rigoureuses, et à signaler tout symptôme suspect aux structures sanitaires les plus proches.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Starts from page 5 ArcelorMittal Fence Line Communities

n, implementation, reporting, and monitoring. They serve as a framework for ensuring that resources are used efficiently and in line with community development priorities. At the launch event, stakeholders reviewed the implementation report from the 2024 funding cycle and engaged in productive discussions about ongoing and future projects. They also endorsed proposed amendments to the CDF Management Guidelines and made key recommendations aimed at improving fund governance and execution. Participants also used the opportunity to assess the impact of past CDF-supported projects, including more than 30 completed infrastructure initiatives since the Fund's inception. These include the construction of roads and bridges, schools, clinics, health centers, and town halls in communities across the three beneficiary counties. Speaking at the event, representatives of AML reaffirmed the company's dedication to improving the lives of Liberians in its host communities. They emphasized that the CDF remains a critical vehicle for delivering visible development benefits and promoting community ownership of projects. Local leaders and county authorities hailed the initiative as a model for concession-community collaboration and called for continued partnership to ensure the timely and quality execution of 2025 projects. With the new funding cycle now formally underway, implementation of selected projects is expected to begin soon, guided by lessons

from the previous year and an improved governance framework that prioritizes transparency, accountability, and impact. ArcelorMittal Liberia is the leading mining company operating in Liberia. As part of its corporate social responsibility commitments, the company contributes annually to the County Social Development Fund (CSDF) to support development initiatives in the three counties impacted by its operations: Nimba, Grand Bassa, and Bong. Each year, Nimba receives \$1.5 million, Grand Bassa \$1 million, and Bong County \$500,000. However, for many years, these funds—though substantially, often failed to directly impact the communities closest to AML's operations, particularly those along the railway corridor and in the mountainous mining zones of Nimba. To address this gap, AML and the Government of Liberia reached an agreement in 2020 for the company to withhold 20 percent of each county's CSDF allocation to directly implement projects in the most affected "fenceline" communities. This initiative not only ensures that development resources reach the communities most exposed to mining activities, but also demonstrates AML's proactive commitment to inclusive, equitable, and accountable development. By aligning its social investment with the real needs of its host communities, ArcelorMittal Liberia continues to strengthen its reputation as a responsible corporate partner and a catalyst for sustainable development in Liberia. -Press release.

Forestry and Farm organizations elect new leaders

Liberia's Forest and Farm Producer Organizations elect inaugural leadership to champion sustainability and smallholder empowerment.

By Edwin N Khakie
Monrovia, Liberia – May 24, 2025 — The Liberia's forestry and agriculture sectors, the Liberia Federation of Forest and Farm Producer Organizations (LFFFPOs) has elected its first leadership team, marking a major milestone in the empowerment of small-scale producers and the promotion of sustainable resource management across the country. The election took place on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at the Conference Hall of Viewpoint in Paynesville, Montserrado County. It brought together a wide range of

stewardship. The newly elected leadership will guide the efforts of a coalition of apex organizations representing diverse segments of Liberia's natural resource economy. Member organizations of the LFFFPO include: National Union of Community Forestry Development Committees (NUCFDCs), National Union of Community Forest Management Bodies (NUCFMB) National Charcoal Union of Liberia (NACUL), Botanical Products Association of Liberia (BOTPAL), Liberia Cashew Development Association (LCDL) and Liberia Chainsaw and Timber



stakeholders from agricultural and forestry landscapes, as part of a broader initiative to strengthen coordination among producer groups. Others are the Liberia National Federation of Cooperatives Society, Farmers Union Network of Liberia, Liberia Furniture and Carpenter Union, Association of Beekeepers of Liberia (ABEL), Rubber Planters Association of Liberia, Art and Craft Association of Liberia and Community Empowerment support," said Mr. Andrew Y.Y. Zelemen, Head of Secretariat for the Cooperative Society. This coalition reflects the rich diversity of Liberia's forest and farm economy and highlights the collective power of grassroots producers when unified under a single umbrella. Mr. Zelemen emphasized that the creation of the LFFFPOs will not only encourage greater collaboration among members but also help to build resilience within local communities. "By uniting under a common banner, these organizations can leverage their collective knowledge and resources to address the challenges they face," he noted. With its foundation now firmly in place, the LFFFPOs is poised to serve as a dynamic platform for policy advocacy, market access, environmental conservation, and rural development. Its formation represents a hopeful step toward a more equitable and sustainable future for Liberia's forest and farm producers. As the newly elected leadership assumes its role, expectations are high that the federation will bring tangible improvements to the lives of thousands of producers across the country—making their work more productive, profitable, and sustainable.



BRANCH
F LIBERIA



00014821

IN THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
CIVIL LAW COURT MONT. CO. R.L.

HONOR: SCHEAPLOR R. DUNBAR ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE

THE PETITION OF HERBIE MCCAULEY ONYIAMAECHE PETITIONER, BY AND THRU HIS LEGAL COUNSEL PRAYING THIS HONORABLE COURT FOR A DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME IN FAVOR OF PETITIONER TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND REFERRED TO AS "HERBIE MCCAULEY."

COURT'S DECREE OF CHANGE OF NAME

The Petitioner by and thru his legal counsel filed a Petition before this Court requesting this Honorable Court to order the Change of Petitioner name from **Herbie Mccauley Onyiamaeche** to "**Herbie Mccauley**."

During the hearing, the Petitioner by and thru his legal counsel testified that the Change of petitioner name requesting this Honorable Court is intended to reflect her true identity. After conducting the necessary interrogations required by law in these proceedings, the Court observed that the intention is just and legal and that there is no objection to the change of name proposed by petitioner.

That the Petitioner by and thru his legal counsel having shown with justification and satisfaction that the Petitioner was born on **March 7, 2014**, in the City of Monrovia, Montserrado County, Republic of Liberia, and that the Petitioner was born unto **Mr. Amaechi Okwanyusi Onyiamaeche** and **Madam Tracy Foster**, and that the Change of Petitioner's name will substantially promote Petitioner's interest in all of the understandings and help to establish Petitioner's just identity more firmly and that the Petitioner has met all legal requirements for the Change of his name in this jurisdiction.

The Petition having been heard, same is hereby ordered granted and we now render that the name **Herbie Mccauley Onyiamaeche** is hereby changed to "**Herbie Mccauley**" beginning this **11th Day of March, A.D. 2025**. That all documents signed by the Petitioner by and thru his legal counsel herein prior to this decree remain valid.

THIS DECREE shall be registered in the Office of the Registrar of DEEDS and other Official Documentations within (10) days from this date and also be published twice in any recognized Newspaper operating in the Republic of Liberia within twenty(20) days from this date. AND IT IS HEREBY SO ORDERED.

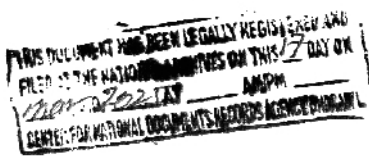
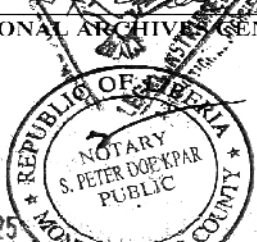
COURT SEAL:

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL
THIS HONORABLE COURT, THIS
DAY OF MARCH, A.D. 2025.

SCHEAPLOR R. DUNBAR,
ASSIGNED CIRCUIT JUDGE PRESIDING
SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT MONT. CO. R.L.



REGISTERED ACCORDING TO
REGISTRAR, NATIONAL ARCHIVE CENTER/MONT. CO. R.L.



Gov't accuses Sen. Snowe of subversive plans

The Liberian Government has accused Bomi County Senator Edwin Melvin Snowe of allegedly cooking up subversive plans to undermine the Joseph Boakai administration.

(Capitol Hill, Monrovia, May 26, 2025): In a statement issued on Saturday, May 24, the Government alleges that Sen. Snowe, also a member of the ECOWAS Parliament, vowed to use his connection within the regional body to ensure the regime's failure.

Sen. Snowe in a social media post denied the allegations attributed to him and has vowed

purpose of the visit unexplained.

Thus, the government's statement which condemned the alleged plan of Sen. Snowe quoted Snowe as declaring he would “do everything possible including using his connections in ECOWAS to make the Boakai-led government to fail, even if it means discouraging foreign direct investment to

obligations to the Liberian people and will do all it can to succeed, keep the country safe, ensure stability, and prevent those wishing to cause chaos from achieving their intentions.” The statement added.

The Government concluded by urging citizens to work continuously with and lend support to their government to meet their needs and build a prosperous nation.

Meanwhile, when this paper contacted Sen. Snowe on the issue, he promised to call back but did not as of press time.

However, in a press release issued on his social media page, Sen. Snowe described the Government's statement as irresponsible and reckless.

He said the statement “amounts to nothing less than an implicit accusation of treason, one of the gravest charges under our Constitution that I do not take lightly. Such an accusation is not only wholly unfounded and defamatory but also constitutes a serious affront to the principles of democracy, the rule of law, and the constitutional safeguards that protect all citizens of our Republic.”

“This act by the government further sets a dangerous and unacceptable precedent, one that threatens the very fabric of our democracy and the fundamental rights of every Liberian, particularly those who exercise their legitimate right to speak truth to power. It is increasingly evident that this development forms part of a calculated and malicious smear campaign, designed to discredit, intimidate, and silence me and other critical voices of the opposition in the national discourse.” He added.

“In view of this regrettable development, I have taken the difficult decision to terminate my participation in the ECOWAS Parliament mission and return home. I have formally communicated this matter to the Honorable Liberian Senate, registering my grave concerns over the implications of such unfounded accusations against my person and calling for a full-scale, immediate, independent, and comprehensive investigation into this matter.” He said.

Liberia and making the country ungovernable and unstable until he, Snowe, becomes President of Liberia”.

In what has been described as a shocking allegation against Sen. Snowe, the Government reminded Sen. Snowe and other officials, who may hold similar thoughts, saying, “that no citizen is licensed to undermine his/her own country and government by vowing to use ECOWAS internal institutions or other international organizations to either promote their selfish ambitions or plot destabilization.”

In the same vein the Liberian Government calls on all sub-regional, regional, and international organizations to ensure that such plan by Mr. Snowe and his collaborators to undermine and destabilize the Liberian Government is not actualized.

“Liberia continues to remain a champion of peace, security, and economic integration within the Mano River Union (MRU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union (AU), and the broader international system.

The Government assures the citizens of Liberia that it has the capacity to, at all times, meet its



(L-r) Sen. Snowe then and Now

to call for a fully independent and transparent investigation into the accusations against his person.

But sources close to the situation said the statement attributed to the Bomi County Senator was allegedly made on the floor of the ECOWAS Parliament. The source said Sen. Snowe alleged subversive comments against the Boakai regime took many of his colleagues aback.

The alleged attribution, one source explained, has the propensity to threaten Liberia's peace, something members frown upon. Sen. Snowe was said to have been advised to apologize to President Boakai or risk expulsion.

Meanwhile, a source close to President Boakai informed this paper Sunday night that Sen. Snowe, upon the advice of his colleagues, allegedly took with him Vice President Jerimiah Koung and Speaker Richard Koon to apologize to the President.

However, after prostrating before President Boakai, instead of issuing an official press release to detail what transpired, only photographs of the four officials were release on social media, with details behind the photograph and

Liberianizing the Marine Sector

APM Terminals Liberia and Svitzer Present Liberia's First Certified Marine Pilot and Tug Master

In a landmark moment for Liberia's maritime sector, APM Terminals Liberia and Svitzer have officially presented Captain Sam Jabbah and Captain William Adolphus

Lassanah as the country's first certified Marine Pilot and Tug Master, both Liberians trained under a transformative local capacity-building initiative. The ceremonies took place on Wednesday, May 21 at the National Port Authority (NPA)

and Thursday, May 22 at the Liberia Maritime Authority (LiMA), where both institutions formally received the two marine professionals. Marine Pilots and Tug Masters play a critical role in ensuring the safe and efficient movement

Starts from Back page

Liberia launches campaign for reelection

annual due payer to the IMO and pays its dues on time. Liberia has the largest ship registry in the world with over 5000 vessels sailing international waters. This is obtaining under the stellar leadership of Maritime Commissioner Neto Zarzar Lighe.

The Liberia registry is venerated for upholding high standard as attested by its 'WHITELIST' status in compliance with various MOUs, including the Paris and Tokyo

MOUs. Liberia currently chairs the largest Marine Environment Protection Committee of the IMO and is playing leadership roles in various IMO Committees, Subcommittees, and working groups. Liberia is a global maritime Leader and commands enormous respect from fellow IMO member states for its incredible leadership in global shipping.

of vessels in and out of harbours. A Hamdy, Svitzer Country Manager Marine Pilot is responsible for the boarding incoming ships at sea and expertly guiding them through port waters to the berth, using in-depth knowledge of local tides, currents, and navigational hazards. A Tug Master operates the powerful tugboats that assist larger vessels by pushing, pulling, and maneuvering them safely into dock, especially in tight or high-risk port areas. Together, these roles are central to port operations and national trade security.

This milestone achievement forms part of a broader “Liberianization” program spearheaded by APM Terminals Liberia in collaboration with Svitzer, focused on building a sustainable pipeline of homegrown marine professionals to power the future of Liberia's port and marine services. Speaking at the events, Mr. Etienne Saint-Jean, Head of Operations at APM Terminals Liberia, described the certification of Sam and William as a powerful step toward closing a long-standing local skills gap in marine services. “For decades, Liberia has relied on foreign marine pilots and tug masters to safely guide vessels into the Freeport of Monrovia,” said Mr. Saint-Jean. “But today, APM Terminals in collaboration with Svitzer Liberia, and under the regulatory guidance of the NPA and LiMA, we proudly present a new chapter where our own people are now fully trained to lead this essential work.”

He also emphasized that the initiative goes beyond the achievements of the two pioneers: “We currently have several other Liberians in the training pipeline, engineers, pilots, and tug master candidates, undergoing rigorous international certification to take on critical roles in the sector,” he noted. APM Terminals Liberia Managing Director, Mr. Jan Buijze, lauded the historic nature of this achievement, noting that it represents not just professional growth for the two captains, but national pride for Liberia. “Sam and William have made history. They are the first to complete this journey, and their dedication and success serve as an inspiration to young Liberians, especially women, considering careers in the maritime sector,” said Mr. Buijze. “We are extremely proud of what they've accomplished.”

“This success opens a new chapter in transforming Liberia's maritime sector. The President is proud of what Sam and William have accomplished, and even more proud of the commitment APM Terminals and Svitzer have shown in training future leaders for this critical industry,” Dukuly said. Cllr. Neto Zarzar Lighe Sr., Commissioner of the Liberia Maritime Authority, reinforced the importance of these milestones as part of a strategic national push. “With extended port hours and increasing demands, we will need more certified captains, pilots, and engineers. I'm pleased to hear that more Liberians are in the pipeline for training. This is the kind of vision we need to uplift our maritime sector,” Cllr. Lighe said.

Looking Ahead Captain Jabbah and Captain Lassanah's stories reflect more than personal achievement; they represent the future of Liberian maritime excellence. APM Terminals Liberia and Svitzer's investment in training, certification, and international exposure has created a foundation for a new generation of marine professionals to emerge. “This is just the beginning,” said Mr. Buijze. “We are committed to expanding the program until Liberia is fully equipped with the talent it needs to run and lead its marine operations.”

for Liberia and Bahrain, praised the rigor of the training and the resilience of both men.

“This wasn't easy. They trained abroad, away from family, and under tough conditions. But they succeeded”, said Captain Hamdy.

Endorsements from National Authorities

The National Port Authority Managing Director, Hon. Sekou A.M. Dukuly, expressed deep appreciation for the investment APM Terminals and Svitzer have made in Liberian talent. He revealed that the achievement aligns directly with President Joseph Nyuma Boakai's vision for economic self-reliance and global competitiveness.

“This success opens a new chapter in transforming Liberia's maritime sector. The President is proud of what Sam and William have accomplished, and even more proud of the commitment APM Terminals and Svitzer have shown in training future leaders for this critical industry,” Dukuly said.

Cllr. Neto Zarzar Lighe Sr., Commissioner of the Liberia Maritime Authority, reinforced the importance of these milestones as part of a strategic national push.

“With extended port hours and increasing demands, we will need more certified captains, pilots, and engineers. I'm pleased to hear that more Liberians are in the pipeline for training. This is the kind of vision we need to uplift our maritime sector,” Cllr. Lighe said.

Looking Ahead Captain Jabbah and Captain Lassanah's stories reflect more than personal achievement; they represent the future of Liberian maritime excellence. APM Terminals Liberia and Svitzer's investment in training, certification, and international exposure has created a foundation for a new generation of marine professionals to emerge.

“This is just the beginning,” said Mr. Buijze. “We are committed to expanding the program until Liberia is fully equipped with the talent it needs to run and lead its marine operations.”



Liberia launches campaign for reelection on IMO Council, at Category A Level

The Liberian Permanent Mission to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London, The United Kingdom headed by Ambassador Robert Wilmot Kpadeh, in collaboration with The Liberian Embassy to the Court of St. James will on Monday May 26, 2025 @ 6pm to 10pm London time

Nations specialized agency with responsibility for the safety and security of international shipping and the prevention of marine and atmospheric pollution by ships. IMO 'Category A' is comprised of 10 States with the largest interest in providing international shipping services. These 10 nations for the 2024-2025 biennium are: China,

Category.

In an effort to maintain her Category A status, thereby continuing as one of the 10 nations that have the most significant involvement in policy and decision making in the global shipping industry, Liberia is putting forth her bid once again.

The launch will be commemorated with an evening dinner hosted on the cruise boat "SILVER BARRACUDA" riding along the Thames River in London, The United Kingdom. Several high-level dignitaries and delegations accredited to the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, delegation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Liberia and the Liberia Maritime Authority are expected to grace the auspicious occasion in honor of Liberia.

As a founding member of the IMO, since 1949, Liberia has played pivotal role in revolutionizing the shipping industry, and this effort to retain her seat in the top level of the IMO for the 2026 to 2027 biennium is a plus for Liberia.

Liberia is currently the highest



34TH ASSEMBLY SESSION
Taking Charge, Leading Change
Liberia launches campaign for its reelection "Category A" on the council of the International Maritime Organization.

DATE
26th May 2025

VENUE
Boat Reception
Thames River, London
United Kingdom.

LIBERIAN REGISTRY
<https://lma.gov.lr/>
Liberia Maritime Authority

H. E. Joseph Nyuma
Boatral, Sr.
President of Liberia

Neto Zazsar Lighe
Commissioner
Liberian Maritime Authority

Robert Wilmot Kpadeh
Liberia's Permanent
Representative to the IMO

officially launch Liberia's campaign for re-election to 'Category A' on the IMO Council.

The International Maritime Organization – is the United

Greece, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Norway, Panama, Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, and the United States. This ultimately makes Liberia the only African nation in that

▶ CONT'D ON PAGE 11



MoMo WAYSAY WASA 4
Everyone is a Winner

It's Raining Rewards.

Dial *156#
to transact and win.

MoMo | Lonestar Cell | MTN

WWW [thenewdawnliberia.com](http://www.thenewdawnliberia.com)
Advertise with us!
Subscribe to our website
Get the best of balance and accurate news, delivered daily

We Offer The Following Printing Services:

- Newspapers, Magazines
- Flyers, Posters, Calendars
- Brochures, Letterhead
- Receipts, Invoices
- Souvenirs, Gifts
- Designs, etc...

2 Colors Heidelberg Machines

PRESS

<http://www.thenewdawnliberia.com>
The New Dawn
TRULY INDEPENDENT

PLEASE! KEEP THE DOOR CLOSE

PRESS

PUBLISHED BY THE SEARCHLIGHT COMMUNICATIONS INC.,
UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266
Opposite the National Investment Commission
Monrovia - Liberia.
Tel: 0886484201 / 0777007529
0886978282 / 0775407211
Website: www.thenewdawnliberia.com
Email: info@thenewdawnliberia.com

WE DO PHOTOCOPY

New Dawn
CALENDAR
\$2.5m for Mont. by-elections
BROCHURE

PRESS