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[Home](#) > Finance Minister Ngafuan addresses Media's Role in Economic Growth at Convention

Finance Minister Ngafuan addresses Media's Role in Economic Growth at Convention

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WASHINGTON D.C. October 16, 2025— On Saturday, October 18, 2025, Liberia will take center stage at a pivotal international gathering focused on media, investment, and sustainable development. The Annual Benefit Banquet and Inaugural Ceremony, hosted by the Association of Liberian Journalists in the Americas (ALJA), will convene at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Liberia's Minister of Finance and Development Planning, Augustine Kpehe Ngafuan, is slated to deliver the keynote address, setting the tone for a weekend of dialogue and strategy aimed at strengthening Liberia's media landscape and economic future. The banquet seeks to mobilize financial and logistical support for Liberian media institutions, recognizing their vital role in shaping public discourse and attracting private sector investment.



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Al-Jerome Anasta Chede Sr.

The convention will also feature a high-profile panel discussion titled “Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Liberia: Challenges, Opportunities, and Policy Implications.” Panelists include Mr. James Butty, Managing Editor and Host of Voice of America's Daybreak Africa; Ms. Estelle Liberty, former Director-General of the Liberia Broadcasting System (LBS); and Mr. Peter Massaquoi, CEO of JMass Group of Companies, Inc.

Together, these thought leaders will explore how media can serve as a catalyst for sustainable growth, encouraging transparency, investor confidence, and inclusive development. The panel will examine how storytelling, investigative journalism, and strategic communication can help Liberia navigate its economic challenges and unlock new opportunities.

Attendees will include international journalists of Liberian origin, ALJA members based in the United States, Liberian government officials, politicians, civil society representatives, and friends of the Liberian media. Organizers say the event will foster collaboration across sectors and borders, reinforcing the media's role as both watchdog and partner in progress.

This meeting promises to be a defining moment for Liberia's media and economic future—one where words, ideas, and partnerships converge to shape a more resilient and prosperous nation.

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