
Liberia: Senator Brown Requests Senate to Invite LACE

By Richard Stephens

Maryland County Senator J. Gbleh-bo Brown has requested the Plenary of the Liberian Senate to invite the Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE) to provide a status report on infrastructure projects being implemented in the county.

In a communication to plenary Tuesday, Senator Brown said under the Grant Agreement signed between the Government of Liberia and the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Government through the Ministry of Public Works entrusted the implementation of the social infrastructure component to LACE.

He explained that under the component, LACE was expected to construct and reconstruct five schools and five clinics in Maryland County, noting that one of the five schools earmarked for reconstruction was the Cape Palmas High in Harper.

Brown noted that LACE commenced reconstruction work on the Cape Palmas High School and a number of schools and clinics in Pleebo, Karluway and Barobo Statutory Districts some five years ago, but that up to present, these projects are yet to be completed.

He explained that on May 22, 2015 while school was in session amidst heavy downpour the Cape Palmas High School building began to leak profusely and some of the particles of the building started to fall off, forcing students and teachers to abandon classes and run for safety.

He noted that the following day students of the school in an attempt to draw government's attention to their plight disrupted normal academic activities at other schools.

Senator Brown's communication also called for the temporary relocation of the Cape Palmas High School until the reconstruction project is completed.

He wants the Senate Standing Committee on Education and Health to jointly invite LACE to show cause why these projects have not been completed and to provide a clear and reasonable timeline as to when they will be completed.

Presiding officer and President Pro-Tempore Armah Jallah sent the letter to the Committees on Education and Health to review and report to the Plenary in two weeks.

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