

Forum	Security Council
Issue	The question of the situation in Liberia
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Position	President

Introduction

Liberia is the oldest republic in Africa. It was constructed for the African-American's who were slaves and was constructed by the aid of American Colonization Society. The African American exiled the natives in the place and changed its name to a Liberia in 1800. That was beginning of the conflict between the two community which were African-Americans and natives.

In 1980, Samuel Kanyon Doe who was from a native tribe named Krahn, revolted the government and prosecuted a coup de tat against the government of African-American. As a result of the coup de tat Samuel Kanyon Doe was able to manage him ending up the era of the ruling society of African-American which was continued for 133 years and was also able to dominate the regime and executed a brutal monarchy. However, his brutal monarchy didn't last long. A former official named Charles Taylor established a Liberia National Patriotic Front which fought against with Samuel Kanyon Doe's ruling. That was referred to a first official civil war in Liberia which was held between 1989~1997.

Charles Taylor and Liberia National Patriotic Front were able to exorcize the Samuel Kanyon and his government later on elected as a president of Liberia. For the next 3 years, Taylor exercised a much more depressing and savage political operations. He prohibited the freedom of speech and executed any single person who was against with him. However, a group of people who were against with Taylor and his government, formed a military forces

in order to combat Taylor. That was the second civil war of Liberia which was held between 2000~2003. After the civil war, the dissenters were able to kick out Taylor to Nigeria. In addition in 2012, Taylor was sentenced to jail for 50 years after the judge of Sierra Leone Special Court which was held in Hague, Netherland. His crime was that he aided the civil war to happen in Sierra Leone as he sold weapon to Sierra Leone rebels in order to receive diamonds, which was the fundamental source that led Taylor to manage a military forces.

After the several critical events that were contributing the disarray of Liberia, Liberia gradually started to find a stable society. The election of the president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was a crucial role to it. The president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is now trying to stable the country by executing several useful and fruitful political measures such as supplying a basic education and settling the peace to Liberia. As she contributed a lot to her nation Liberia, she was able to award a Nobel Peace Prize by her devoted effort. However, even though she made such an excellent progress for Liberia, Liberia is still facing to a lot of problems. First of all, the economic growth of Liberia is really low. It is said that 80% of Liberians earn lower than 1.25 dollars per day. Therefore, it is the one of the country that has the highest income inequality index overall. In addition, most of the citizens live without the water supply and electricity. Experts claims that the reason for the low economic growth in Liberia is because of the policy of Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. They argue that even though she seems to contribute hard in economy, she is mostly interested in dealing with corruption of the government. Liberian is also one of the countries that have the highest corruption in the government. As a result, it was essential for Sirleaf to combat those kinds of corruption. However, the side effect of the policy was that she was not able to stroke nerves high on economic state. In addition, the medical treatment ability of Liberia evaluated as a one of the country that have the worst healthcare. Overall, the effect of Ebola was terrible in 2014. As a result, 3700 people have been killed and 8634 people were infected by it.

Definition of Key Terms

Samuel Kanyon Doe

Samuel Kanyon Doe was a 21 president of Liberia who was from the tribe named Crans. He was able to become president by occurring Coup. And he was a Liberian army sergeant, trained by US Special Forces. During 10 years of domination, he lost his advocacy from citizens and assassinated by Prince Johnson in 1990.

Charles Taylor

Charles Taylor was a 22 president of Liberia between 1997~ 2003. He was the strongest warlords in the first Liberian civil war, later elected as the president. In 2003, he was exiled to Nigeria, and he was arrested by the International Criminal Court in The Hague, sentenced to live in the jail for 50 years.

Liberia National Patriotic Front

The Liberia National Patriotic Front was a rebel group that initiated and participated in the first Liberian civil war from 1989~1996.

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is the 24 and current president of Liberia. She won the 2005 presidential election and was successfully re-elected in 2011. She was the first elected female head of state in Africa. In 2011, she award Nobel peace Prize

Ebola

Ebola virus disease which is also simply called as Ebola is a viral hemorrhagic fever of humans and other primates caused by Ebola Viruses. The sign or symptoms of the virus are fever, sore throat, muscular pains and headaches. This disease has a high risk of death, killing between 25~90% of infected. It was extremely dangerous in African regions such as Liberia.

ArcelorMittal

ArcelorMittal is a multinational steel manufacturing corporation headquartered in Luxembourg. It was founded in 2006 from the takeover and merger of Arcelor by Mittal Steel. ArcelorMittal is the world's largest steel producer, with an annual crude steel production of 98.1 million tons in 2014. It is also ranked 91st in the 2013 Fortune Global 500 ranking of the world's biggest corporations.

Oxfam

Oxfam International is an association of 14 apparatuses that engaged in relief activities along with 3,000 affiliated suppliers in more than 100 countries. Oxfam International is promoting a campaign to demand reform for poverty and unfair trade system by developing plans and emergency situations.

Save the Children

Save The Children is an organization which helps poor children around the world. It was founded in United Kingdom in 1919; its aim was to protect the children's right by economic support. Currently, more than 28 countries have its office, dispatching an emergency relief team when war or disaster happens. Today, by operating a global network, it is acting as the largest non-profit organizations as it involves more than 120 countries participating in Save

the Children.

History

The First Civil War (1989~1997)

The culprit of the first civil war was Charles Taylor. After the 1980 coup d'état when Samuel Kanyon Doe overruled Liberia, Charles Taylor was serving Doe's government until he was sacked in 1983 as he had stolen the government's money. He was captured and sent to jail in the USA. However, he managed to breakout the prison and fled to Liberia successfully. Soon, he was able to accumulate the group of rebels as the name of National Patriotic Front of Liberia. In 1989, Charles Taylor and his National Patriotic Front of Liberia charged to Liberia in order to deprive the power. The Liberian army counterattacked which caused thousands of civilians who were massacred.

In 1990, Charles Taylor was able to control much of the country. In that time the National Patriotic Front of Liberia was split in to two groups which were National Patriotic Front of Liberia and Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia. National Patriotic Front of Liberia was ruled by Charles Taylor and Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia was ruled by Yormie Johnson. In 1990 the president Samuel Kanyon Doe was captured by Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia and was tortured to death. After the death of Samuel Kanyon Doe, the conflict between National Patriotic Front of Liberia and Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia broke out. This conflict caused numerous amounts of casualties later on mediated by Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group which is an army that was organized by Economic Community of West African States in order to stop the conflict between two communities, National Patriotic Front of Liberia and Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia. After the first civil war, Charles Taylor was able to elect as the president of Liberia in 1997.

The Second Civil War (1999~2003)

After the end of the first civil war, Charles Taylor claimed UN peace army to leave as the civil war has ended. The UN accepted it, and managed UN peace army to leave Liberia. After that the dreadful governance has started. Charles Taylor had executed any single people who were against with him. Moreover, in 1999, he had organized a group named Revolutionary United Front which later occur a civil war in Sierra Leone. The aim of Charles Taylor was that he was trying to obtain diamonds by the Sierra Leone. Soon the public opinion in the international community blamed Charles Taylor's governance which was showing no difference with Samuel Kanyon Doe. As a result, in 2000, the rebels against Charles Taylor had founded a community named Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy and caused the second civil war. The result of the war was successful for the rebels. In 2001, the rebels were able to give a huge damage to the government troops. However due to the fact that they were too many casualties, the both side decided to conclude a truce. Surprisingly, the truce was broken up so quickly which killed numerous amounts of people. Therefore, UN intervened in order to mediate the civil war, requesting Charles Taylor to resign. Charles Taylor accepted it fled to Nigeria. And that was the end of the second civil war.

Key Issues

Economy

The economy of Liberia is quite unstable. The most significant business of Liberia is exporting productions such as steel and rubber. In 1960, the Liberian government started the official development of iron mine diamond mining. The amount of reserves of steel and rubber are accounting about 70% of total steel and rubber export in Africa. As a result, from the past till now, Liberia is being dependent on these two major industries. The biggest mining in Liberia is Nimba mine, which is located in the border of Guinea. The total annual

production of Nimba mine is approximately 10 million dollar which accounts the 48% of the total mine production from Liberia. Moreover, as the 44% of the land surface is tropical rainforest, it also contains the good wood. However due to the fact that the development of transportation in Liberia is quite poor, the actual exploitation is quite slow. Nevertheless, the Liberian woods are usually exported to France. The USA and Germany are the top two countries that occupy the highest import and export partners following by several European countries and Japan. However, due to Ebola, Liberia has effected critically in economically. In Liberia, 45% of people are employed in service centre, where it is declining. Moreover, the agricultural production of the region where Ebola was affected a lot had decreased. As a result, due to the effect of Ebola, the GDP growth of Liberia in 2014 was only 1.8%.

The Rehabilitation of Two Civil Wars

The two civil wars caused unimaginable casualties. In particularly, in 2002 and 2003 they were considered as the most cutthroat situation. Numerous amounts of children were given guns and drugs. The rebels killed any single person they face to. The health care office was full of wounded people. It was a true disaster. About 1 million destitute were caused and the number of children that were involved to Liberian civil wars is estimated about 10 % of total number of children in the world. Even though the Liberian government is trying their best to rehabilitate the damage that was occurred by the civil war, but they are difficult. It is estimated that it will take more 10 years to fully recover like the previous. So Liberia seems to need an active support or supply by the other countries in order to achieve the successful rebuild.

The Improvement of Medical Centre

In 2014, a huge disaster surged to Liberia. The name of the disaster was Ebola. Ebola was first started in Guinea, later on prevailing into surrounding countries by astonishing speed. Soon it also affected Liberia causing numerous amounts of infected. Unfortunately this situation was caused due to the poor medical centre. The medical centre of Liberia is classified as the one of the countries that involves the worst, which grew the Ebola bigger.

The react of the healthcare were really poor, which let the Ebola to prevail. Moreover the distrust of the modern medicine from the Liberians also caused the situation grew bigger. People in Africa tend to not trust to western civilizations and as a result, they refuse to accept the modern medicine. Therefore it is expected to supply the proper medical treatments and educate proper perspective in modern medicines not only in Liberia but in all countries of Africa.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

The relations between Liberia and other countries are quite simple. Most of the significant trade or communications between Liberia are down by USA, China and India. Beside these three countries there are several other countries that also trades or communicate, but these three countries takes the highest amount

United States of America

To begin with USA has the highest influence in economically to Liberia than any other countries. As a result, the official money in Liberia is dollar. Moreover, the food, car and household appliances that are made from USA is using widely in Liberia. In addition, enterprises of USA are participating on development of oil, rubber plantation and infrastructure reconstruction.

People's Republic of China

The diplomatic relations between China and Liberia was formed in 2003, after the second

civil war. China is supplying Liberia by active resource development as well as infrastructure reconstruction. Numerous amounts of products made in China are prevailed in Liberia, the number of Chinese labour residing Liberia is increasing.

Republic of India

ArcelorMittal which is one of the biggest steel industry companies in India is participating on steel industry in Liberia. Most of the wholesale and retail companies in Liberia are secured by Indians and Lebanese.

Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs)

Furthermore, several non-governmental organizations such as Oxfam and Save the Children are volunteering and supplying the development of Liberia.

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties, and Events

1847 – Independence of Liberia

1917 - Liberia declares a war on Germany, giving the Allies a military base in West Africa.

1926 – Production of Rubber becomes Liberia's main economy after Rubber Company and Firestone Tyre opens rubber plantation on land approved by the Liberian government.

1943 - William Tubman has been elected to be the president of Liberia.

1958 - Racial discrimination outlawed.

- 1980** - Master Sergeant Samuel Doe brings out military coup overthrowing and publicly executing President William Tolbert and his 13 assistants.
- 1985** - Doe wins Liberian presidential election one year after his government allowed return of political parties following pressure from the United States and other creditors.
- 1989~2003** – First and Second Liberian Civil occurred. In total of 250,000 people are killed, while thousands more are raped and injured, sometimes by armies of drugged child soldiers led by brutal commanders.
- 2005** - Ellen Johnson Sirleaf becomes the first woman to be elected as an African head of state.
- 2013-2016** – The deadly Ebola virus has been broke out and spread through Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, killing 11,300 people, in particularly in Liberia.

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

In order to solve the ongoing conflicts in Liberia, the Liberia National Action Plan has been introduced. This plan promotes gender equality as well as women's achievements in Liberia. As an outcome of United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1325, this plan coordinates gender mainstreaming efforts to ensure that all forms of violence against women are prohibited and women are integrated into development programs. This plan was firstly adopted and launched on August, 2007. It is divided into four different pillars (sometimes called the 4Ps): Protection, Prevention, Participation and Empowerment and Promotion.

Protection

The first pillar of Liberia National Action Plan (LNAP) has three different strategic issues. This pillar provides psycho-social and trauma counselling to women and girls as well as protecting the rights and reinforcing the security of women and girls. It also tries to increase access to quality education for women and girls specifically on reproductive health including HIV/AIDs.

Prevention

The second pillar of LNAP, Prevention, tries to prevent all types of violence against women and girls; for example, sexual violence and gender-based violence. This follows the Security Council Resolution 1325 and 1820, which emphasizes the importance of preventing violence against women and girls in all types of forms.

Participation and Empowerment

This pillar is consisted of two strategic issues: Promoting women's participation and increasing women's access to housing and natural resources in order to reinforce their participation in the management of the environment.

Promotion

The final pillar has 4 different strategic issues to promote the gender equality of the women. It tries to promote the involvement of women's groups in the implementation of LNAP, promote their participation in conflict prevention, enhancing the technical and institutional capacities of governmental and civil society actors of the women and girls.

These following pillars are regularly managed and controlled by the government of Liberia and the role of women and girls in the society has enhanced, where gender inequality and biased views against women and girls is known to be decreased by 14%.

Possible Solutions

After Liberian Civil War, all the aspects of Liberia were in negative way. The political aspect has regained its stability while, its economical aspect is still in mess. Even, the public authorities and police forces can't affect the rural areas. Although, the UN Peacekeeping troops are staying in Liberia to stabilize the crimes such as robbery and rape, it is not enough. Therefore, one of the solutions to this may be putting more UN Peacekeeping

troops to the rural areas, in order to recruit and train the Liberians to increase and reinforce the public authorities.

What's more, there must be solutions to recover the economy for Liberia. The quickest way to solve this problem is to get the financial support from More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) such as the United States, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and many more. However, those Western Powers may not be willing to support them with money. Even more, this solution may worsen the current situation, if Liberia relies too much on this financial support.

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