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# Police indict Fula woman

# Office of Ombudsman wants Supreme Court Justices suspended



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# Continental News

## DRC: Tshisekedi wants genocide declared in conflict-hit regions

On August 2, the Democratic Republic of Congo observed a national day to remember the millions of Congolese killed in the conflicts that have ravaged the country for over three decades.

The official ceremony took place in Kinshasa, at the Genocost Memorial, in the presence of numerous political, cultural, and diaspora figures. Among them were artists Innos B, Youssoupha, Werrason, and influencer Didi Stone. Organized by the Congolese government and the National Reparations Fund for Victims (FONAREV), the event aimed

to highlight the scale of violence committed across the nation's territory.

Long-Awaited Recognition

"This day is so important for the victims," said Emmanuella Zandi, Deputy Director-General of FONAREV.

"It marks the recognition of atrocious acts, grave violations of international humanitarian law and human rights — acts that constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity, and even genocide."

The term Genocost refers to economically motivated massacres linked to the illegal exploitation of the DRC's natural resources, particularly in the

eastern provinces.

Several United Nations reports — including the 2010 Mapping Project — suggest that these crimes may qualify as acts of genocide.

During the event, documentaries were screened retracing the atrocities committed since the 1990s.

Several survivors agreed to testify anonymously, with their faces covered for security reasons.

Their stories recounted killings, systematic rape, and forced displacement — endured in near-total global silence.

"When the war started in my village, there were many killings and atrocities. We had to flee to a neighboring village," said one survivor from Ituri.

A Call for International Justice

In his speech, President Félix Tshisekedi made a plea to the international community.

"If the world still hesitates to recognize this tragedy for what it is — a creeping genocide — we will not wait for others to validate our pain. We are the first witnesses; we will be the first to pursue justice," Tshisekedi said.

The ceremony ended with the lighting of the Genocost flame, a symbol of remembrance and resistance.



Congolese government troops deploy outside Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, as M23 rebels are reported to close in on the town

## African Union takes over all peace initiatives on eastern DR Congo

African leaders, on Friday, resolved to have one Africa-led peace initiative for the conflict in eastern Congo.

The Co-Chairs of the Joint EAC-SADC Summit President William Ruto of Kenya and President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe resolved on Friday to have one Africa-led peace initiative for the conflict in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

During a meeting with representatives from the African Union and member states to discuss the security crisis in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, William Ruto of Kenya and President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe led resolutions to merge the mediation and secretariat structures of the EAC (East African Community), SADC (Southern African Development Community), and African Union into a unified effort led by the AU in Addis Ababa.

Ruto told the meeting that it was a "turning point."

"There is now one African-led process that brings on board all the other initiatives: Nairobi, Luanda and any other initiative into one coherent process on the

situation in Eastern DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo)," he said calling the current situation "dire."

"There is a humanitarian situation, there is a serious security situation and instability that not only affects Eastern DRC, not only affects DRC and Rwanda but also affects our region."

In July, Congo and Rwanda-backed M23 rebels signed a declaration of principles for a permanent ceasefire in eastern Congo, where ethnic tensions and quest for rich minerals have resulted in one of Africa's longest conflicts with thousands killed

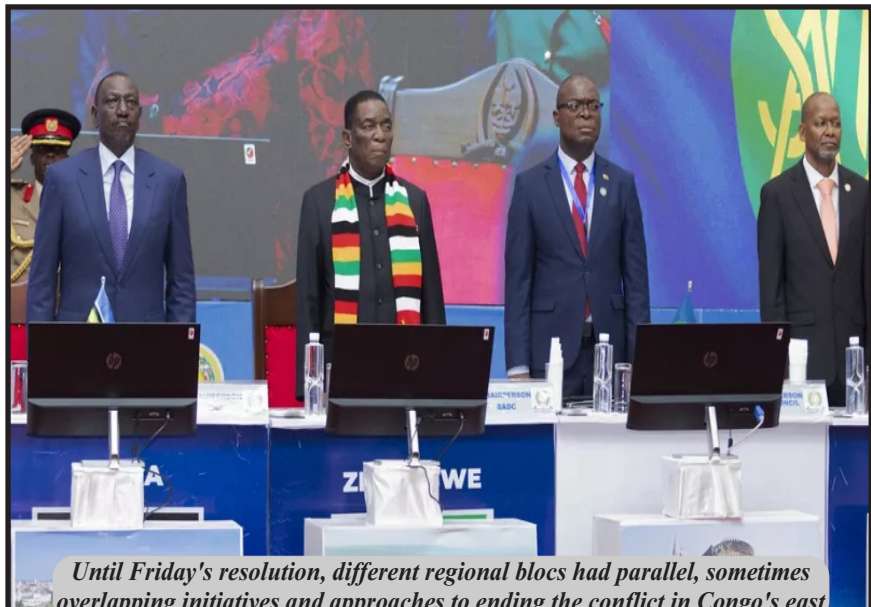
this year.

The African Union called the signing, facilitated by Qatar, a "major milestone" in peace efforts.

Another peace deal brokered by the United States was signed at the State Department, with Secretary of State Marco Rubio standing between the foreign ministers of Rwanda and Congo.

Rubio called it "an important moment after 30 years of war."

M23 is the most prominent armed group in the conflict in eastern Congo, and its major advance early this year resulted in thousands of deaths and 7 million people displaced.



Until Friday's resolution, different regional blocs had parallel, sometimes overlapping initiatives and approaches to ending the conflict in Congo's east

## 43 people killed after Islamist fighters attack worshippers at a church in DRC's Ituri province

United Nations peacekeeping force MONUSCO has condemned an attack by Islamist ADF fighters in Ituri province that left 43 people dead.

More than 40 people have been killed in an attack by an affiliate of the so-called Islamic State in the DRC's northeastern Ituri province, the United Nations peacekeeping force MONUSCO said on Sunday. Nine of the dead were children.

Most of the victims were Christians attending a night vigil at a church in the town of

in places of worship, are not only appalling but also in violation of all human rights standards and international humanitarian law. MONUSCO will continue to work tirelessly alongside the Congolese authorities to protect the population in line with its mandate," said Vivian van de Perre, Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Protection and Operations and Acting Head of MONUSCO.

The ADF originated in Uganda in the 1990s but is now based in the DRC. MONUSCO said the group



People gather around the charred remains of a burned vehicle following a deadly attack in Komanda, Ituri province of eastern Congo, Sunday, July 27, 2025.

Komanda when they were attacked by fighters from the Allied Democratic Forces, or ADF, wielding machetes. At least 15 people were injured and shops and businesses looted and set alight. Several people were abducted, MONUSCO said in a statement.

"These targeted attacks against defenceless civilians, particularly

was responsible for a separate attack in Ituri province in early July that killed 47 people.

Last week, the UN peacekeepers warned of a resurgence of violence in the region by the ADF and other armed groups, calling for all foreign armed groups to lay down their weapons unconditionally and return to their countries of origin.

## Nigeria: Nurses call off strike after talks with government

The Nurses' union said in a statement Saturday that the strike was being called off following a deal with Nigeria's government.

Nurses in public hospitals had gone on a 'warning strike' on July 30, demanding higher pay, better working condition and increased staffing.

In a statement, the Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives said that the government had responded to their demands and provided "clear timelines" for foreign countries.

Before the agreement, the nurses had threatened to resort to an indefinite strike.

The strike was suspended following a meeting with officials from the ministries of health and labour.

Government hospitals in Nigeria often suffer strikes by medical workers, paralysing work for days.

Government hospitals in Nigeria are severely underfunded and understaffed. Many medical workers often leave for greener pastures in provided "clear timelines" for foreign countries.



Workers walk past an ambulance parked outside a ward of the national hospital in Abuja Nigeria, Wednesday, July 26, 2023



# EDITORIAL

## Taking jobs from Liberians is counterproductive to economic growth

The Government of Liberia thru the executive is resolved to privatize production, issuance and regularization of driver's licenses that would effectively render several hundred employees at the Ministry of Transport jobless in an economy that is already struggling, after suspension of foreign aid by the United States Government.

The executive branch of government and the 55<sup>th</sup> Legislature are currently in a tussle over the awarding of a 25-year licensing contract to the Liberia Traffic Management (LTM), a new company, at the detriment of several hundred employees of the Ministry of Transport.

We view the taking away of such a critical role from a state institution that is established by an Act of the Legislature to provide such services and awarding it to a private entity would put hundreds of family heads with extended families or dependents out of work, and the multiplying economic consequences will become unbearable.

As we write, hundreds of thousands of Liberians have turned into beggars, including the youth who are permanently unemployed. Sending hundreds more, if not thousands home to join the already hungry population could become suicidal.

There have many calls for the executive under President Joseph Nyuma Boakai to rethink the decision in the interest of ordinary Liberians, who hardly find one square meal to eat per day, including even those employed. Imagine what lies ahead of thousands more are forced out of the job market by this current venture.

Last week, the Joint Committee on Investment and Concessions and Transport of the House of Representatives ordered the suspension of all Liberia Traffic Management (LTM) operations, for failure to appear before lawmakers for an investigative hearing that was scheduled for Thursday, July 31, 2025, effectively returning full operational control to the Ministry of Transport.

This was prior to series of protests by employees from the Ministry of Transport, calling attention of the executive to the fate waiting them, if the Liberia Traffic Management were to take full control of license production and issuance to the public. But the executive seems not to be paying heed, as it is resolved in rolling out the deal that has already been consummated.

Subsequently, commercial drivers also staged a mass protest against what they described as inhumane treatment under the new agreement. The protesters decried excessive ticketing and alleged extortion by LTM officers, claiming the company is exploiting drivers under the guise of traffic enforcement.

On Thursday, July 24, 2025, the Plenary of the Liberian Senate mandated its leadership to request that President Joseph Nyuma Boakai immediately halt the implementation of the Liberia Traffic Management Incorporated (LTM-I) concession agreement until further consultations and clarity provided.

The executive, under President Boakai, should come out clearly to explain to the public how does taking jobs from citizens and awarding them to a private firm improve the economy.

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 /  
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# COMMENTARY

## AI Is Not Your Friend

By Peter G. Kirchschräger

ZURICH – Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg and OpenAI's Sam Altman have been aggressively promoting the idea that everyone – [children included](#) – should [form relationships](#) with AI “friends” or “companions.” Meanwhile, multinational tech companies are pushing the concept of “AI agents” designed to assist us in our personal and professional lives, handle routine tasks, and guide decision-making.

But the reality is that AI systems are not, and never will be, friends, companions, or agents. They are, and will always remain, machines. We should be honest about that and push back against misleading marketing that suggests otherwise.

The most deceptive term of all is “artificial intelligence.” These systems are not truly intelligent, and what we call “AI” today is simply a set of technical tools designed to [mimic](#) certain cognitive functions. They are not capable of true comprehension and are neither objective, fair, nor neutral. Nor are they becoming any smarter. AI systems rely on data to function, and increasingly, that includes data generated by tools like ChatGPT. The result is a feedback loop that recycles output without producing deeper understanding.

More fundamentally, intelligence is not just about [solving tasks](#); it's also about how those tasks are approached and performed. Despite their technical capabilities, AI models remain limited to specific domains, such as processing large datasets, performing logical deductions, and making calculations.

When it comes to social intelligence, however, machines can only [simulate emotions, interactions, and relationships](#). A medical robot, for example, could be programmed to cry when a patient cries, yet no one would argue that it feels genuine sadness. The same robot could just as easily be programmed to slap the patient, and it would carry out that command with equal precision – and with the same lack of authenticity and self-awareness. The machine doesn't “care”; it simply follows instructions. And no matter how advanced such systems become, that is not going to change.

Simply put, machines lack moral agency. Their behavior is governed by patterns and rules created by people, whereas human morality is rooted in [autonomy](#) – the capacity to recognize ethical norms and behave accordingly. By contrast, AI systems are designed for functionality and optimization. They may adapt through self-learning, but the rules they generate have no inherent ethical meaning.

Consider self-driving cars. To get from point A to point B as quickly as possible, a self-driving vehicle might develop rules to optimize travel time. If running over pedestrians would help achieve that goal, the car might do so, unless instructed not to, because it cannot understand the moral implications of harming people. This is partly because machines are incapable of grasping the principle of [generalizability](#) – the idea that an action is ethical only if it can be justified as a universal rule. Moral judgment depends on the ability to provide a plausible rationale that others can reasonably accept. These are what we often refer to as “good reasons.” Unlike machines, humans are able to engage in generalizable moral reasoning and can therefore judge whether their actions are right or wrong.

The term “[data-based systems](#)” (DS) is thus more appropriate than “artificial intelligence,” as it reflects what AI can actually do: generate, collect, process, and evaluate data to make observations and predictions. It also clarifies the strengths and limitations of today's emerging technologies.

At their core, these are systems that use highly sophisticated mathematical processes to analyze vast amounts of data – nothing more. Humans may interact with them, but communication is entirely one-way. DS have no awareness of what they are “doing” or of anything happening around them.

This is not to suggest that DS cannot benefit humanity or the planet. On the contrary, we can and should rely on them in domains where their capabilities exceed our own. But we must also actively manage and mitigate the ethical risks they present. Developing [human-rights-based DS](#) and establishing an [International Data-Based Systems Agency at the United Nations](#) would be important first steps in that direction.

Over the past two decades, Big Tech firms have isolated us and fractured our societies through social media – more accurately described as “[anti-social media](#),” given its addictive and corrosive nature. Now, those same companies are promoting a radical new vision: replacing human connection with AI “friends” and “companions.”

At the same time, these companies continue to ignore the so-called “[black box problem](#)”: the untraceability, unpredictability, and lack of transparency in the algorithmic processes behind automated evaluations, predictions, and decisions. This opacity, combined with the high likelihood of biased and discriminatory algorithms, inevitably results in biased and discriminatory outcomes.

The risks posed by DS are not theoretical. These systems already shape our private and professional lives in increasingly harmful ways, manipulating us economically and politically, yet tech CEOs urge us to let DS tools guide our decisions. To protect our freedom and dignity, as well as the freedom and dignity of [future generations](#), we must not allow machines to masquerade as what they are not: us.

*Peter G. Kirchschräger, Professor of Ethics and Director of the Institute of Social Ethics ISE at the University of Lucerne, is a visiting professor at ETH Zurich.*



OP-ED

By Michael Bröning

The Left's "Everything Struggle" Is Undermining the Climate Cause

BERLIN – Progressives are caught in a trap of their own making. In an era of overlapping and mutually reinforcing crises, they have come to view every issue – climate change, public health, energy, inequality, trade, and war – as part of a single, all-encompassing political battle: the “everything struggle.”

At first glance, this approach may appear compelling. These issues really are interconnected, and no one lives in isolation. But forcing every cause into a single battle has serious downsides. Arguing that reducing greenhouse-gas (GHG) emissions also requires abolishing capitalism, rethinking gender categories, and freeing Gaza is a formula for political paralysis. Even if each individual fight is worthy on its own, combining them often undermines the broad coalitions needed to achieve meaningful progress.

Progressives would do well to keep this in mind ahead of November's United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) in Belém, Brazil. After the lackluster summits in oil-rich Azerbaijan and the United Arab Emirates, many activists are hoping that COP30 will mark a return to progressive principles. In that spirit, thousands of climate advocates are expected to descend on Belém for the so-called '[Peoples Summit](#), a gathering of civil-society and climate groups held in parallel with the official negotiations.

Given today's economic turmoil and escalating geopolitical tensions, the chances of global policymakers producing a bold climate plan at COP30 are slim. But even if they succeed, the broader climate fight is bound to fail without public support.

Alarminglly, support for the climate agenda appears to have declined significantly. From the United States and Germany to Canada, South Korea, and India, climate change barely registered as a major issue in recent elections. US President Donald Trump was re-elected on a platform of “[drill, baby, drill](#),” while support for Green parties is collapsing across Europe as the far right continues to gain ground. And when climate change does come up, candidates advocating bold action are routinely defeated.

By now, it is obvious that the “everything struggle” is a losing strategy for progressive parties serious about combating climate change. Even worse, it fuels public skepticism about the viability of climate action.

To be sure, well-funded disinformation campaigns remain the primary cause of declining public trust. But overreaching by some progressive activists also plays a role. The Peoples' Summit [manifesto is a case in point](#). Drafted by a broad coalition of NGOs and activists, the document denounces “false climate solutions” as “instruments for deepening inequality.” Only “socio-environmental, anti-patriarchal, anti-capitalist, anti-colonialist, anti-racist, and rights-based” approaches, it insists, can solve the “climate, ecological, and civilizational crisis.” Though certainly well-intentioned, one must ask: Is this how broad coalitions are built, or is this how they unravel?

In fact, most people do care about climate change. A [recent IPSOS poll](#) covering 32 countries across five continents found that 74% of respondents are concerned about its impact on their own countries. But when practical, technical solutions are dismissed as ideological betrayals, climate policy risks becoming little more than a quest for moral purity.

It wasn't always this way. While calls for sweeping change have long been part of the climate movement – and rightly so – its agenda once focused on sustainability: cutting GHG emissions, conserving resources, protecting forests, and preserving biodiversity. Today, however, many activists view climate action as a revolutionary vehicle for dismantling the status quo and prompting a broad moral reckoning. The problem is that while the fervor of the “everything struggle” may energize activists, it tends to alienate the wider public.

Most voters are looking for workable solutions, not a sermon on the need to reinvent society, especially when that sermon echoes the failed revolutionary fantasies of the past. They want clean air, clean energy, and a livable planet for their children. But bundling those priorities with every perceived injustice in the world drives away the very people needed to achieve real change.

When fringe ideas take center stage, mainstream support dwindles. By rejecting practical steps like nuclear energy simply because they don't “dismantle the system,” progressives risk trading impact for ideology. When responsibly managed, nuclear energy is clean and reliable, and electrification cuts emissions. Essential tools for advancing the climate cause are not betrayals of it.

When leaders gather at COP30, they must confront a set of urgent challenges: rampant deforestation, the toxic alliance between extractive industries and organized crime, and the growing inability of democratic institutions to deliver sustainable growth. While envisioning alternatives to the status quo remains both valuable and necessary, political leaders – especially on the left – must move beyond the “everything is everything” mindset and focus on what actually works, even if it doesn't align with radical utopianism. When it comes to political rhetoric and global temperatures, less is more.

COP30 offers a unique opportunity to redefine sustainability as pragmatic realism before the climate movement drifts further out of touch with the concerns of ordinary people. If leaders and activists embrace pragmatism, they will have a mandate to act. If they they choose to champion the “everything struggle,” the public will continue to tune out, even as global temperatures continue to rise.

*Michael Bröning, the author, most recently, of [Die Hetzer sind immer die Anderen](#)(Verlag am Park, 2024), serves on the Basic Values commission of Germany's Social Democratic Party.*

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OPINION

By Jayati Ghosh

A Faustian Bargain for the Global South

NEW DELHI – US President Donald Trump's tariff policies have unleashed global economic turmoil and a wave of protectionist measures. While many of his frequently changing tariffs may prove short-lived, their use as geopolitical weapons is poised to reshape international trade for years to come.

But the current fixation on Trump's tariffs diverts attention from the larger goal: the United States is leveraging its economic power to push for market liberalization and preferential access for American firms, often at the expense of lower-income countries' development prospects.

Today's US-China standoff is a prime example. America's hostile posture toward China – maintained under both Trump and former President [Joe Biden](#) – has never been just about trade. Rather, it reflects a strategic ambition to preserve US technological dominance by preventing China from catching up in key sectors. That effort has since become part of a broader campaign to restrict access to advanced technologies across the developing world. The primary tool for achieving this goal has been the imposition of increasingly restrictive intellectual-property (IP) rules that aim to privatize knowledge through patents, copyrights, and industrial designs. This helps explain why the trade agreement with Indonesia includes [several provisions](#) designed to limit the country's ability to move up the value chain into knowledge-intensive industries. Tellingly, Indonesia will eliminate 99% of its tariffs on American industrial, food, and agricultural imports, while Indonesian exports to the US will face an [average tariff rate of 19%](#).

The immediate impact will be felt most acutely by Indonesian farmers, who must now compete against subsidized US agricultural products. But the longer-term risks lie in the dismantling of non-tariff barriers, which could severely constrain Indonesia's ability to diversify its economy and curtail its access to critical technologies.

According to the [joint statement announcing the deal](#), American firms will receive sweeping privileges. Indonesia will remove all content requirements for US-made goods and accept American vehicle-safety and emissions standards, which are far more lenient than its own. It must also recognize Food and Drug Administration approvals for medical devices and pharmaceuticals, exempt US food and agricultural imports from local licensing regimes, and accept US certifications for meat, dairy, and poultry products.

Indonesia has also agreed to eliminate tariffs on intangible goods and support a global moratorium on digital customs duties – issues that remain highly contested within the World Trade Organization. Even more troublesome are the IP provisions: the deal compels Indonesia to resolve key disputes over traditional knowledge, genetic resources, and compulsory licenses. In effect, this will make it easier for US companies to exploit traditional knowledge without consent or compensation and avoid compulsory licensing measures aimed at curbing monopolistic and abusive practices.

The US is not alone in pursuing this agenda. While Indonesia's concessions are baffling, India's recent trade agreement with the United Kingdom raises even more questions. Despite being years in the making, the deal has little commercial significance, as bilateral trade accounts for [less than 2.5%](#) of either country's exports. Nevertheless, both governments have hailed the agreement as transformative.

Once again, media coverage of the UK-India deal has focused on tariff reductions: [92% of UK exports to India](#) will receive full or partial tariff relief, while up to 99% of Indian exports to the UK will be tariff-free. Optimistic forecasts suggest the agreement could [double export volumes in certain sectors](#): textiles, clothing, and jewelry for India; alcoholic beverages and automobiles for the UK.

But as with the US-Indonesia deal, the most consequential element of this agreement is its [IP provisions](#), which tilt the regulatory balance in favor of Western patent holders. By prioritizing the interests of Big Pharma over those of Indian citizens and domestic producers, it poses a serious threat to India's pharmaceutical industry and public health.

For example, the deal promotes the use of “voluntary licenses” over compulsory ones, potentially discouraging future price reductions. Another clause endorses the harmonization of patent standards, opening the door to “evergreening” – the extension of patents through minor tweaks to existing drugs.

A particularly damaging provision extends the deadline for disclosing how a patented product is being used in India from one year to three. This change will make it significantly harder – if not impossible – for applicants to prove unmet demand, a necessary step for invoking compulsory licensing protections.

It is deeply disturbing that the Indian government has accepted these terms, which jeopardize not only the future of its pharmaceutical industry but also the global supply of affordable drugs. India may also have limited its access to green technologies, impeding the transition to a low-carbon economy.

India's willingness to make such concessions to a weakened former colonial power – one that is no longer a major trading partner – makes the potential outcome of its trade talks with the European Union and the US all the more alarming. To ensure India's economic future, Prime Minister Narendra Modi must stop cracking down on domestic dissent and start defending India's interests on the global stage.

*Jayati Ghosh, Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, is a member of the Club of Rome's Transformational Economics Commission and Co-Chair of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation.*

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# Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

## Whein Town, Bernard Farm, Montserrado County Liberia

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

Republic of Liberia

Assignment Title: Individual Consultancy for the Position of Monitoring & Evaluation to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie Carpenters and Furniture makers) and keep track of the indicators in the results measurement framework of Needs Assessment for Association members/beneficiaries.

Name of Project: Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry\_ Phase II  
Sector : Forestry  
Project ID No :P-LR-AAD-002  
Grant No : 5900155018403  
Issue Date : August 1, 2025  
End Date : August 15, 2025

#### BACKGROUND

The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority has received financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the “Scaling Up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry Project in Liberia- Phase II, and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this *grant* to payments under the contract for **Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant**.

The services of the M&E consultant relating to the required duties and responsibilities are:

- The individual M&E consultant will be expected to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie.Carpenters and Furniture makers)
- Keep track of the indicators in the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) of Needs Assessment (NA) for the Eleven (11) Carpenters and Furniture Makers Association members/beneficiaries.
- Coordinate and supervise project activities including keeping track of the indicators in the results measurement framework.
- Monitor work of Data field collectors that conduct Needs Assessment &Data collection from field) on feedback from training from phase one (1) and current needs and prepare Periodic performance tracking progress report; Mid-term Report; Final Report for submission to the Project Coordinator (PC) and Project team.
- Undertake the responsibility for working on field data collected, collating, analysis, and reporting.
- He/she the selected M&E Consultant will work in close collaboration with the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) and will support the PIU to develop appropriate M&E processes, protocols and reporting mechanisms for the intermediate results that lead to the achievement in line with the Project Development Objectives (PDO) and outcomes, and as well as track project activities.
- The consultant will consider how this system could be adapted/augmented with an overall efficient and effective results-based M&E system that would cater to the need of tracking all future AfDB projects.;
- Develop Performance Indicators (PI), Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and measure project outcomes and outputs against data collected by Data Collectors in order to assess the impact of the project on the defined intended and desirable indicators in order to compare project performance against targets set in the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Budget;
- Design a Result Based Logical framework that will lead to evidence-based decision making and improve accountability within the project implementation period;
- Prepare and develop M&E System Operational Manual that guides the day-to-day operations of the project implementation.
- Build M&E capacity of direct project beneficiaries, project team and others.
- Develop monthly dashboard to illustrate progress of the project, achievements and challenges.
- Conduct data quarterly review meeting to understand the project achievement and challenges and/or do a stock taking of the project.

The Forestry Development Authority now invites eligible Individuals to express their interest in providing these services. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the aforementioned assignment. Applicants must have experience in Small Medium Forest Enterprises (SMFEs) in Secondary Wood Processing; should availability of appropriate knowledge skills of secondary wood processing is an advantage.

#### Qualification and Experience:

- At least a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in Environmental Science is an added advantage, in development field, monitoring and evaluation in natural resource, social science, economics, Business Administration, Statistics or in relevant discipline.
  - Strong quantitative and qualitative skills data collection and analysis;
  - Minimum of four (4) years of progressively responsible professional experience in performance monitoring and/or evaluation role with an international development organization
  - Demonstrate ability in data analysis, monitoring and evaluation of development activities.
  - Experience developing results frameworks, logical frameworks, M&E Plan
  - proven experience in excellent research and data collection methodology skills, and 11 worked with AfDB project or other projects is an added advantage
  - Excellent computer skills, including word processing, spreadsheet programs and data base management;
  - Familiar with Statistical Packages and Social Sciences (SPSS), should have experience in using Microsoft office including MS Word, Excel, Power point.
  - Experience working with mobile Android phone to collect quantitative data using KOBO collect soft word platform as well as excellent organizational and time-management skill.
  - Ability to read and interpret field data and specifications
- Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s “Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded Operations” dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank’s website at <http://www.afdb.org>.
  - Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours [9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Liberian Time], Mondays through Fridays (except public holidays): emmanuellewis965@gmail.com with copy to: [wynnbeyant12@gmail.com](mailto:wynnbeyant12@gmail.com).
  - Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by August 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM and mention “Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant”
  - Duration Consultancy: Maximally 6 months, with possible extension

Attn: Project Coordinator  
Project Implementation Unit  
Forestry Development Authority  
Whein Town, Bernard Farm  
Montserrado County  
Liberia]

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# Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

## Whein Town, Bernard Farm, Montserrado County Liberia

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

Republic of Liberia

Assignment Title: Individual Consultancy for the Position of Monitoring & Evaluation to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie Carpenters and Furniture makers) and keep track of the indicators in the results measurement framework of Needs Assessment for Association members/beneficiaries.

Name of Project: Scaling up the participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry\_ Phase II  
Sector : Forestry  
Project ID No :P-LR-AAD-002  
Grant No : 5900155018403  
Issue Date : August 1, 2025  
End Date : August 15, 2025

#### BACKGROUND

The Government of Liberia through the Forestry Development Authority has received financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the “Scaling Up the Participation of SMFEs in the Secondary Wood Processing Industry Project in Liberia- Phase II, and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this *grant* to payments under the contract for **Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant**.

The services of the M&E consultant relating to the required duties and responsibilities are:

- The individual M&E consultant will be expected to design, establish and implement an efficient results-based monitoring & evaluation (M&E) system for the Scaling up of participation of direct beneficiaries (ie.Carpenters and Furniture makers)
- Keep track of the indicators in the Results Measurement Framework (RMF) of Needs Assessment (NA) for the Eleven (11) Carpenters and Furniture Makers Association members/beneficiaries.
- Coordinate and supervise project activities including keeping track of the indicators in the results measurement framework.
- Monitor work of Data field collectors that conduct Needs Assessment &Data collection from field) on feedback from training from phase one (1) and current needs and prepare Periodic performance tracking progress report; Mid-term Report; Final Report for submission to the Project Coordinator (PC) and Project team.
- Undertake the responsibility for working on field data collected, collating, analysis, and reporting.
- He/she the selected M&E Consultant will work in close collaboration with the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) and will support the PIU to develop appropriate M&E processes, protocols and reporting mechanisms for the intermediate results that lead to the achievement in line with the Project Development Objectives (PDO) and outcomes, and as well as track project activities.
- The consultant will consider how this system could be adapted/augmented with an overall efficient and effective results-based M&E system that would cater to the need of tracking all future AfDB projects.;
- Develop Performance Indicators (PI), Key Performance Indicators (KPI) and measure project outcomes and outputs against data collected by Data Collectors in order to assess the impact of the project on the defined intended and desirable indicators in order to compare project performance against targets set in the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Budget;
- Design a Result Based Logical framework that will lead to evidence-based decision making and improve accountability within the project implementation period;
- Prepare and develop M&E System Operational Manual that guides the day-to-day operations of the project implementation.
- Build M&E capacity of direct project beneficiaries, project team and others.
- Develop monthly dashboard to illustrate progress of the project, achievements and challenges.
- Conduct data quarterly review meeting to understand the project achievement and challenges and/or do a stock taking of the project.

The Forestry Development Authority now invites eligible Individuals to express their interest in providing these services. Interested individuals must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the aforementioned assignment. Applicants must have experience in Small Medium Forest Enterprises (SMFEs) in Secondary Wood Processing; should availability of appropriate knowledge skills of secondary wood processing is an advantage.

#### Qualification and Experience:

- At least a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in Environmental Science is an added advantage, in development field, monitoring and evaluation in natural resource, social science, economics, Business Administration, Statistics or in relevant discipline.
  - Strong quantitative and qualitative skills data collection and analysis;
  - Minimum of four (4) years of progressively responsible professional experience in performance monitoring and/or evaluation role with an international development organization
  - Demonstrate ability in data analysis, monitoring and evaluation of development activities.
  - Experience developing results frameworks, logical frameworks, M&E Plan
  - proven experience in excellent research and data collection methodology skills, and 11 worked with AfDB project or other projects is an added advantage
  - Excellent computer skills, including word processing, spreadsheet programs and data base management;
  - Familiar with Statistical Packages and Social Sciences (SPSS), should have experience in using Microsoft office including MS Word, Excel, Power point.
  - Experience working with mobile Android phone to collect quantitative data using KOBO collect soft word platform as well as excellent organizational and time-management skill.
  - Ability to read and interpret field data and specifications
- Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank’s “Procurement Policy Framework for Bank’s Group Funded Operations” dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank’s website at <http://www.afdb.org>.
  - Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours [9:00 AM – 4:00 PM Liberian Time], Mondays through Fridays (except public holidays): emmanuellewis965@gmail.com with copy to: [wynnbeyant12@gmail.com](mailto:wynnbeyant12@gmail.com).
  - Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by August 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM and mention “Monitoring & Evaluation Consultant”
  - Duration Consultancy: Maximally 6 months, with possible extension

Attn: Project Coordinator  
Project Implementation Unit  
Forestry Development Authority  
Whein Town, Bernard Farm  
Montserrado County  
Liberia]

E-mail: emmanuellewis965@gmail.com  
0775-841-431/0886-570-320  
Link for Clarification:  
Email: [wynnbryant12@gmail.com](mailto:wynnbryant12@gmail.com)  
0776-063-643/0886-551-249



# MORE HEADLINE NEWS

## MoH, NAHWUL, Ecobank signed MoU

*-To boost financial services for Health Workers* By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

The Ministry of Health, National Health Workers Union, and Ecobank Liberia have signed an MoU under a tripartite agreement to process payroll, loan, and other services for health workers across the country through the bank.

Monrovia, Liberia; Thursday, 31 July 2025, at August 4, 2025 - the Ministry of Health, was The Ministry of Health (MOH), the National Health Workers Union of Liberia (NAHWUL), and Ecobank Liberia Limited, Vobah, MoH General Counsel; Mr. James Beyan, Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to facilitate opening of payroll accounts, issuance of loans, and other essential banking services for the Ministry's



employees. The exercise aims to improve access to financial services and strengthen the welfare of the health workforce across the country. The signing ceremony, which took place on

"The well-being of our health workers directly affects the quality of care in our hospitals and clinics." "Today's agreement ensures that our workforce has access to timely salary payment, affordable loans, and electronic banking services. I am grateful to Dr. Louise Mapleh Kpoto for ensuring that this initiative is achieved in the best interest of our health workers. I assure all the health workers across the country and Ecobank Liberia of the success of this agreement", he continued. The agreement establishes a partnership between the three parties that will streamline salary payments, promote responsible borrowing, and introduce modern digital banking tools to thousands of health workers across the country. The President of NAHWUL, Mr. Francis Kerkula, who signed on behalf of the health Union, lauded the initiative as "a significant achievement for health workers," noting that financial

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## 2 New Dawn Reporters in China

*-For training along with others from Liberia* Two reporters of the NEW DAWN are among 30 Liberian journalists currently in China for a two-week intensive training.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah



CHANGSHA, China; training institution Jiang Yanhui and Xie August 4, 2025 - Two journalists from The Ministry of Commerce, the University's School of NEW DAWN Newspaper, program brings together Business Administration. Stephen G. Fellajuah and scholars and media experts All Liberian participants Lewis S. Teh, are part of a from across China. received official invitations 30-member Liberian media Lecturers include Wuthrough the Chinese delegation currently Chuanhua, Secretary-Embassy in Liberia, participating in a 14-day General of the China-underscoring the seminar on media Africa Institute; Liu Qi diplomatic weight behind communication capacity in Feng, Deputy Director of the initiative. Changsha, Hunan Province, the Office of Foreign The seminar is being China, from August 1-14, Affairs Committee; Li hosted at the Meyes 2025. Peng, Deputy Director of International Hotel in the Hunan Department of Commerce; and Professors

The seminar is aimed at equipping journalists with advanced skills in integrated media development, international communication strategies, digital media technologies, and the fusion of traditional culture with modern journalism. It forms part of China's broader initiative to enhance media collaboration across Africa and foster global partnerships through soft-power diplomacy. Organized by the Hunan International Business Vocational College, a



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Republic of Liberia



Invitation To Bid

Construction of Hospital  
(ITB NO. NOCAL/SP/NCB/001/2025)


- The National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL) through its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has allocated funds for its Calendar Year Budget 2025 in United States Dollars.
- The National Oil Company of Liberia intends to apply portion of its CSR budget appropriation to payment under the contract for the "CONSTRUCTION OF SINJE HOSPITAL" located in Grand Cape Mount County, Liberia. Bid received in excess under this process shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.
- The National Oil Company of Liberia now invites sealed bids from interested eligible bidders for the Construction of Sinje Hospital to be constructed in Grand Cape Mount County, Liberia.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the PPCA and approved by the PPCC, and is open to all qualified and eligible bidders as defined in the PPCA and its accompanying regulations. Eligible and qualified Bidders can submit their bids as indicated in the table below:


Contract Package	Description of Civil Works	Pre-Bid Conference/Site Inspection	Refundable Bid Security (US\$)	Submission Deadline Date & Time	Bid Opening Date & Time
Construction of Building (Hospital)	Construction of Hospital building typically containing basement, ramps, stairs and lobby.	August 11, 2025 (Mandatory) 10:00 AM – 5PM NOCAL Office & Site	\$20,000.00	August 22, 2025 1:00 PM	August 22, 2025 1:30 PM

Note: Bidders are responsible for their transportation to the Site (Grand Cape Mount County)

- Eligible bidders may obtain further information from [National Oil Company of Liberia, procurement Unit, and inspect the bidding document at the address given below from Monday – Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM beginning August 1, 2025.
- A complete set of bid documents in English may be purchased by eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit of the address below for a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred (US\$200.00) United States Dollars.
- Deliver your bid to the address below on or before August 22, 2025. The employer reserve the right to accept or reject late application.
- The Employer will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of their bids.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representative who choose to attend the activity.
- All applications must be addressed to:

Procurement Unit  
National Oil Company of Liberia (NOAL)  
F&F Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
63 Coconut Plantation  
Monrovia, Liberia  
Phone: +231770323103  
WhatsApp #: +231770481854

Approved:   
President/CEO





MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

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MoH, NAHWUL, Ecobank signed

inclusion is a key part of the Union's agenda to improve the livelihoods of its members.

“This agreement is the result of years of negotiation and persistent advocacy,” said Kerkula. “It will empower our members to plan their futures, own homes, and respond to personal emergencies with dignity and financial confidence,” he stressed.

According to the agreement, all payroll accounts of employees, including NAHWUL members, will be domiciled with Ecobank, eliminating delays in payment and allowing workers to access their salaries through direct deposits. It also stipulates that no initial deposit will be required to open these accounts.

As part of its responsibilities, Ecobank has agreed to offer full banking services, including electronic banking and ATM access, to qualified employees. A monthly maintenance fee of US\$2.50 for USD Accounts and LD350 for Liberian Dollar Accounts will apply.

Importantly, Ecobank will also extend personal, vehicle, asset acquisition, and mortgage loans to eligible health workers who meet the bank's credit standards. Each loan product includes a maximum repayment period of 36 months and requires an insurance policy naming Ecobank as the first loss payee. Loans above \$5,000 will require additional collateral, such as legal mortgages or disaster insurance.

“This is the future of civil service in Liberia,” said Salamata Diallo, Ecobank Managing Director. “When we empower health workers, we empower the nation.”

The agreement will be subject to review after two years, and any party wishing to terminate it before then must provide a two-month advance notice.

For its part, the Ministry of Health has pledged to ensure all NAHWUL members with existing or new salary accounts at Ecobank are prioritized in the payroll process. The ministry will also serve as guarantor for workers with outstanding loans in the event of employment termination or retirement. It will promptly notify the bank of any such employment changes.

Meanwhile, under the terms, both MoH and NAHWUL will jointly identify a reputable insurance provider to cover all insured loan facilities.

“Ecobank has committed to applying a competitive interest rate of 11.5% per annum, alongside a 1.25% processing fee, 1.25% facility fee, and 0.35% legal fee as one-time charges for approved loans,” said Gibson K. Kollie, Head of Consumer Banking at Ecobank, who represented the bank. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Starts from page 6

2 New Dawn Reporters in China

critical step in deepening Liberia-China media relations. It also highlights New Dawn Newspaper's commitment to global engagement and professional development for its reporters.

At the opening ceremony held on August 1, Mr. Liu Qi, Deputy Division-Level Researcher at the Hunan Department of Commerce, reaffirmed China's commitment to supporting developing countries through knowledge-sharing and economic cooperation. “We have always stood with developing nations to improve livelihoods and foster sustainable growth,” he noted, emphasizing the media's role in bridging cultures and shaping public understanding in a globalized world.

Mr. Peng Tieguang, Vice President of the host college, emphasized the importance of human capital development. “This seminar is more than just a training; it's a bridge between nations, cultures, and shared aspirations,” he said. The college, with over six decades of history, has trained tens of thousands of students from China and across the globe, serving as a key hub for international education in foreign trade.

Participants will also embark on an educational visit to the coastal city of Xiamen, where they will tour cultural and historical sites such as Hulishan Fortress, Strait Herald, and the picturesque Gulangyu Island.

Representing the Liberian cohort, Journalist Nyantee Genero Samuel Togba described the seminar as a “timely and transformative platform” for the country's media professionals. “These sessions expose us to critical lessons from China's development journey, its reforms, modernization efforts, and success in poverty alleviation,” he said, adding that the seminar will enhance their capacity to report on global development issues with deeper context.

The event underscores China's ongoing efforts to position itself as a partner in Africa's development journey, not just economically, but through cultural and media diplomacy. It further highlights the evolving role of journalism in international cooperation and mutual understanding. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

Man, 50, attacked with boiled water

*A 50-year-old man has suffered severe burn after a woman is alleged to have poured hot water on him for reasons yet to be established.*

*By Patrick N. Mensah, Maryland County*

PLEEBO, Maryland County; August 4, 2025 - A 50-year-old man identified as Francis Nyemah, is in critical condition at JJ Dossen Referral Hospital in Harper City, Maryland County, after he was allegedly attacked with boiled water by a woman identified as Mercy Geekor.

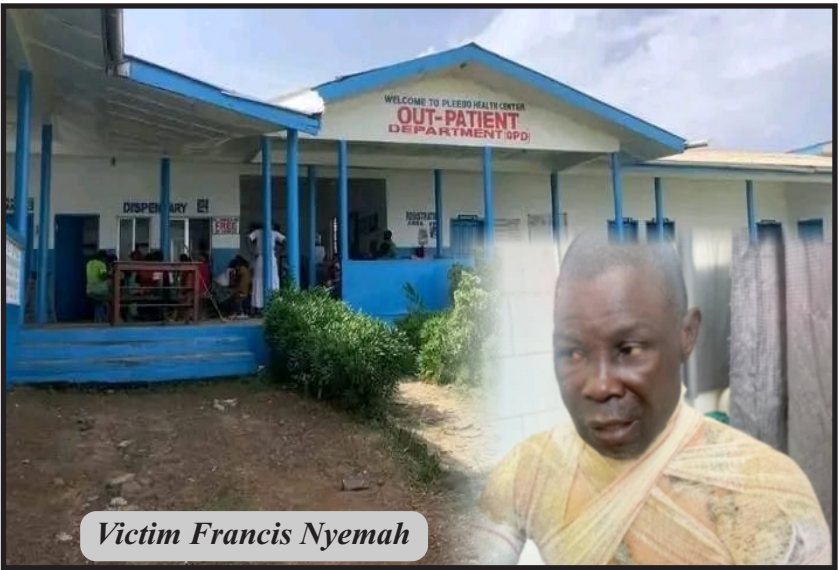
The incident occurred on Wednesday, July 23, 2025, in New Pleebo Community, Pleebo City, Maryland County.

Narrating the ordeal from his sick bed, Victim Nyemah said, the situation occurred following his return from the farm and decided to question his kids for not preparing food, but Suspect Mercy Geekor quickly interrupted, accusing him of making noise.

“So, I told her, 'Your house is far from here. You're just passing by and saying I'm making noise? I'm talking to my children; please pass,’” Mr. Nyemah explained.

According to him, he thought the suspect might have left, but she allegedly hid in a nearby kitchen tent, and while he was going behind his house to use the bathroom, she reportedly poured boiling water from the fire on him.

He said the situation left him speechless and was later rushed to



Victim Francis Nyemah

National Food Security starts with farmers.

*-Former VP Taylor* *By: Edwin N Khakie*

*Former Vice President Madam Jewel Howard Taylor has called on the Government of Liberia to prioritize and subsidize local farmers to ensure increased national food production and long-term food security.*

Gbarnga, Bong County, August 4, 2025: Speaking during the official launch of the Living Manna Rice Project, Madam Taylor emphasized that empowering Liberian farmers through subsidies and logistical support would help reduce the country's dependence on imported rice.

The Living Manna Rice Project is spearheaded by the Rice, Cassava, and Vegetables Producers and Processors Union of Liberia (RCVPPUL), a local cooperative established by

Overseer of Christ's Vision International Ministries and Executive Director of the cooperative, called on Liberians to embrace farming as a sustainable path to economic growth. He said the union is committed to unifying farming communities and organizations to increase national food production and reduce reliance on imported staples.

“We believe agriculture is the future of Liberia, and unity among farming groups is essential to transform our food systems,” Rev. Paye stated.



Christ's Vision International Ministries Church. The initiative is implemented with support from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture.

RCVPPUL is working to increase agricultural productivity and enhance food security in Bong County and across Liberia. The cooperative focuses on bringing together smallholder farmers to improve access to tools, knowledge, and markets.

In remarks during the launch, Rev. James Paye, Founder and

He also commended the Ministry of Agriculture and its development partners for the support provided through IFAD, which included farming tools such as a power tiller, cutlasses, boots, and direct cash assistance.

The event brought together local leaders, government officials, community members, and representatives from the agricultural sector, highlighting the growing call for strategic investment in Liberia's agriculture to drive development and food independence. *- Edited by Othello B. Garblah.*

the Pleebo Health Center, but due to his critical condition, doctors referred him to the JJ Dossen Referral Hospital in Harper.

His wife, Lucia Nyemah, has expressed worry and shock over the attack, stating that her husband had not had any prior conflict with the suspect before the incident.

“My husband had no confusion with anyone. I was shocked when this happened,” Madam Nyemah lamented.

She called on humanitarians and the public for financial support to cover her husband's rising medical bills, adding that her husband's condition is getting worse daily and she doesn't have money to cover his treatment.

The Chairman of the New Pleebo Community, Bill Kamara, disclosed to reporters that Suspect Mercy Geekor fled the scene following the alleged assault, but community

watch forum has launched a manhunt for her, promising to apprehend and turn her over to the Liberia National Police for investigation.

He noted that efforts are ongoing to engage the suspect's family, though they are reportedly unable to assist the victim financially.

Victim Nyemah's condition is said to be worsening, heightening concerns for his survival without immediate specialized care due to complications.

The Liberia National Police Maryland Detachment in Pleebo has launched a search for the suspect and promised to properly investigate the matter.

Citizens in the area are calling for swift justice and increased community policing to prevent a repeat of such violence. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*



# Français

## Gongloe critique la journée nationale de prière décrétée par le président Boakai

L'ancien candidat à la présidence et leader politique du *Liberian People's Party (LPP)*, Me Taiwan Saye Gongloe, a vivement critiqué la décision du président Joseph N. Boakai de décréter la journée du mercredi 30 juillet 2025 comme *Journée nationale de prière*, observée comme jour



férié. Selon lui, les nations ne se construisent pas par la prière et le jeûne, mais par une volonté politique ferme et un leadership axé sur l'action et la transformation.

Dans une interview accordée le jeudi 31 juillet 2025, Me Gongloe a estimé que le Liberia, à ce moment critique de son histoire, a davantage besoin de mesures concrètes et de réformes structurelles que d'appels spirituels. Il a souligné qu'en dépit de ses abondantes ressources naturelles, le Liberia reste l'un des pays les plus pauvres au monde, en grande partie à cause d'un manque

de vision politique cohérente et durable. « Depuis 1847, le Liberia dépend principalement de l'exportation de matières premières non transformées telles que le bois, le

caoutchouc, le minerai de fer, l'or et le diamant. Après 178 ans d'indépendance, rien n'a changé. Les églises et mosquées foisonnent dans chaque ville et village. La prière et le jeûne sont des pratiques honorables, mais elles ne remplacent pas l'action politique », a-t-il déclaré. Me Gongloe a cité plusieurs pays africains comme modèles de développement à suivre, précisant qu'ils ne comptent pas uniquement sur la spiritualité pour progresser. Il a mentionné le Botswana, l'île Maurice, le Cap-Vert et les Seychelles comme exemples de bonne gouvernance et de faible niveau de corruption. Il a également salué les efforts du Rwanda et du Burkina Faso dans le développement du tourisme, la transformation locale des ressources et la reddition des comptes dans la fonction publique. Il a par ailleurs souligné que des pays comme le Ghana et le Maroc ajoutent de la valeur à leurs produits (cacao, noix de cajou, phosphates, textiles), construisent des zones industrielles et luttent efficacement

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## Nouveau revers pour LTM : le ministère des Transports reprend le contrôle

Le Comité mixte des investissements, concessions et transports de la Chambre des représentants a ordonné la suspension immédiate de toutes les opérations de la société *Liberia Traffic Management (LTM)*, redonnant ainsi le plein contrôle opérationnel au ministère des Transports. Cette décision intervient après que LTM a manqué à son obligation de comparaître devant les députés lors d'une audition parlementaire prévue le jeudi 31 juillet 2025. L'audience faisait suite à une pétition déposée par des employés mécontents du ministère des Transports ainsi que par des chauffeurs commerciaux, contestant la concession de 25 ans octroyée à la société LTM.

Le 16 juillet 2025, plus de 200 employés du ministère des Transports avaient déjà organisé une marche vers le Capitole pour remettre officiellement une pétition au président de la Chambre, Richard Nagbe Koon. Ils y exprimaient leurs préoccupations concernant la légalité du contrat, la perte de plus de 265 emplois publics, ainsi que des pertes potentielles de revenus

dépassant 275 millions de dollars américains sur toute la durée de la concession. La pétition a été officiellement présentée à la plénière, puis soumise à l'examen du comité mixte compétent en matière de concessions. Ce dernier est chargé d'assurer le respect des accords contractuels engageant l'État. Le 24 juillet 2025, le Sénat du Liberia, lors d'une séance plénière, a officiellement demandé à sa direction d'exhorter le président Joseph Nyuma Boakai à suspendre sans délai la mise en œuvre de la concession accordée à Liberia Traffic Management Incorporated (LTM-I). Quatre jours plus tard, le 28 juillet, des chauffeurs commerciaux sont également descendus dans la rue pour protester contre ce qu'ils ont

qualifié de traitements « inhumains » dans le cadre du nouveau contrat. Ils ont dénoncé une multiplication abusive des contraventions, des actes d'extorsion, et une exploitation systématique orchestrée selon eux par les agents de LTM, sous couvert d'application des lois routières. À la suite de ces événements, le comité parlementaire a convoqué toutes les parties impliquées, y compris LTM. Alors que tous les autres acteurs se sont présentés, LTM a brillé par son absence sans fournir d'explication écrite, entravant ainsi le déroulement de l'enquête.

Face à ce refus de collaborer, le comité é a

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# Éditorial

## La domination monétaire à l'ère numérique

PARIS – Depuis plus de 80 ans, le dollar américain jouit d'une suprématie inégalée dans le commerce et la finance au niveau mondial, grâce à une combinaison d'atouts propres aux États-Unis : taille de l'économie, institutions crédibles, marchés financiers profonds et liquides, puissance géopolitique, mais également effets de réseaux absolument déterminants. Une nouvelle variable intervient néanmoins aujourd'hui, qui s'apprête à refaçonner l'ordre monétaire international : l'intégrité des données.

Les technologies numériques créant les rails sur lesquels l'argent circule de façon croissante – grâce aux stablecoins, aux actifs tokenisés et aux monnaies numériques de banque centrale – la résilience et la crédibilité des réseaux monétaires reposent maintenant non seulement sur les fondamentaux macroéconomiques, mais également sur la puissance technologique et la sécurité de l'infrastructure en question.

Les fondamentaux macroéconomiques conservent bien entendu leur importance, et les monnaies numériques soulèvent certains défis macroéconomiques classiques. En privatisant encore plus le seigneurage - revenu lié à l'émission de la monnaie -, et en facilitant l'évasion fiscale, les stablecoins risquent notamment d'impacter négativement les recettes budgétaires des États. Par ailleurs, si un stablecoin -jeton numérique sensé être échangeable à parité contre un autre actif, comme une monnaie fiduciaire- perdait son ancrage – en raison de réserves de liquidité insuffisantes par exemple – sa crédibilité pourrait s'effondrer, ce qui provoquerait des retraits massifs. Si les interconnexions de ce stablecoin avec d'autres actifs sont importantes, les conséquences seraient systémiques. Une panique autour des stablecoins ancrés au dollar américain -émis par des acteurs privés et soutenus en grande partie par les bons du Trésor américain- pourrait entraîner des perturbations particulièrement importantes. L'opacité ou la non existence de données concernant les stablecoins, ainsi que les réglementations insuffisantes dans certaines juridictions, viennent accentuer les risques.

Ces problèmes « classiques » de crédibilité ne constituent toutefois qu'un début. Le monde pourrait en effet également connaître une « cyberpanique », provoquée par les fragilités de l'infrastructure numérique qui sous-tend les actifs numériques. Il ne sera pas facile d'atténuer ce risque, le National Institute of Standards and Technology du département américain du Commerce nous [avertissant](#) en effet depuis 2016 sur le risque de voir les ordinateurs quantiques parvenir bientôt à briser bon nombre des systèmes de cryptage à clé publique actuellement utilisés. Autrement dit, une infrastructure qui semble aujourd'hui solide pourrait demain se révéler fragile.

Les conséquences pour l'ordre monétaire mondial pourraient être considérables. En tant qu'émetteur de la monnaie internationale dominante, les États-Unis [jouissent](#) depuis des décennies d'un « privilège exorbitant », notamment de la possibilité d'emprunter à des taux d'intérêt bas même en périodes de stress économique, et d'enregistrer des déficits commerciaux systématiquement élevés. L'administration du président Donald Trump semble parier sur la capacité des États-Unis à conserver ce privilège, l'actuel statut mondial du billet vert se traduisant par une demande de stablecoins ancrés à celui-ci, et par conséquent potentiellement une demande accrue de bons du Trésor américain -cela dépend de la substitution de la demande avec d'autres actifs en dollars-, ce qui conduirait à la baisse des coûts de financement du Trésor des États-Unis.

Le privilège exorbitant de l'Amérique repose en fin de compte sur la confiance dans ses institutions, sur ses cadres juridiques et sur sa capacité budgétaire. Or, dans un monde au sein duquel l'argent circule sur des plateformes programmables, la crédibilité et l'intégrité du code, la qualité des normes cryptographiques et la résistance des systèmes face au piratage revêtent autant d'importance que n'importe lequel de ces facteurs. Cette évolution transforme fondamentalement la logique de la compétition monétaire : si son avance technologique est suffisamment significative, c'est la monnaie la mieux protégée contre les cybermenaces – pas nécessairement celle qui est soutenue par l'économie la plus puissante ou la banque centrale la plus crédible – qui devient la plus attrayante.

Les stablecoins sont utilisés dans un nombre croissant de paiements transfrontaliers, et en tant que porte d'entrée et de sortie pour les investissements spéculatifs en cryptoactifs, mais nous connaissons très mal leur degré de sécurité et leur gouvernance. Il incombe par conséquent aux régulateurs et aux citoyens de soulever ces questions. Qui est responsable de la gouvernance des registres numériques ? Dans quelle mesure le système est-il protégé contre les acteurs malveillants ? Que se passe-t-il si l'épine dorsale cryptographique d'une monnaie est compromise par les avancées de l'informatique quantique ?

Il est important pour la stabilité monétaire nationale et internationale que des réponses satisfaisantes soient apportées à ces questions. Si les dirigeants politiques n'agissent pas, nous risquons de nous retrouver confrontés à un système monétaire volatil et fragmenté, comparable à celui du XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle, lorsque l'émission incontrôlée d'argent privé provoquait paniques, retraits massifs, manipulations et effondrements.

*Hélène Rey est professeur d'économie à la London Business School et vice-présidente du CEPR (Paris).*



# Français

## Starts from page 8 Gongloe critique la journée nationale de

nt contre le chômage.

« Ces nations créent des emplois, réduisent la pauvreté, respectent l'État de droit et les droits humains. Pendant ce temps, le Liberia se perd dans des déclarations symboliques, comme cette journée de prière, au lieu d'adopter une véritable politique de transformation », a-t-il martelé.

Pour lui, le développement ne peut être atteint que par des institutions solides, le respect des droits fondamentaux, l'égalité devant la loi, et des stratégies de lutte contre la corruption basées sur la transparence et la tolérance zéro.

« Ce dont le Liberia a besoin, c'est d'un gouvernement qui remplace la prière par la planification, le jeûne par des usines, les sermons par des stratégies. Nous devons passer à l'action », a-t-il plaidé.

Ancien président de l'Ordre des avocats du Liberia, Me Gongloe estime que le pays a le potentiel de devenir un pôle du tourisme écologique, de la finance climatique (notamment par les crédits carbone), et de l'exportation de produits transformés tels que le mobilier, le contreplaqué, l'eau embouteillée, l'acier, les diamants polis, l'or raffiné, ainsi que divers produits agricoles et miniers.

Il a déploré que le pays reste enlisé dans la

pauvreté à cause de son modèle économique basé sur l'exportation de matières premières et l'importation de produits finis, ce qui maintient une dépendance nuisible au développement.

« Il nous faut un gouvernement qui agit, pas un gouvernement qui se contente de prier. Un gouvernement qui bâtit, transforme, autonomise ses citoyens, plutôt que de multiplier les appels au jeûne. Le moment d'agir est venu », a-t-il insisté.

Par ailleurs, Me Gongloe, également ancien Procureur général adjoint du Liberia, a rappelé que le pays n'est pas pauvre par nature, mais mal géré. Il a évoqué ses atouts : des terres fertiles, plus de 40 % des forêts tropicales du golfe de Guinée, d'importants gisements de minerais, des sources d'eau douce exploitables, des plages vierges, des zones de mangroves favorables à la reproduction des poissons, ainsi que des montagnes propices à l'écotourisme.

« Ce pays regorge de potentiels. Il a besoin d'un leadership visionnaire et audacieux pour les exploiter dans l'intérêt des citoyens », a-t-il conclu.

Pour sa part, le ministre de l'Information, Jerolinmek Piaah, a réagi en déclarant que « ceux qui critiquent l'appel du président à une journée de prière nationale ne connaissent pas Dieu ».

## Starts from page 8 Nouveau revers pour LTM : le ministère

émis une décision de suspension immédiate des activités de LTM jusqu'à la conclusion complète de l'examen parlementaire du contrat de concession.

En attendant, le ministère des Transports est mandaté pour reprendre l'intégralité de ses fonctions réglementaires, notamment l'immatriculation des véhicules, la délivrance des permis de conduire et l'application des lois relatives à la circulation, en étroite coordination avec la Police nationale du Liberia.

Le greffier en chef de la Chambre a été chargé de transmettre officiellement les décisions du comité aux autorités concernées. De plus, l'Inspecteur général de la police est appelé à prêter son concours au ministère des Transports pour assurer l'application des lois en vigueur dans le domaine de la circulation routière.

Par ailleurs, LTM et ses avocats ont été à nouveau

convoqués pour comparaître devant le comité le lundi suivant, afin de répondre à une accusation d'outrage au Parlement pour non-respect répété des convocations législatives.

Pour rappel, l'accord de concession entre le gouvernement libérien et LTM a été signé le 11 septembre 2018. Il visait à moderniser, numériser et gérer le système de transport et de circulation routière du pays, avec pour objectifs de renforcer la sécurité routière, accroître les recettes publiques et réduire la corruption dans l'application des lois.

L'accord a été ratifié par la législature le 21 décembre 2018, puis publié dans un journal officiel le 7 janvier 2019. Resté inactif pendant plusieurs années, il a été réactivé le 24 janvier 2025, lorsque le président Boakai a officiellement validé l'accord. Une décision de la Cour suprême en date du 28 mai 2025 a ensuite autorisé sa mise en œuvre effective, lancée le 16 juillet 2025.

## Incendie au Capitole : des avocats dénoncent les cautions excessives imposées aux garants

Les avocats de la défense représentant plusieurs accusés dans l'affaire en cours relative à l'incendie du bâtiment du Capitole dénoncent les exigences jugées « excessives » imposées par le juge en charge de l'affaire, Roosevelt Z. Willie, président de la Cour criminelle « A » siégeant au Temple de la Justice.

Selon la défense, le magistrat a imposé des conditions de libération sous caution particulièrement strictes, exigeant que chaque accusé soit garanti par **quatre personnes**, chacune devant fournir **des preuves de propriété foncière**, entre autres obligations.

Les avocats des accusés — Thomas Etheridge, Christian Nyanti et Christian Koffa — avaient pourtant déjà déposé une caution collective de **six millions de dollars américains** dans l'espoir d'obtenir leur libération provisoire. Mais l'élévation soudaine des exigences, doublant

le nombre de garants requis (de deux à quatre), a surpris non seulement les avocats, mais aussi plusieurs membres du public et de la profession juridique.

« Ces nouvelles conditions sont disproportionnées et équivalent à une détention préventive déguisée », a déclaré un avocat proche du dossier, sous couvert d'anonymat. Selon lui, de telles exigences compromettent le

principe fondamental de la présomption d'innocence.

Les accusés, arrêtés peu après les événements liés à l'incendie du Capitole, **nient toute implication** dans les faits qui leur sont reprochés. Le procès devrait être inscrit au rôle de la **session judiciaire d'août**, et l'opinion publique attend avec attention les suites que la justice réservera à cette affaire sensible.



## L'Autorité foncière du Liberia lève le moratoire sur la vente et la location des terres publiques

L'Autorité foncière du Liberia (LLA) a officiellement levé le moratoire sur la vente et la location des terres publiques, permettant ainsi la reprise des transactions foncières légales, mais sous des conditions strictement encadrées par de nouvelles directives réglementaires.

Imposé le **3 février 2025**, le moratoire visait à suspendre toutes les transactions liées aux terres publiques sur l'ensemble du territoire national, conformément à **l'article 8.1(a) de la loi constitutive de la LLA (2016)**, **l'article 52.1 de la Loi sur les droits fonciers (2018)**, ainsi qu'aux **règlements de 2022** sur les droits fonciers.

L'objectif de cette suspension était de permettre l'élaboration de politiques solides encadrant l'usage, la vente, la location et la gestion des terres publiques dans les quinze comtés du pays.



Lors d'une conférence de presse tenue à Monrovia le jeudi 31 juillet, le président de la LLA, **M. Samuel F. Kpakio**, a annoncé la levée du moratoire, saluant l'adoption de nouvelles directives réglementaires complètes.

« Chers membres de la presse, je tiens à affirmer que l'Autorité foncière du Liberia demeure, conformément aux lois en vigueur, l'organe principal de l'État chargé de la gestion, de la vente et de la régulation des terres publiques au Liberia », a déclaré M. Kpakio.

« Par conséquent, j'ai le plaisir d'annoncer que le Conseil des commissaires de la LLA a décidé de lever le moratoire. »

Cette décision s'inscrit dans le cadre de **réformes structurelles plus larges**, destinées à transformer le secteur foncier libérien. Parmi les objectifs annoncés : un accès équitable à la terre, la sécurisation des titres de propriété, une meilleure utilisation du territoire, le renforcement de la gouvernance foncière, et la transparence dans le règlement des litiges fonciers.

M. Kpakio a également réitéré l'engagement de la LLA à formaliser les droits fonciers coutumiers et à fournir des services fonciers efficaces et générateurs de revenus.

Parmi les mesures clés annoncées figurent :

- Un **nouveau formulaire de titre de propriété**,
- L'introduction d'un **permis temporaire d'occupation** (anciennement appelé « droit des squatteurs »),
- Des lignes directrices provisoires pour la validation des **certificats tribaux (CT)**,
- Des directives provisoires sur la **vente et la location des terres publiques**,
- Un **barème tarifaire révisé** pour les services fonciers et les pénalités associées,
- Et les règlements pour la mise en œuvre effective de la Loi sur les droits fonciers de 2018 et du règlement foncier de 2022.

La LLA exigera également la **vérification préalable de tous les documents d'arpentage** avant qu'ils ne soient portés devant les tribunaux, afin de prévenir les ventes illégales de terres.

Lors de son intervention, le président Kpakio a rappelé que la question foncière constitue depuis longtemps un enjeu majeur de **sécurité nationale** au Liberia. Il a mis en garde contre les risques de conflit liés à l'absence de gestion adéquate des différends fonciers.

« Depuis ma prise de fonction, mon administration s'emploie à garantir une résolution transparente des conflits fonciers, à améliorer le suivi des recettes foncières et à renforcer la qualité des services dans les quinze comtés », a-t-il indiqué.

Enfin, M. Kpakio a assuré que la LLA lancera une **vaste campagne de sensibilisation** afin d'informer les citoyens sur leurs **droits, rôles et responsabilités** dans le cadre du nouveau dispositif foncier. Il a aussi souligné l'importance de protéger les **droits fonciers des femmes** et des **personnes en situation de handicap**, conformément aux engagements du gouvernement.



# FEATURE ARTICLE

## Empowering the Future: The Role of Liberian Youth in National Stability and Economic Growth:

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

Liberia is at a critical juncture following civil strife and social upheaval.

The peace brokered in 2003 must be a fragile façade and a foundation for sustainable growth and development. The international sympathy buoying Liberia's recovery in the late 20th and early 21st centuries is dwindling, as the global discourse increasingly shifts towards development agendas rather than direct interventions in nations grappling with self-inflicted crises, like the so-called continue calling for demonstrations with no object in mind but to gain so-called sympathy as the savior of the masses/downtrodden, the disguise of freedom of assembly as guaranteed under the Liberian Constitution.

The current situation calls for swift and informed action on the part of the Liberian government and its young populace, who possess the potential to be the architects of their prosperity.

If harnessed correctly, Liberia's young people's talents and skills can pave the way for economic rejuvenation; however, this requires a concerted effort to provide adequate resources and opportunities.

Often seen as a demographic burden, young Liberian people hold the keys to the nation's resurgence.

They are equipped with technological knowledge, entrepreneurial aspirations, and innovative ideas that, if left unutilized, could lead to stagnation or regression.

With international examples of nations that once faced significant adversity but have since thrived through the empowerment of their young people, Liberia is uniquely positioned to emulate such success stories.

Countries like South Korea and Singapore transformed their economic landscapes by investing in education, technology, and entrepreneurship during and after turmoil.

In contrast, Liberia must avoid the pitfalls of complacency and empty good-for-nothing plenty talking rhetoric, which have often derailed progress in the past.

To begin with, the Liberian government must recognize that spending its revenues solely on salaries without a clear investment strategy for youth development is futile.

While paying public sector workers is essential for maintaining stability and motivating the workforce, it can not overshadow the imperative of fostering a vibrant economy.

Young people will not simply emerge as high-earning citizens through wishful thinking; they require capital investment and a robust educational infrastructure.

This investment should be geared towards promoting sectors such as technology, real estate, and medicine, where the younger citizens/people can thrive and

compete on a global scale.

One critical leverage point for Liberia is providing start-up capital for young citizen-entrepreneurs.

While many young Liberians strongly desire to create businesses, a lack of initial funding often stifles these ambitions.

The government can stimulate economic growth by instituting microfinance initiatives, grants, and low-interest loans for young business owners or aspiring professionals.

This should be done under the complete supervision of trustworthy individuals with a track record of managing millions of dollars without mismanagement through their employers or personally.

No individual will give such funds to their relatives, families, girlfriends, or boyfriends. I must get a kickback before you can receive this money, which belongs to every Liberian. I must sleep with you before you can receive any of this money.

For instance, establishing business incubators that provide mentoring, resources, and financial backing could be essential platforms for young people-led enterprises.

By facilitating access to capital, the government would uplift individual young entrepreneurs and contribute to the broader economic landscape, cultivating a spirit of innovation and competition crucial for growth.

Moreover, educational institutions in Liberia must pivot towards offering more skills-based training programs that align with the needs of the evolving job market.

Partnerships between the government, educational institutions, and the private sector could yield programs focused on technology, entrepreneurship, and vocational training.

Implementing practical skills into the educational curriculum will equip young people with the competencies needed to navigate the complexities of the modern workforce.

Moreover, these programs can foster greater collaboration between students and industries, creating pathways for internships, job placements, and hands-on experience, which are invaluable for enhancing employability.

The imperative to uplift the young people reflects a broader economic reality.

If Liberia is to foster a generation of millionaires, it must create an ecosystem conducive to wealth creation.

This requires strategic investments in sectors such as technology, agriculture, and infrastructure, which have the potential to generate substantial returns on investment.

Countries like Nigeria and Kenya have effectively leveraged technology to bolster their economies through initiatives supporting startups and technological innovation.

Similar initiatives in Liberia could result in groundbreaking developments in mobile banking, e-

commerce, and agritech, ultimately leading to higher income levels and improved living standards for the young people.

It is also essential to recognize the interconnectedness of empowerment and national stability.

The potential for unrest and disillusionment increases in a society where young people feel disengaged or neglected.

Conversely, when young people actively participate in constructive economic activities and decision-making processes, they become stakeholders in their nation's future, reducing the likelihood of discord.

Empowered young people can serve as a stabilizing force.

Therefore, the government should prioritize inclusivity by incorporating young people into policy discussions and development projects and acknowledging their ideas and input as critical to the nation's progress.

Furthermore, young Liberians must embrace a mindset change, transforming from passive observers to active participants in their fate.

The abundance of empty and unyielding results of rhetorical discussions that have characterized civil society engagement in Liberia must give way to positive action.

Words must translate into results, and the youth must advocate for their needs while assuming responsibility for their development.

Participation in governance, community service, and entrepreneurial ventures can reinforce a sense of ownership and agency among young Liberians, consequently fostering a more active and engaged citizenry.

Let me conclude by suggesting that the pathway to a prosperous Liberia lies in the empowerment of its young people, who have the potential to drive economic and social transformation.

The government must adopt a strategic approach to investment in young people through capital provision, educational reform, and a supportive environment for entrepreneurship.

By mobilizing the talents of young Liberians and confronting the barriers that restrict their growth, Liberia can cultivate a new generation of innovators and leaders who will contribute to national stability and prosperity.

As the world evolves and the international focus drifts, the Liberian government and its young people must seize this moment and build a future characterized by opportunity, equality, and sustainable growth.

Through collective action and vision, Liberia can foster a thriving landscape where the younger generation is saved from the shadows of adversity and empowered to illuminate the path forward for the nation.

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UN Drive, P.O. Box 1266  
Opposite the National Investment Commission  
Monrovia - Liberia.

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0886978282 / 0775407211 | Website: [www.thenewdawnliberia.com](http://www.thenewdawnliberia.com)  
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# Police indict Fula woman

Authorities at the Liberian National Police have indicted the Fula woman at the center of the alleged Police brutality and power theft case that led to protests from Muslim women here.

By Lincoln G. Peters  
Monrovia, August 4, 2025: The Police, through its Professional Standard Division (PSD), indicted Madam Zainab Bah for simple assault on a police officer, while suspending officer Alice Tokpah for one month without pay.



"Madam Zainab Bah has been formally charged with the crimes of Simple Assault, for throwing a bench and splashing hot soup; Preventing Arrest or Discharge of Official Duties, in violation of Chapter 12, Subchapter E, Section 12.2 of the Penal Law of Liberia; and Disorderly Conduct, under Chapter 14, Section 14.21 of the same law. These offenses are considered violations of the Revised Penal Code of the Republic of Liberia. She is currently awaiting trial before a court of competent jurisdiction." The LNP stated. The incident surrounds a recent power theft arrest on Newport Street involving Zainab and Mr. Ibrahim Jalloh, effected by officers of the LNP, which led to a tussle between the officer and suspect Zainab. The incident, according to the LNP, occurred during a lawful power theft inspection by the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC), sparking public attention and concern, particularly following a viral video depicting a physical encounter between officers and Madam Bah. Based upon the tussles and

circulated video footage, Muslim women across Monrovia staged a day-long protest at the headquarters of the LNP, demanding speedy investigation and prosecutions into the matter. LNP Inspector General, Gregory Coleman, during the protest, apologized to the protesting women, while committing the LNP to a speedy and fair

investigation. Releasing the investigative findings over the weekend, Police spokesperson, Cecelia Clark, explained that the arrest of Madam Bah was lawful, adding that she was non-compliant and engaged in acts of aggression towards the officers, including throwing a bench and wasting hot soup at them, both considered criminal offenses. According to her, while initial restraint was justified, Madam Bah later de-escalated to passive resistance. At that point, officers were expected to prioritize de-escalation. Officer Alice Tokpah's decision to forcibly remove the child without seeking alternative means was inappropriate and showed disregard for the child's safety. During the investigation, Police Spokeswoman Clark disclosed that Madam Bah did not report any physical injuries during her interview, nor did her representatives. The LNP spokesperson further indicated that Mr. Ibrahim Jalloh has been formally charged with Power Theft, in violation of Chapter 15, Section 15.81 and the

amended Section 15.88, paragraph 5C of the Penal Law of Liberia. Madam Clark added that Mr. Jalloh is accused of tampering with LEC meters and bypassing billing mechanisms in an attempt to evade lawful payment for electricity services. This offense is a criminal violation under Liberian law, and he is awaiting trial before a court of competent jurisdiction. On the side of administrative action, the LNP disclosed that officer Alice Tokpah has been suspended for one month without pay for misconduct during the arrest of Madam Zainab Bah. She pointed out that officers and LEC personnel failed to accommodate Madam Bah's language barrier. No effort was made to communicate through her husband or a translator, which could have prevented escalation. Furthermore, Officer Tokpah's actions constitute "Unsatisfactory Conduct" and "Unsatisfactory Performance" under the LNP Administrative Instruction on Discipline and Professional Standards. The LNP added that her actions included the unjustified removal of Madam Bah's head covering and the use of excessive physical handling during a phase when the subject had transitioned to passive resistance. In contrast, Officer Prince W. Chebo has been fully exonerated, as his conduct during the incident was found to be lawful. Conclusion: "We thank the public for its patience and cooperation during this investigation. The Liberia National Police remains committed to transparency, accountability, and professionalism. Appropriate actions have been taken in line with the law, and we reaffirm our dedication to protecting the rights of all citizens and strengthening public trust through responsible and respectful policing." Madam Clark stated. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

Starts from Back page **Senator takes Ombudsman to task**  
ative but to write the Senate to summon him upon our return from our constituency break", Kogar added. The Senator also noted that as an official who respects the code of conduct, upon his reelection as Representative of electoral District #5, Nimba County in 2023, and he similarly declared his assets with the

**Office of Ombudsman wants Supreme Court Justices suspended**  
The Office of the Ombudsman has proposed the suspension of four Justices of the Supreme Court for their failure to comply with the Code of Conduct governing public officials in Liberia.

By: Kruah Thompson  
Capitol Hill, August 4, 2025: The Justices found in violation include outgoing Chief Justice Sie-A-Nyene G. Yuoh, Justice Yussif D. Kaba, Justice Jamesetta H. Wolokolie, and Justice Ceaineh D. Clinton Johnson. Speaking during a press conference on Thursday, July 31, 2025, in Monrovia, Ombudsman Chairperson Finley Y. Karngar disclosed that the four Justices violated Section 10.2(h) of the Code of Conduct.

The section mandates that "an official appointed by the President shall declare his/her assets not later than thirty (30) days after appointment." It states that failure to comply shall result in immediate suspension until full compliance is achieved. In addition to the suspension recommendation, the Ombudsman imposed a one-month salary deduction on each of the four Justices in accordance with Sections 15.1(c) and (d) of the Code of Conduct. Karngar emphasized that no official is above the law, and the decision sets a precedent to reinforce transparency and accountability within Liberia's judiciary. "We wish to bring to your attention that we have been monitoring compliance with the Asset Declaration Regime, which is being implemented by our sister agency, the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC), particularly within the Judiciary Branch of Government," Karngar said. He explained that the investigation revealed that as of July 4, 2025, out of 366 judicial officials identified by the LACC to comply with the asset declaration requirement, 362 had done so. However, the four Justices in question failed to declare their

LACC on March 1, 2024. Most officials here have failed to declare their assets before taking office, as mandated by President Joseph Boakai and in accordance with the code of conduct for public servants. Editing by Jonathan Browne

assets, incomes, and liabilities, thereby violating Sections 10.2, 3.10, and 4.1 of the Code of Conduct (as amended in 2022). Meanwhile, Karngar also announced that the Office of the Ombudsman has formally informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate Pro Tempore, Nyonblee Karnga Lawrence, recommending the suspension of 29 lawmakers, 17 representatives, and 12 senators who have failed to declare their assets in line with the presidential proclamation on asset transparency. The twelve senators identified for noncompliance include: Sen. Alex J. Tyler (Bomi), Sen. Simone Taylor (Grand Cape Mount), Sen. Botoe Kanneh (Gbarpolu), Sen. Zoe E. Pennue (Grand Gedeh), Sen. Thomas Y. Nimely (Grand Gedeh), Sen. Wellington G. Smith (Rivercess), Sen. Bill Twehway (Rivercess), Sen. Crayton Duncan (Sinoe), Sen. Numene Bartekwa (Grand Kru), Sen. James Biney (Maryland), Sen. Saah Joseph (Montserrado) and Sen. Samuel Kogar (Nimba county) respectively. He concluded by urging the relevant authorities to act swiftly, citing Section 2.1 of the Code of Conduct, which requires all public officials within the three branches of government to declare their assets, incomes, and liabilities. He stressed that accountability must apply uniformly, regardless of position or power, if Liberia is to strengthen public trust in governance. Meanwhile, he informed that he has written to His Excellency President Joseph Boakai, thanking him for his kind acceptance to implement the Ombudsman's recommendation.



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***Senator Samuel G. Kogar of Nimba County challenges the Office of the Ombudsman to provide that he has not declared his assets before taking office, as reported recently, or retract the statement.***

Monrovia, Liberia, August 4, 2025 - Nimba County Senator, Samuel G. Kogar, has categorically refuted pronouncement by the Executive Director of the Office of the Ombudsman, upon taking office after his election during the Nimba County Senatorial by-election in April 2025, he officially declared his asset with the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) on July 17, 2025.

upon taking office after his election during the Nimba County Senatorial by-election in April 2025, he officially declared his asset with the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) on July 17, 2025.

Appearing Thursday, July 31,

12 senators, including Senator Samuel G. Kogar of Nimba County, are non-compliant with the asset declaration.

But reacting on Friday, August 1, 2025, Senator Kogar said the disclosure presents grossly distorted narrative regarding his hard-earned character. He called on Cllr. Findley Karnga to fact-check with the LACC on his declaration and immediately retract his statement.

Senator Kogar, in a press release, described the disinformation regarding his declaration of assets as an apparent disconnection between the Office of the Ombudsman and the LACC.

He urged Cllr. Karnga and his team to always properly verify with the LACC to accord due diligence to officials who have declared their assets .

Additionally, Senator Kogar described the assertion by Cllr. Karna as “character assassination” and cautioned him to recognize his errors and do the needful by providing clarity with immediate effect.

“Failure on the part of the Executive Director (ED) of the Office of the Ombudsman to do so will leave me with no altern

**CONT'D ON PAGE 11**

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placing him amongst 12 Senators, who have failed to declare their assets with the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC).

According to Senator Kogar,

2025, at the Ministry of Information's weekly press briefing, the Executive Director of the Office of the Ombudsman, Cllr. Findley

Karnga disclosed that a total of

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A hand holding a pen is shown writing the word "PRESS" in bold, black capital letters on a vibrant, abstract background. The background features a large, stylized letter 'P' in shades of pink, purple, and yellow, with various colorful splashes and brushstrokes in blue, green, and orange. The overall style is dynamic and artistic, suggesting a creative or journalistic theme.