

Liberia's Social Cohesion

heads of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), along with others, called for a broad national commitment to a unified policy response to the economic downturn. The historic conference in Oslo, led by Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg of Norway and organized by the IMF and others from government, business, and academia to tackle the sharp increases in unemployment and underemployment since the global financial crisis. The international community must respond to the very real economic crisis that has had on people," said IMF Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn. "This gathering is intended to define the steps that must be taken to bring the economy back into the growth path. Tackling the jobs crisis is not only critical for a full global economic recovery but also for social stability and peace." Economic growth is not fair, it is unsustainable," said Director-General Juan Luis Rodríguez Cordero. "This has been the main lesson of the crisis. Levels of employment should be a key economic objective to keep low inflation and balanced budgets. We need to achieve globalization in the right

people living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, within the context of a medium long-term framework of sustainable macroeconomic policies and strategies for development. Second, the two institutions will focus on policies to promote employment-creating growth. There was also agreement on the central role that effective social dialogue can play in building the consensus needed to tackle the difficult adjustment challenges created by the crisis, and to ensure that the social consequences of the crisis and its aftermath are taken fully into account. The Oslo Conference brought together senior government leaders, including the Liberian President, Prime Minister George Papandreou; and Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero of Spain. A large delegation of labor leaders was led by International Trade Union Confederation General Secretary Sharan Burrow. The President has, meanwhile received the commitment of the Norwegian Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg to fully support the final phase of Liberia's debt relief, ahead of this week's Paris Club meeting in France. The commitment was made by the Norwegian Prime Minister during a meeting with the Liberian President in Oslo on Monday, September 13.

UL, MOHSW Benefit Two-Day Workshop

The University of Liberia Institutional Review Board (UL-IRB) in collaboration with the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE), will commence a two-day capacity strengthening training workshop for 50 participants. The training which will take place today will focus on "Strengthening the capacity of research and coordinators in health and social research ethics". The 50 participants will be drawn from the University of Liberia, The Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE), Africa center and the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. Topics to be thought include: types of health research, overview of experimental designs and various players involved.

Other are; clinical trials, risk/benefit analysis, collaboration research and fundamental ethical principles. According to Professor Dr. James N. Kollie, Coordinator of UL-Institutional Research Board said the training would assist the University to establish its own institutional review board. He added that the research training is a new phenomenon in academia. He further disclosed that the training which is the first in the country is being sponsored by the European Developing Countries Clinical Trial Partnership (EDCTP) based in The Hague, Netherland. The UL-Institutional Review Board was established in 2006 to

receive, approve and monitor biomedical, sociological and behavioral research proposal in which humans are used as subject. It prioritizes the rights, wellbeing and protection of research subjects against possible research abuses and unethical research practices. Dr. Aceme Nyika, ethics coordinator for Africa Malaria Network Trust (AMANET) based in Dare Salaam, Tanzania will serve as key facilitator.

Most Students of the Stella Maris Polytechnic have expressed shocked over the abrupt increase in registration fees from US\$50.00 to US\$70 by the administration. Many of the students, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of being expelled from the institution, told this paper that the decision if not reconsidered by the school's administration would deny many of them from attending classes for the semester.

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"The additional US\$20, 00 added is for T-shirts and caps and this is a complete exploitation for us as poor students," the angry students narrated. The aggrieved students however appealed to President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and other stakeholders to come to their aids and help them to continue with their studies. When contacted at his offices, the Dean for Students Affairs said the institution was a private Collage and therefore the school's administration was not under obligation to ask anyone before carrying on a task.

Legislature Goes

members of the First Branch of Government is a constitutional requirement that comes once a year. However, even as they

between them and their various districts. Lawmakers' Agriculture break came into existence during the

SRSG Ellen Margrethe Løj Addresses Media Today

