



## LIBERIA MEDIA FOR DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES

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*Dialoging for Peace, Democracy & Development in Liberia*

ZEE---MAANEH-----ZEE---MAANEH (PEACE AND ENJOYMENT)

**LMDI / WAEC LIBERIA Event... "THE DIALOGUE" ...LMDI & WAEC LIBERIA DEMYSTIFY THE MUCH LIBERIAN FEARED WEST AFRICAN SENIOR SCHOOL EXAMINATION (WASSCE) AT PARTNERSHIP TEST FORUM AT TUBMANBURG IN BOMI COUNTY, REVEALING ITS BENEFITS FOR LIBERIAN STUDENTS AS SECOND WASSCE PUBLIC EDUCATION FORUM SITS ON WEDNESDAY NEAR THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION NEC AT 9<sup>TH</sup> STREET IN MONROVIA...LMDI/THE DIALOGUE/DUCOR DEBATES-ZEE-MAANEH---ZEE-MAANEH (PEACE & ENJOYMENT)...PLEASE VISIT AND VIEW OUR NEW WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE AT [www.lmdilib.org](http://www.lmdilib.org) AND [www.facebook.com/lmdilib.org](https://www.facebook.com/lmdilib.org). PLEASE FOLLOW AND KNOW ALL ABOUT US AND LIBERIA AND ALL THAT WE DO TO SUSTAIN LIBERIA'S POST CONFLICT DEMOCRACY.**

**Tubman Bomi County Liberia...Monday December 11, 2017...**Tens of thousands of Liberian secondary or high school pupils across the county poised for candidature for their much feared introduction of the West African Senior School Certificate WASSCE by the West African Examinations Council have begun experiencing a rather unexpected demystification of the WASSCE, the synchronized regional international examination.

According to DALE GBOTOE, the head of the Liberian National Office of the West African, Liberia has long eluded WASSCE as it's commonly called by thousands of Liberian senior high school students for fear of lack of preparation. "Students, parents teachers, school owners, administrators and even the Liberian government have all feared and resisted this simple but great testing procedure for Liberian schools, both public and private, claiming that the schools are not prepared for the introduction of the WASSCE. This is shameful", says DALE GBOTOE.

But as it surprisingly turned out at the latest of the LMDI weekly People To People (P2P) flagship platform, THE DIALOGUE forum at Tubmanburg Bomi County recently, all the fear for WASSCE has been the gross lack of needed public knowledge on the whole concept of WASSCE and its roll out process.

It was a virtual whole day of an agreed trial version of THE DIALOGUE for possible partnership between the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) and the Liberia Media for Democratic Initiatives (LMDI) for urgently needed national public education on the introduction of WASSCE at the WAEC regional office at Tubmanburg, Bomi County in Western Liberia. Hundreds of students teachers, parents and executives gathered here to talk about the test.

Led by its head of National Office, DALE GBOTOE, the West African Examinations Council backed by a regional testing staff, Mrs. COMFORT ARGWU took up time to explain what WASSCE is, its benefits and administration procedures and the urgency for Liberia to join in.

In an apparent demystifying drive, Mrs ARGWU and DALE GBOTOE told the WASSCE fear gripped gathering at Tubmanburg that they had nothing to fear as WASSCE is simply a name change for the test Liberia has already been taking, only that the test will now be synchronized with the rest of the five nation member WAEC organization.

They said the introduction of the WASSCE to Liberia will be uttered to cope with Liberia's unpreparedness especially in practical areas that require the use of laboratory exercises which Liberia has contended is not prepared

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for. “We will give you a watered down version of the WASSCE until at a time your government tells us that you are fully ready for the full scale one, but we can no longer wait for Liberia alone among the WAEC member nations.

ARGWU and GBOTOE informed the forum that Liberian students stand to benefit more from WASSCE than the WAEC administered Liberian Senior High School Certificate Examinations which Liberian pupils have been taking, explaining that for WASSCE, except one fails all, you are not a total failure as opposed the Liberian High School Certificate which requires that candidates pass all subjects under it or be considered an outright failure.

“Under WASSCE, if you fail all and pass just one, you will be given a certificate for that, giving you some hope”, ARGWU and GBOTOE further explained. The other advantage for WASSCE candidates is that they will have the option to select their choice of subjects for eventual alignment with their career agenda in college.

DALE GBOTOE, the head of National Office for WAEC Liberia alarmed that Liberia has evaded the administration of the WASSCE for too long and that WAEC has now grown impatient with having Liberia match up with other member countries.

The more than 500 people in attendance, mainly high school students were keen on all kinds concerns about the expected West African Senior School Examinations WASSCE, its administration and benefits for the potential candidates. The forum saw an intense and frank exchange of views on the WASSCE and expected administration beginning early next year.

The Bomi County forum was test for a potential partnership between WAEC Liberia and the Liberia Media for Democratic Initiatives (LMDI) for a sustained public education on the WASSCE and other public education initiatives in Liberia. A second mass gathering of WAEC Liberia and hundreds of Liberian high school students for public education on WASSCE takes place this Wednesday at the Monrovia Christian Fellowship Center at 9<sup>th</sup> Street Sinkor near the National Elections Commission (NEC).

As ever the deliberations from the series of forums and subsequent ones in the coming weeks and months are being broadcast on our partner network 45 National and Rural Community Radios around Liberia.

Please also follow us at our new website at [www.lmdilib.org](http://www.lmdilib.org) and also visit our face book page at Liberia Media for Democratic initiatives-LMDI You can send comments to [info@lmdi.org](mailto:info@lmdi.org) and [john@lmdi.org](mailto:john@lmdi.org) THE DIALOGUE & DUCOR DEBATES at this time are generally in association with the CARTER CENTER-PEACE ACTION NETWORK (PAN)/ THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) & UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP) across Liberia.

Signed:



John O. Kollie

DIRECTOR

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